

CCI IR Alert

Tel: (08) 9365 7660
Email: advice@cciwa.com
www.cciwa.com



Knowledge Influence Support

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

\$26 weekly minimum wage increase announced

The Fair Work Australia Minimum Wage Panel (the Panel) has handed down the 2009-2010 Annual Wage Review Decision, increasing the minimum wage in all modern awards by \$26 per week.

The decision will take effect from the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2010 and coincide with the commencement of modern award transitional provisions.

The decision to set a new Federal Minimum Wage of \$569.90 (\$15 per hour) provides for an increase of \$26 per week to the minimum rates of pay set out in all modern awards.

Casual loadings

The Panel made no change to the standard casual loading in modern awards, which is currently 25 per cent.

However, the Panel decided the casual loading for award/agreement free employees should be '*brought into line*' with the standard casual loading in modern awards. The Panel accepted suggestions that the casual loading for award/agreement free employees should be increased in instalments consistent with the transitional arrangements in modern awards.

The Panel set the casual loading for award/agreement free employees at 21 per cent.

Junior employees and employees to whom training arrangements apply

The Panel deferred the setting of a special national minimum wage for junior employees and employees to whom training arrangements apply until the Annual Wage Review 2010-2011.

Award covered junior employees and employees to whom training arrangements apply will receive the necessary flow-on from the increase to minimum award rates.

Supported Wage System

The Panel decided to provide an increase to the Supported Wage System minimum weekly payment.

This increase will be dealt with in a separate determination, after the Australian Government has announced the weekly income test free threshold for a single person receiving the Disability Support Pension. This decision is expected on 1 July 2010.

The minimum wage for state referred employees (from New South Wales, Tasmania, Queensland and South Australia) has not been amended. Division 2B State awards (other than enterprise awards) will terminate on 31 December 2010 and the Federal Minimum Wage will apply to state referred employees from 1 January 2011.

Members are reminded that this Minimum Wage Decision applies only to **National System Employers**. A separate decision will be handed down for state system employers by the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission. CCI anticipates the WA State Wage Case decision will be handed down by the end of next week.

For further information, please contact the Employee Relations Advice Centre on 9365 7660 or email advice@cciwa.com