Minimum Wage

Under Maine labor laws, any business operating in the state with one employee is automatically covered by state law. This includes all public and private employers regardless of profit or size. Effective January 1, 2022, the minimum wage in Maine is $12.75 per hour.

Municipal Minimum Wage Ordinances

Employers with employees who work in Bangor and/or Portland or any other municipality that passes a local minimum wage ordinance, may be subject to additional regulations and should check with municipal officials.

Service Employee

A service employee is someone who regularly receives more than $100 a month in tips. As of January 1, 2022, employers must pay a direct service wage of at least $6.38 per hour. If the employee's direct wage combined with earned tips do not average, on a weekly basis, the state required minimum wage, the employer must pay the difference.

Overtime

Unless specifically exempted, employees must receive overtime pay for hours worked in excess of 40 in a workweek at a rate not less than time and one and one-half their regular rate of pay. Employers have the right to allow or deny overtime, but if overtime is worked, it must be paid in accordance with state requirements. Compensatory or “comp” time cannot be used by private-sector employers, although private-sector employers can allow employees to flex their time within the workweek (but not the pay period if the pay period is longer than a seven day cycle in the workweek).

For more information, contact:
Maine Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Standards
45 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0045
Telephone: 207-623-7900
TTY users call Maine Relay 711.
Web site: www.maine.gov/labor/bls
Email: bls.mdol@maine.gov

*Note: Maine employers may also be covered under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. For more information, contact the U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Office at 603-666-7716.

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available to people with disabilities upon request.