

The Fair Work Commission has just handed its 2015 Annual Wage Review decision. The decision will appear [here](#) when posted.

Wage increase

The minimum wage has been increased by **2.5%** to **\$656.90** or **\$17.29** per hour (a 42c per hour increase on the minimum wage).

In keeping with recent years' decisions, modern award rates will also increase by **2.5%**.

Apprentice and trainee rates will increase by proportionate amounts.

Allowances will be increased by Fair Work Commission orders in the next few weeks.

Operational date

This increase will have effect from the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2015.

Who does this affect?

This decision affects all employees who a modern award applies to.

If you have award based employees who are paid above award rates, the 'absorption' principle means that you do not have to increase above-award payments unless the new award minimum is higher than the employee's current rate, in which case you must pay the new award minimum.

Employers who have enterprise agreements in place (including pre-Fair Work Act 2009 documents) will need to ensure that the base rate of pay is at least equal to the award minimum. This requirement only relates to the base rate and does not extend to allowances, penalty rates or loadings.

Need more information

If you would like further information about award rate or to check your existing agreement rates, please contact the team at Fair Work Lawyers.



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