

Colorado's Minimum Wage Changes to \$7.64 Per Hour Higher than Federal Minimum Wage

Effective January 1, 2012 Colorado will raise its minimum wage rate to \$7.64 per hour.

In accordance with the inflation adjustment requirement of Article XVIII, Section 15, of the Colorado Constitution, the Director of the Division of Labor has adopted Colorado Minimum Wage Order Number 28 to reflect the new state minimum wage of \$7.64 per hour effective January 1, 2012.

If an employee is covered by federal and Colorado state minimum wage laws, then the employer must pay the higher minimum wage. Federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 per hour, which is lower than the Colorado state minimum wage of \$7.64. Therefore, based upon current information, covered employers in Colorado will have to pay their employees the higher value of \$7.64 per hour under Colorado law beginning January 1, 2012.

What This Means For Counties

Counties are now paying the Colorado minimum wage enacted in January 2011 of \$7.36 per hour. However, counties may want to adjust budget figures for the increase in the Colorado State minimum wage rate which is higher than the Federal minimum wage rate of \$7.25.

For more information, contact CTSI at 303-861-0507.