

Coming to an Employer Near You: Los Angeles' Ever-Rising Minimum Wage

California Employment Law Update on April 15, 2026

Effective July 1, 2026, the minimum wage rate for the Los Angeles metropolitan area will increase to \$18.42. Los Angeles employers are accustomed to minimum wage increases based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the Los Angeles metropolitan area, which is published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This year, the hourly minimum wage rate will increase by 55 cents per the [2026 Minimum Wage Rate Increase Memo](#).

What is new this year is a citywide hotel worker ordinance requiring employers to provide health benefits and pay a higher (\$25) minimum wage – just in time for the 2026 FIFA World Cup and the 2028 Summer Olympics. See [Citywide Hotel Worker Minimum Wage Rate](#). In response to pressure from the SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West Union, hotel employers will be required to pay a health benefit rate of \$8.15 per hour for hotel workers and their dependents. If no health benefits are provided, \$8.15 shall be provided as an additional hourly wage. If the hotel employer's hourly health benefit payment is less than \$8.15, the difference shall be paid to the hotel worker as an additional hourly wage. (See [Los Angeles Municipal Code \(LAMC\) Section 186.04](#).)

Employers should review their city's current minimum wage webpage for the latest minimum wage rates, posting forms and notices, and City of Los Angeles employers should consult [Office of Wage Standards | Wages LA](#). We will continue to monitor for updates.

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