

# Your Rights Under the Iowa Minimum Wage Law

Hourly Minimum Wage  
**\$7.25**

The **minimum wage** applies to most hourly wage earners employed in Iowa. Most small retail and service establishments grossing less than \$300,000.00 annually are not required to pay the minimum wage. The majority of supervisory and administrative employees paid a salary are not covered by the law. Employers may pay an initial employment rate of \$6.35 for the first 90 calendar days of employment.

**TIP CREDIT** – The employer's share for tipped employees who customarily and regularly receive more than \$30.00 a month in tips must be at least \$4.35 an hour.

### Enforcement

The Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing, Wage and Child Labor Unit may bring action against employers who violate the state's minimum wage law. Courts may order payment of back wages. No employer can discriminate against or discharge an employee for filing a complaint or participating in a proceeding under the law.

### Federal Minimum Wage and Overtime Pay

Applications of the minimum wage rates under federal law differ from those under Iowa law. Iowa employers must comply with the more stringent applicable law. Overtime is covered by the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. Questions concerning federal law should be directed to: to the US DOL Wage & Hour Division.

**Contact Information**  
**Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing Investigations Division - Wage and Child Labor Unit**  
6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100  
Des Moines, IA 50321  
Phone: 515-631-8901  
Fax: 515-242-6507  
www.dial.iowa.gov

**U.S. Department of Labor Wage & Hour Division**  
210 Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
Phone: 515-284-4625  
www.dol.gov

The law requires displaying this poster where it can easily be seen by all employees

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program  
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For deaf and hard of hearing, use Relay 711  
Revised 01.20.21

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

### FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

**\$7.25** PER HOUR  
BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

### OVERTIME PAY

At least 1½ times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

### CHILD LABOR

An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.

### TIP CREDIT

Employers of "tipped employees" who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee's tips combined with the employer's cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

### PUMP AT WORK

The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing employee to express breast milk for their nursing child for one year after the child's birth each time the employee needs to express breast milk. Employers must provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

### ENFORCEMENT

The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA's child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage, and/or overtime pay provisions. Certain narrow exemptions also apply to the pump at work requirements.
- Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Some employers incorrectly classify workers as "independent contractors" when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA's minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.
- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.



**WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
www.dol.gov/agencies/whd  
1-866-487-9243  
WH1488 REV 04/23



## YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA

### THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

#### REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

#### RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

If you:

- are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- initial employment;
- reemployment;
- retention in employment;
- promotion; or
- any benefit of employment because of this status.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userr/poster> Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.



**U.S. Department of Labor**  
1-866-487-2385



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Office of Special Counsel**  
1-800-336-4590  
Publication Date — May 2022

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT

The Employee Polygraph Protection Act prohibits most private employers from using lie detector tests for pre-employment screening or during the course of employment.

### PROHIBITIONS

Employers are generally prohibited from requiring or requesting any employee or job applicant to take a lie detector test, and from discharging, disciplining, or discriminating against an employee or prospective employee for refusing to take a test or for exercising other rights under the Act.

### EXEMPTIONS

Federal, State and local governments are not affected by the law. Also, the law does not apply to tests given by the Federal Government to certain private individuals engaged in national security-related activities.

The Act permits polygraph (a kind of lie detector) tests to be administered in the private sector, subject to restrictions, to certain prospective employees of security service firms (armored car, alarm, and guard), and of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and dispensers.

The Act also permits polygraph testing, subject to restrictions, of certain employees of private firms who are reasonably suspected of involvement in a workplace incident (theft, embezzlement, etc.) that resulted in economic loss to the employer.

The law does not preempt any provision of any State or local law or any collective bargaining agreement which is more restrictive with respect to lie detector tests.

### EXAMINEE RIGHTS

Where polygraph tests are permitted, they are subject to numerous strict standards concerning the conduct and length of the test. Examinees have a number of specific rights, including the right to a written notice before testing, the right to refuse or discontinue a test, and the right not to have test results disclosed to unauthorized persons.

### ENFORCEMENT

The Secretary of Labor may bring court actions to restrain violations and assess civil penalties against violators. Employees or job applicants may also bring their own court actions.

**THE LAW REQUIRES EMPLOYERS TO DISPLAY THIS POSTER WHERE EMPLOYEES AND JOB APPLICANTS CAN READILY SEE IT.**



**WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
www.dol.gov/agencies/whd  
1-866-487-9243  
WH1482 REV 02/22



# Know Your Rights: Workplace Discrimination is Illegal

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Federal laws that protect you from discrimination in employment. If you believe you've been discriminated against at work or in applying for a job, the EEOC may be able to help.

### Who is Protected?

- Employees (current and former), including managers and temporary employees
- Job applicants
- Union members and applicants for membership in a union

### What Types of Employment Discrimination are Illegal?

Under the EEOC's laws, an employer may not discriminate against you, regardless of your immigration status, on the bases of:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity)
- Age (40 and older)
- Disability
- Genetic information (including employer requests for, or purchase, use, or
- disclosure of genetic tests, genetic services, or family medical history)
- Retaliation for filing a charge, reasonably opposing discrimination, or participating in a discrimination lawsuit, investigation, or proceeding
- Interference, coercion, or threats related to exercising rights regarding disability discrimination or pregnancy accommodation

### What Organizations are Covered?

- Most private employers
- State and local governments (as employers)

### What Employment Practices can be Challenged as Discriminatory?

All aspects of employment, including:

- Discharge, firing, or lay-off
- Harassment (including unwelcome verbal or physical conduct)
- Hiring or promotion
- Assignment
- Pay (unequal wages or compensation)
- Failure to provide reasonable accommodation for a disability; pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition; or a sincerely-held religious belief, observance or practice
- Benefits
- Job training
- Classification
- Referral
- Obtaining or disclosing genetic information of employees
- Requesting or disclosing medical information of employees
- Conduct that might reasonably discourage someone from opposing discrimination, filing a charge, or participating in an investigation or proceeding
- Conduct that coerces, intimidates, threatens, or interferes with someone exercising their rights, or someone assisting or encouraging someone else to exercise rights, regarding disability discrimination (including accommodation) or pregnancy accommodation

### What can You Do if You Believe Discrimination has Occurred?

Contact the EEOC promptly if you suspect discrimination. Do not delay, because there are strict time limits for filing a charge of discrimination (180 or 300 days, depending on where you live/work). You can reach the EEOC in any of the following ways:

**Submit** an inquiry through the EEOC's public portal: <https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx>

**Call** 1-800-669-4000 (toll free)  
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)  
1-844-234-5122 (ASL video phone)

**Visit** an EEOC field office (information at [www.eeoc.gov/field-office](http://www.eeoc.gov/field-office))

**E-Mail** [info@eeoc.gov](mailto:info@eeoc.gov)

Additional information about the EEOC, including information about filing a charge of discrimination, is available at [www.eeoc.gov](https://www.eeoc.gov).



## EMPLOYERS HOLDING FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR SUBCONTRACTS

The Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces the nondiscrimination and affirmative action commitments of companies doing business with the Federal Government. If you are applying for a job with, or are an employee of, a company with a Federal contract or subcontract, you are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

**Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, National Origin**

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination by Federal contractors based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

### Asking About, Disclosing, or Discussing Pay

Executive Order 11246, as amended, protects applicants and employees of Federal contractors from discrimination based on inquiring about, disclosing, or discussing their compensation or the compensation of other applicants or employees.

### Disability

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment by Federal contractors. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship to the employer. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

## PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Race, Color, National Origin, Sex

In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

(Revised 6/27/2023)

### Individuals with Disabilities

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## UNDER THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT

The NLRBA guarantees the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively with their employers, and to engage in other protected concerted activity. Employees covered by the NLRBA\* are protected from certain types of employer and union misconduct. This Notice gives you general information about your rights, and about the obligations of employers and unions under the NLRBA. Contact the National Labor Relations Board, the Federal agency that investigates and resolves complaints under the NLRBA, using the contact information supplied below, if you have any questions about specific rights that may apply in your particular workplace.

### Under the NLRBA, you have the right to:

- Organize a union** to negotiate with your employer concerning your wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.
- Form, join or assist a union.**
- Bargain collectively** through representatives of employees' own choosing for a contract with your employer setting your wages, benefits, hours, and other working conditions.
- Discuss your terms and conditions of employment** or union organizing with your co-workers or a union.
- Take action** with one or more co-workers to improve your working conditions, by among other means, raising work-related complaints directly with your employer or with a government agency, and seeking help from a union.
- Strike and picket**, depending on the purpose or means of the strike or the picketing.
- Choose not to do any of these activities**, including joining or remaining a member of a union.

### Under the NLRBA, it is illegal for a union or for the union that represents you in bargaining with your employer to:

- Threaten** you that you will lose your job unless you support the union.
- Refuse to process a grievance** because you have criticized union officials or because you are not a member of the union.
- Use or maintain discriminatory standards or procedures** in making job referrals from a hiring hall.
- Cause or attempt to cause an employer to discriminate against you** because of your union-related activity.
- Take other adverse action against you** based on whether you have joined or support the union.

If you and your coworkers select a union to act as your collective bargaining representative, your employer and the union are required to bargain in good faith in a genuine effort to reach a written, binding agreement setting your terms and conditions of employment. The union is required to fairly represent you in bargaining and enforcing the agreement.

You can also contact the NLRB by calling toll-free: 1-844-792-NLRB (6372). Language assistance is available. Hearing impaired callers who wish to speak to an NLRB representative should send an email to [relat.servic@nrlrb.gov](mailto:relat.servic@nrlrb.gov). An NLRB representative will email the requestor with instructions on how to schedule a relay service call.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

### Under the NLRBA, it is illegal for your employer to:

- Prohibit you from soliciting for a union during non-work time**, such as before or after work or during break times; or from distributing union literature during non-work time, in non-work areas, such as parking lots or break rooms.
- Question you about your union** support or activities in a manner that discourages you from engaging in that activity.
- Fire, demote, or transfer you, or reduce your hours or change your shift**, or otherwise take adverse action against you, or threaten to take any of these actions, because you join or support a union, or because you engage in concerted activity for mutual aid and protection, or because you choose not to engage in any such activity.
- Threaten to close your workplace** if workers choose a union to represent them.
- Promote or grant promotions, pay raises, or other benefits to discourage or encourage union support.**
- Prohibit you from wearing union hats, buttons, t-shirts, and pins in the workplace** except under special circumstances.
- Spy on or videotape peaceful union activities** and gatherings or pretend to do so.

\*The National Labor Relations Act covers most private-sector employers. Excluded from coverage under the NLRBA are public-sector employees, agricultural and domestic workers, independent contractors, workers employed by a parent or spouse, employees on and off call carriers covered by the Railway Labor Act, and supervisors (although supervisors that have been discriminated against for refusing to violate the NLRBA may be covered).

# Your Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act

## What is FMLA leave?

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is a federal law that provides eligible employees with **job-protected leave** for qualifying family and medical reasons. The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces the FMLA for most employees.

Eligible employees can take **up to 12 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a 12-month period for:

- The birth, adoption or foster placement of a child with you.
- Your serious mental or physical health condition that makes you unable to work.
- To care for your spouse, child or parent with a serious mental or physical health condition, and
- Certain qualifying reasons related to the foreign deployment of your spouse, child or parent who is a military servicemember.

An eligible employee who is the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness **may take up to 26 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember.

You have the right to use FMLA leave in **one block of time**. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, you may take FMLA leave **intermittently in separate blocks of time, or on a reduced schedule** by working fewer hours each day or week. Read Fact Sheet #28M(c) for more information.

FMLA leave is **not paid leave**, but you may choose, or be required by your employer, to use any employer-provided paid leave if your employer's paid leave policy covers the reason for which you need FMLA leave.

## Am I eligible to take FMLA leave?

You are an **eligible employee** if **all** of the following apply:

- You work for a covered employer.
- You have worked for your employer at least 12 months.
- You have at least 1,250 hours of service for your employer during the 12 months before your leave, and
- Your employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of your work location.

Airline flight crew employees have different "hours of service" requirements.

You work for a **covered employer** if **one** of the following applies:

- You work for a private employer that had at least 50 employees during at least 20 workweeks in the current or previous calendar year.
- You work for an elementary or public or private secondary school, or
- You work for a public agency, such as a local, state or federal government agency. Most federal employees are covered by Title II of the FMLA, administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

## How do I request FMLA leave?

Generally, to **request FMLA leave** you **must**:

- Follow your employer's normal policies for requesting leave.
- Give notice at least 30 days before your need for FMLA leave, or
- If advance notice is not possible, give notice as soon as possible.

You **do not have to share a medical diagnosis** but must provide enough information to your employer so they can determine whether the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. You **must also inform your employer if FMLA leave was previously taken** or approved for the same reason when requesting additional leave.

Your **employer may request certification** from a health care provider to verify medical leave and may request certification of a qualifying exigency.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

State employees may be subject to certain limitations in pursuit of direct lawsuits regarding leave for their own serious health conditions. Most federal and certain congressional employees are also covered by the law but are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or Congress.

## What does my employer need to do?

If you are eligible for FMLA leave, your **employer must**:

- Allow you to take job-protected time off work for a qualifying reason.
- Continue your group health plan coverage while you are on leave on the same basis as if you had not taken leave, and
- Allow you to return to the same job, or a virtually identical job with the same pay, benefits and other working conditions, including shift and location, at the end of your leave.

Your **employer cannot interfere with your FMLA rights** or threaten or punish you for exercising your rights under the law. For example, your employer cannot retaliate against you for requesting FMLA leave or cooperating with a WHD investigation.

After becoming aware that your need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, your **employer must confirm whether you are eligible** or not eligible for FMLA leave. If your employer determines that you are eligible, your **employer must notify you in writing**:

- About your FMLA rights and responsibilities, and
- How much of your requested leave, if any, will be FMLA-protected leave.

## Where can I find more information?

Call **1-866-487-9243** or visit [dol.gov/fmla](http://dol.gov/fmla) to learn more.

If you believe your rights under the FMLA have been violated, you may file a complaint with WHD or file a private lawsuit against your employer in court. **Scan the QR code to learn about our WHD complaint process.**



**WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION**  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR



WH1420 REV 04/23

## Job Safety and Health

IT'S THE LAW!

### EMPLOYEES:

- You have the right to notify your employer or Iowa OSHA about workplace hazards. You may ask Iowa OSHA to keep your name confidential.
- You have the right to request an OSHA inspection if you believe that there are unsafe and unhealthful conditions in your workplace. You or your representative may participate in that inspection.
- You can file a complaint with OSHA within 30 days of retaliation or discrimination by your employer for making safety and health complaints or for exercising your rights under the OSH Act.
- You have a right to see OSHA citations issued to your employer. Your employer must post the citations at or near the place of the alleged violation for at least 3 working days.
- Your employer must correct workplace hazards by the date indicated on the citation and must certify that these hazards have been reduced or eliminated.
- You have the right to copies of your medical records or records of your exposure to toxic and harmful substances or conditions.
- Your employer must post this notice in your workplace.
- You must comply with all occupational safety and health standards issued under the *OSH Act* that apply to your own actions and conduct on the job.

### EMPLOYERS:

- You must furnish your employees a place of employment free from recognized hazards.
- You must comply with the occupational safety and health standards issued under the *OSH Act*.
- Iowa OSHA Consultation can help you identify and correct hazards without citation or penalty.



**Complaints About the Iowa OSHA Program**  
You may file a complaint about the Iowa Division of Labor's operations or administration of the OSH Act by contacting:

OSHA Regional Office  
2300 Main Street, Suite 1010  
Kansas City, MO 64108-2447  
816-283-8745

70-8025 (01.23)

## Iowa Civil Rights Act

January 2012

### WHAT DOES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY MEAN?

It guarantees the right of all persons to apply and be considered for job opportunities on the basis of the person's ability to do the job. While employment, you should not be treated unfairly because of any of the protected characteristics.

### WHAT DOES THE LAW COVER?

Chapter 216 of the Code of Iowa, as amended (The Iowa Civil Rights Act), prohibits discrimination in employment because of a person's: race, age (18 and older), creed, national origin, color, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, religion.

### TO WHOM DOES THE LAW APPLY?

- Persons who apply for employment with, or employees of, private employers, state and local governments, and public and private educational institutions with four or more employees.
- Employment agencies, labor unions, contractors, and sub-contractors, and apprenticeship programs.

### WHAT OTHER RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP WITH A DISCRIMINATION PROBLEM?