



LIVING WAGE ACT FACT SHEET

The “Living Wage Act of 2006,” Title I of D.C. Law 16-18, (D.C. Official Code §§2-220.01-11) became effective June 9, 2006. It provides that District of Columbia government contractors and recipients of government assistance (grants, loans, tax increment financing) in the amount of \$100,000 or more shall pay affiliated employees wages no less than the current living wage rate.

Effective January 1, 2008, the living wage rate is \$12.10 per hour.

Subcontractors of D.C. government contractors who receive \$15,000 or more from the contract and subcontractors of the recipients of government assistance who receive \$50,000 or more from the assistance are also required to pay their affiliated employees no less than the current living wage rate.

“Affiliated employee” means any individual employed by a recipient who receives compensation directly from government assistance or a contract with the District of Columbia government, including any employee of a contractor or subcontractor of a recipient who performs services pursuant to government assistance or a contract. The term “affiliated employee” does not include those individuals who perform only intermittent or incidental services with respect to the government assistance or contract, or who are otherwise employed by the contractor, recipient or subcontractor.

Exemptions – The following contracts and agreements are exempt from the Living Wage Act:

1. Contracts or other agreements that are subject to higher wage level determinations required by federal law (i.e., if a contract is subject to the Service Contract Act and certain wage rates are lower than the District’s current living wage, the contractor must pay the higher of the two rates);
2. Existing and future collective bargaining agreements, provided that the future collective bargaining agreement results in the employee being paid no less than the current living wage;
3. Contracts for electricity, telephone, water, sewer or other services provided by a regulated utility;
4. Contracts for services needed immediately to prevent or respond to a disaster or eminent threat to public health or safety declared by the Mayor;
5. Contracts or other agreements that provide trainees with additional services including, but not limited to, case management and job readiness services, provided that the trainees do not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act;

6. An employee, under 22 years of age, employed during a school vacation period, or enrolled as full-time student, as defined by the respective institution, who is in high school or at an accredited institution of higher education and who works less than 25 hours per week; provided that he or she does not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act;
7. Tenants or retail establishments that occupy property constructed or improved by receipt of government assistance from the District of Columbia; provided, that the tenant or retail establishment did not receive direct government assistance from the District of Columbia;
8. Employees of nonprofit organizations that employ not more than 50 individuals and qualify for taxation exemption pursuant to Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, approved August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 163; 26. U.S.C. §501(c)(3));
9. Medicaid provider agreements for direct care services to Medicaid recipients, provided, that the direct care service is not provided through a home care agency, a community residence facility, or a group home for mentally retarded persons as those terms are defined in section 2 of the Health-Care and Community Residence Facility, Hospice, and Home Care Licensure Act of 1983, effective February 24, 1984 (D.C. Law 5-48; D.C. Official Code §44-501); and
10. Contracts or other agreements between managed care organizations and the Health Care Safety Net Administration or the Medicaid Assistance Administration to provide health services.

Enforcement

The Department of Employment Services (DOES) and the D.C. Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP) share monitoring responsibilities.

If you learn that a contractor subject to this law is not paying at least the current living wage you should report it to the Contracting Officer.

If you believe that your employer is subject to this law and is not paying you at least the current living wage, you may file a complaint with the DOES Office of Wage – Hour, located at 64 New York Ave., NE, Room 3105, (202) 671-1880.

For questions and additional information, contact the Office of Contracting and Procurement at (202) 727-0252 or the Department of Employment Services on (202) 671-1880.

Please note: *This fact sheet is for informational purposes only as required by Section 106 of the Living Wage Act. It should not be relied on as a definitive statement of the Living Wage Act or any regulations adopted pursuant to the law.*

“THE LIVING WAGE ACT OF 2006”

Title I, D.C. Law No. 16-118, (D.C. Official Code §§ 2-220.01-11)

Effective June 9, 2006, recipients of new contracts or government assistance shall pay affiliated employees and subcontractors who perform services under the contracts no less than the current living wage. Effective January 1, 2008, the living wage rate is \$12.10.

The requirement to pay a living wage applies to:

- All recipients of contracts in the amount of \$100,000 or more; and, all subcontractors of these recipients receiving \$15,000 or more from the funds received by the recipient from the District of Columbia, and,
 - All recipients of government assistance in the amount of \$100,000 or more; and, all subcontractors of these recipients of government assistance receiving \$50,000 or more in funds from government assistance received from the District of Columbia.
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“Contract” means a written agreement between a recipient and the District government.

“Government assistance” means a grant, loan or tax increment financing that result in a financial benefit from an agency, commission, instrumentality, or other entity of the District government.

“Affiliated employee” means any individual employed by a recipient who received compensation directly from government assistance or a contract with the District of Columbia government, including any employee of a contractor or subcontractor of a recipient who performs services pursuant to government assistance or contract. The term “affiliated employee” does not include those individuals who perform only intermittent or incidental services with respect to the contract or government assistance or who are otherwise employed by the contractor, recipient or subcontractor.

Certain exceptions may apply where contracts or agreements are subject to wage determinations required by federal law which are higher than the wage required by this Act; contracts for electricity, telephone, water, sewer other services delivered by regulated utility; contracts for services needed immediately to prevent or respond to a disaster or eminent threat to the public health or safety declared by the Mayor; contracts awarded to recipients that provide trainees with additional services provided the trainee does not replace employees; tenants or retail establishments that occupy property constructed or improved by government assistance, provided there is no receipt of direct District government assistance; Medicaid provider agreements for direct care services to Medicaid recipients, provided that the direct care service is not provided through a home care agency, a community residential facility or a group home for mentally retarded persons; and contracts or other agreements between managed care organizations and the Health Care Safety Net Administration or the Medicaid Assistance Administration to provide health services.

Exemptions are provided for employees under 22 years of age employed during a school vacation period, or enrolled as a full-time student who works less than 25 hours per week, provided that other employees are not replaced, and for employees of nonprofit organizations that employ not more than 50 individuals.

Each recipient and subcontractor of a recipient shall provide this notice to each affiliate employee covered by this notice, and shall also post this notice concerning these requirements in a conspicuous site in the place of business.

All recipients and subcontractors shall retain payroll records created and maintained in the regular course of business under District of Columbia law for a period of at least 3 years.

This is a summary of the “Living Wage Act of 2006”. For the complete text go to:

www.does.dc.gov or www.ocp.dc.gov

To file a complaint contact: Department of Employment Services

Office of Wage-Hour

64 New York Avenue, N.E., Room 3105, Washington, D.C. 20002

(202) 671-1880



LIVING WAGE ACT FACT SHEET

The "Living Wage Act of 2006," Title I of D.C. Law 16-18, (D.C. Official Code §§2-220.01-.11 became effective June 9, 2006. It generally provides that District of Columbia government contractors and recipients of government assistance (grants, loans, tax increment financing) in the amount of \$100,000 or more shall pay affiliated employees wages no less than the amount of \$11.75 per hour.

Subcontractors of D.C. government contractors who receive \$15,000 or more from the contract and subcontractors of the recipients of government assistance who receive \$50,000 or more from the assistance are also required to pay their affiliated employees no less than \$11.75 per hour.

"Affiliated employee" means any individual employed by a recipient who received compensation directly from government assistance or a contract with the District of Columbia government, including any employee of a contractor or subcontractor of a recipient who performs services pursuant to government assistance or contract. The term "affiliated employee" does not include those individuals who perform only intermittent or incidental services with respect to the contract or government assistance or who are otherwise employed by the contractor, recipient or subcontractor.

Exemptions – The following contracts and agreements are exempt from the "*Living Wage Act*":

1. Contracts or other agreements that are subject to higher wage level determinations required by federal law (i.e., if a contract is subject to the Service Contract Act and certain wage rates are lower than the District's current living wage, the contractor must pay the higher of the two rates);
2. Existing and future collective bargaining agreements, provided, that the future collective bargaining agreement results in the employee being paid no less than the established living wage;
3. Contracts for electricity, telephone, water, sewer or other services provided by a regulated utility;
4. Contracts for services needed immediately to prevent or respond to a disaster or eminent threat to public health or safety declared by the Mayor;
5. Contracts or other agreements that provide trainees with additional services including, but not limited to, case management and job readiness services; provided that the trainees do not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act of 2006;
6. An employee, under 22 years of age, employed during a school vacation period, or enrolled as a full-time student, as defined by the respective institution, who is in high school or at an accredited institution of higher education and who works less than 25 hours per week; provided that he or she does not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act of 2006;

7. Tenants or retail establishments that occupy property constructed or improved by receipt of government assistance from the District of Columbia; provided, that the tenant or retail establishment did not receive direct government assistance from the District;
8. Employees of nonprofit organizations that employ not more than 50 individuals and qualify for taxation exemption pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, approved August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 163; 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3));
9. Medicaid provider agreements for direct care services to Medicaid recipients, provided, that the direct care service is not provided through a home care agency, a community residence facility, or a group home for mentally retarded persons as those terms are defined in section 2 of the Health-Care and Community Residence Facility, Hospice, and Home Care Licensure Act of 1983, effective February 24, 1984 (D.C. Law 5-48; D.C. Official Code § 44-501); and
10. Contracts or other agreements between managed care organizations and the Health Care Safety Net Administration or the Medicaid Assistance Administration to provide health services.

Enforcement

The Department of Employment Services (DOES) and the D.C. Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP) share monitoring responsibilities.

If you learn that a contractor is not paying at least the living wage you should report it to the Contracting Officer.

If you believe that your employer is not paying you at least the required living wage, you may file a complaint with the DOES Office of Wage – Hour, located at 64 New York Avenue, N.E., Room 3105, (202) 671-1880.

For questions and additional information, contact the Office of Contracting and Procurement at (202) 727-0252 or the Department of Employment Services on (202) 671-1880.

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Government of the District of Columbia
Anthony A. Williams, Mayor

Department of Employment Services
Gregory P. Irish, Director



“ LIVING WAGE ACT OF 2006”

Title I of the Way to Work Amendment Act of 2006, effective June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-118, D.C. Official Code §2-220.01 *et seq.*), as amended, (“Living Wage Act of 2006”) applies to all contracts for services in the amount of \$100,000 or more in a 12-month period.

The Living Wage Act of 2006 requires a contractor to:

1. pay its employees and subcontractors who perform services under the contract no less than the current living wage published on the OCP website at www.ocp.dc.gov;
2. include in any subcontract for \$15,000 or more a provision requiring the subcontractor to pay its employees who perform services under the contract no less than the current living wage rate;
3. provide a copy of the Living Wage Act Fact Sheet to each employee and subcontractor who performs services under the contract;
4. post the Living Wage Act Notice in a conspicuous place in its place of business;
5. include in any subcontract for \$15,000 or more a provision requiring the subcontractor to post the Living Wage Act Notice in a conspicuous place in its place of business;
6. maintain its payroll records under the contract in the regular course of business for a period of at least three (3) years from the payroll date; and
7. require its subcontractors with subcontracts for \$15,000 or more under the contract to maintain its payroll records under the contract in the regular course of business for a period of at least three (3) years from the payroll date.

THE CURRENT LIVING WAGE RATE IS \$11.75.

Starting in 2008, the Department of Employment Services may adjust the living wage annually. The OCP will publish the current living wage rate on its website at www.ocp.dc.gov.

The payment of wages required under the Living Wage Act of 2006 shall be consistent with and subject to the provisions of D.C. Official Code §32-1301 *et seq.*

The requirements of the Living Wage Act of 2006 **do not apply** to:

1. Contracts or other agreements that are subject to higher wage level determinations required by federal law (i.e., if a contract is subject to the Service Contract Act and certain wage rates are lower than the District's current living wage, the contractor must pay the higher of the two rates);
2. Existing and future collective bargaining agreements, provided, that the future collective bargaining agreement results in the employee being paid no less than the established living wage;
3. Contracts for electricity, telephone, water, sewer or other services provided by a regulated utility;
4. Contracts for services needed immediately to prevent or respond to a disaster or eminent threat to public health or safety declared by the Mayor;
5. Contracts or other agreements that provide trainees with additional services including, but not limited to, case management and job readiness services; provided that the trainees do not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act of 2006;
6. An employee under 22 years of age employed during a school vacation period, or enrolled as a full-time student, as defined by the respective institution, who is in high school or at an accredited institution of higher education and who works less than 25 hours per week; provided that he or she does not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act of 2006;
7. Tenants or retail establishments that occupy property constructed or improved by receipt of government assistance from the District of Columbia; provided, that the tenant or retail establishment did not receive direct government assistance from the District;
8. Employees of nonprofit organizations that employ not more than 50 individuals and qualify for taxation exemption pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, approved August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 163; 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3));
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- (10) Contracts or other agreements between managed care organizations and the Health Care Safety Net Administration or the Medicaid Assistance Administration to provide health services.

The Mayor may exempt a contractor from the requirements of the Living Wage Act of 2006, subject to the approval of Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 109 of the Act.

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- All recipients of government assistance in the amount of \$100,000 or more; and, all subcontractors of these recipients of government assistance receiving \$50,000 or more in funds from government assistance received from the District of Columbia.

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