



FAMILY INDEPENDENCE ADMINISTRATION

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POLICY BULLETIN #08-100-OPE (This Policy Bulletin Replaces PB #07-93-EMP)

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Date: August 8, 2008	Subtopic(s): Minimum Wage
<p>  This procedure can now be accessed on the FIAweb. </p> <p>See PB #08-14-OPE for WFFSI information.</p>	<p>The purpose of this policy bulletin is to inform Job Center and Non-Cash Assistance (NCA) Food Stamp (FS) Center staff that the federal minimum wage increased from \$5.85 to \$6.55 per hour on July 24, 2008.</p> <p>The increase in the federal minimum wage will impact the Working Families Food Stamp Initiative (WFFSI) screening and exemptions from the Food Stamp Employment and Training (FSET) work requirements.</p> <p><u>WFFSI</u></p> <p>The WFFSI is available to NCA FS households who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one adult household member working 30 hours per week or more; • one adult household member earning an average weekly income equal to or greater than the federal minimum wage times 30; • two adults each working 20 hours per week or more; or • two adults each earning an average weekly income equal to or greater than the federal minimum wage times 20. <p>The increased amounts for the federal minimum wage times 30 (\$196.50) and the federal minimum wage times 20 (\$131.00) have been updated in the Food Stamp Paperless Office System (FS POS) screening for WFFSI eligibility.</p>

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PROCEDURE?
Call 718-557-1313 then press 3 at the prompt followed by 1 or
send an e-mail to *FIA Call Center*

FSET

The federal minimum wage is used to determine if an employed individual is exempt from the FSET work requirements. The employed individual is exempt if his/her earnings are equal to or greater than the federal minimum wage times 30. Effective July 24, 2008, individuals must earn at least \$196.50 per week (30 x \$6.55) to be exempt under this rule.

Workers must review the FSET exemption for employed individuals at the next contact or recertification.

Cash Assistance Employment Requirements

The number of hours of participation in a work activity is based on the higher of the State or federal wage. The increase in the federal minimum wage to \$6.55 per hour is still below the New York State minimum wage of \$7.15 per hour. Therefore, the current increase in the federal minimum wage will have no impact on the calculation of Work Experience Program hours.

Effective July 24, 2008

Reference:

GIS 08 TA/DC017