

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

ATTENTION EMPLOYERS NOTICE REGARDING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The New York State unemployment insurance program, which is administered by the State Labor Department, provides immediate, short-term financial protection for people who are out of work through no fault of their own. It is financed by employers through a tax on their payrolls. If you pay compensation to individuals for their services, you may be liable for Unemployment Insurance and Withholding taxes and wage reporting responsibilities. In order to determine if your business is liable for Unemployment Insurance, please contact, 1-800-829-3676. Upon registration, employers (except household employers) will receive a poster, "Notice to Employees", IA 133, which informs their workers that their jobs are protected by unemployment insurance. It must be posted where it may easily be seen by employees. Additional copies may be obtained by contacting the nearest Unemployment Insurance Tax Services Office or the Department of Labor, Registration Subsection at 518-457-4179.

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NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY.
Department
of Labor

NEW YORK STATE MINIMUM WAGE

AS A WORKER, WHAT IS MY MINIMUM WAGE?

From 12/31/2021 to 12/30/2022, the New York State basic minimum wage is:

- \$15.00 per hour in New York City
- \$15.00 per hour in Long Island and Westchester County
- \$13.20 per hour in the Remainder of New York State

From 12/31/2021 to 12/30/2022, the minimum wage for fast food workers* is:

- \$15.00 per hour in all of New York City
- \$15.00 per hour in the rest of New York State

Private sector employees in the state, including domestic workers (in most cases), must receive the basic minimum wage.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The basic rate may change under rules known as “wage orders” that set minimum pay for jobs in:

- The hospitality, building service and farming industries
- All other industries and occupations

The wage orders set:

- Hourly rates
- Overtime rates
- Credits for meals and lodging, if supplied by the employer

Several wage orders set lower hourly minimum pay rates if workers regularly receive tips. These wage orders are published on the Department of Labor website at www.labor.ny.gov/minimumwage.

When workers take care of their own required uniforms, they must be paid an added amount over minimum wage.

Employees who do piecework should be paid at a rate that brings them to at least the basic minimum wage.

A standard work week is 40 hours. If employees work any hours beyond that, then the employer must pay them at 1½ times the regular wage.

AS AN EMPLOYER, HOW DO I COMPLY WITH ALL ASPECTS OF MINIMUM WAGE LAW?

The Labor Department helps collect back wages for workers who have not received the minimum wage. Employers that break the Minimum Wage Law may be subject to orders to pay:

- Back wages
- Interest
- Liquidated damages
- Fines

They may also be subject to criminal prosecution and penalties. The fines for violations can total up to 200 percent of the missing wages. They may also have to pay 16 percent interest on the unpaid wages.

Employers must place a Minimum Wage poster in their place of business where workers can see it.

Employers with questions or concerns about obeying the Minimum Wage Law can contact the Labor Department at **888-469-7365** for help, between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

*A fast food worker is any person employed or permitted to work at, or for, a fast food establishment by any employer where such person’s job duties include at least one of the following: customer service, cooking, food or drink preparation, delivery, security, stocking supplies or equipment, cleaning, or routine maintenance.

Public Employees Job Safety & Health Protection

The New York State Public Employee Safety and Health Act of 1980 provides job safety and health protection for workers through the promotion of safe and healthful working conditions throughout the State. Requirements of the Act include the following:

Employers

Employers must provide employees with a workplace that is:

- free from recognized hazards,
- in compliance with the safety and health standards that apply to the workplace, and
- in compliance with any other regulations issued under the PESH Act by the Commissioner of Labor.

Employees

Employees must comply with all safety and health standards that apply to their actions on the job. Employees must also comply with any regulations issued under the PESH Act that apply to their job.

Enforcement

The New York State Department of Labor administers and enforces the PESH Act. The Commissioner of Labor issues safety and health standards. The Department's Division of Safety and Health (DOSH) has Inspectors and Hygienists who inspect workplaces to make sure they are following the PESH Act.

Inspection

When DOSH staff inspect a workplace, a representative of the employer and a representative approved by the employees must be allowed to help with the inspection. When there is no employee-approved representative, DOSH staff must speak with a fair number of employees about the safety and health conditions in the workplace.

Order to Comply

If the Department believes an employer has violated the PESH Act, we will issue an order to comply notice to the employer. The order will list dates by which each violation must be fixed. If violations are not fixed by those dates, the employer may be fined.

The order to comply must be posted at or near the place of violation, where it can be easily seen. This is to warn employees that a danger may exist.

Complaint

Any interested person may file a complaint if they believe there are unsafe or unhealthful conditions in a public workplace. This includes:

- An employee
- A representative of an employee
- Groups of employees
- A representative of a group of employees

Make this complaint in writing to the nearest DOSH office or by email to: Ask.SHNYPESH@labor.ny.gov. On request, DOSH will not release the names of any employees who file a complaint. The Department of Labor will evaluate each complaint. The Department will notify the person who made the complaint of the results of the investigation.

These complaints may also be made to the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration online at: www.osha.gov.

Discrimination

Employees may not be fired or discriminated against in any way for filing safety and health complaints or otherwise exercising their rights under the Act.

If an employee believes that they have been discriminated against, he or she may file a complaint with the nearest DOSH office. File this complaint within 30 days of the discrimination incident.

Voluntary Activity

The Department of Labor encourages employers and employees to voluntarily:

- reduce workplace hazards, and
- develop and improve safety and health programs in all workplaces.

The Division of Safety and Health can provide free help with identifying and correcting job site hazards. Employers may request this assistance on a voluntary basis by emailing: Ask.SHNYPESH@labor.ny.gov.

Additional information may be obtained from the nearest DOSH District Office below:

Albany District

State Office Campus
Bldg. 12, Rm. 158
Albany, NY 12240
Tel: (518) 457-5508

Binghamton District

44 Hawley St., Rm. 901
Binghamton, NY 13901
Tel: (607) 721-8211

Buffalo District

65 Court Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
Tel: (716) 847-7133

Garden City District

400 Oak Street
Garden City, NY 11550
Tel: (516) 228-3970

New York City District

75 Varick St., 7th Floor
New York, NY 10013
Tel: (212) 775-3554

Rochester District

109 S. Union St., Rm. 402
Rochester, NY 14607
Tel: (585) 258-8806

Syracuse District

450 South Salina Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
Tel: (315) 479-3212

Utica District

207 Genesee Street
Utica, NY 13501
Tel: (315) 793-2258

White Plains District

120 Bloomingdale Road
White Plains, NY 10605
Tel: (914) 997-9514

Post Conspicuously

A Division of the New York State Department of Labor

Guidelines for Employers: Requirements to Notify Employees About Time Off and Work Hours

Section 195.5 of the New York State Labor Law effective December 12, 1981 provides as follows:

“Every employer shall notify his employees in writing or by publicly posting the employer’s policy on sick leave, vacation, personal leave, holidays and hours.”

To assist employers in complying with this provision, the Division of Labor Standards has issued the following guidelines:

1. An employer shall distribute in writing to each employee, the employer’s policy on the above- enumerated items. The employer upon the request of the Department must be able to affirmatively demonstrate that such written notification was provided to employees by means, which may include, but not be limited to, distribution through company newspapers or newsletters or by inclusion in a company payroll.

Or

An employer shall post and keep posted in each establishment in a conspicuous place where notices to employees are customarily posted, a notice that states where on the employer’s premises they may see such information in writing. Such information may be contained in a union contract, employee handbook, personnel manual, or in other written form. Deviations for an employee from such stated policy must be given to said employee in writing.

2. As used in the provision above, “hours” means the hours which constitute a standard workday and workweek for the establishment, and any other regular schedule, such as for part-time employees. Deviations should be given to the affected employee in writing.

For more information, call or write the nearest office of the Division of Labor Standards, of the New York State Department of Labor, listed below:

Albany District
State Office Campus
Bldg. 12 Room 185A
Albany, NY 12240
(518) 457-2730

Binghamton
Sub-District
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 721-8014

New York City District
75 Varick Street
7th Floor
New York, NY 10013
(212) 775-3880

Garden City District
400 Oak Street
Suite 101
Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 794-8195

Buffalo District
65 Court Street
Room 202
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-7141

Rochester
Sub-District
276 Waring Road
Room 104
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 258-4550

Syracuse District
333 East Washington Street
Room 121
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 428-4057

White Plains District
120 Bloomingdale Road
White Plains, NY 10605
(914) 997-9521