



MEDIA RELEASE



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Employers set to pay Federal Minimum Wage increase from 1 October

From **1 October**, employers will need to adjust their payrolls to take into account a **\$21.66 per week** increase in the standard **Federal Minimum Wage**. The increase takes effect from the first pay period on or after 1 October, 2008.

Nearly 1.4 million Australian workers will receive the increase, most of whom are employed in Retailing, Accommodation cafes and restaurants, Property and business services, and Health and community services.

The increase was awarded by the Australian Fair Pay Commission in its 2008 general Wage-Setting Decision announced on 8 July this year.

From 1 October the **Federal Minimum Wage** increases to **\$14.31 per hour** or **\$543.78 per week**.

Businesses will need to pay the **\$21.66 per week** increase to all employees on the **Federal Minimum Wage** and to all workers earning adult rates of pay in **Australian Pay and Classification Scales**. The increase flows on to **junior employees, employees in training arrangements, employees with a disability, casuals and piece rate workers**.

Employers and employees wanting further information about their rights and obligations in regard to the increase are urged to contact the **Workplace Infoline on 1300 363 264** and check the **Workplace Authority website: www.workplaceauthority.gov.au**, where **Pay Scale Summaries** for more than 400 of the most commonly used awards are published. The summaries have been adjusted to take account of the Commission's 2008 Decision.

The Australian Fair Pay Commission's next decision will be announced in July 2009.

For more information about the Commission, visit www.fairpay.com.au.

Employees and employers can obtain impartial and independent advice on compliance with Commonwealth workplace relations law by contacting the **Workplace Ombudsman Help Line on 1300 724 200**.

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