

LABOR TODAY



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Minimum wage in 2011 is confirmed at 4,320 won per hour

The rate will apply to all the business and workplaces across the nation for one year from January 1st, 2011.

The Ministry of Employment and Labor decided to confirm the minimum wage per hour at 4,320 won for the year 2011 and plans to promulgate it as of August 3, 2010.

This is after the Minimum Wage Commission concluded to raise the minimum wage per hour by 5.1% from 4,110 won this year to 4,320 won on July 3, 2010 (refer to Labor Today No. 704) and the Ministry made the rate public for ten days from July 9 to gather different opinions but didn't receive any objection from the labor and management sides.

The rate will apply to all the business and workplaces across the nation from January 1st to December 31st, 2011 without any regional and occupational difference. However, it doesn't apply to family business hiring only family members, housework employees, and seamen and ship owners.

As the rate is set at 4,320 won per hour, daily minimum wage is 34,560 won (8-hour work), monthly minimum wage is 902,880 won and 976,320 won under 40-hour workweek and 44-hour workweek respectively. The minimum wage only includes basic pay and fixed allowances which are paid regularly, but overtime pay, annual and monthly leave allowance, housing allowance, meal allowance, etc. are not included.

On the other hand, the minimum wage can cut down to 90% of the normal level for a probationary worker. It can further go down to 80% for workers of surveillance or intermittent job such as a security guard, janitor, facility manager, etc. after their

employer obtained an approval from the Minister of Employment and Labor.

< Minimum Wage in 2011 >

	Per hour	Daily (8 hours)	Monthly	
			40-hour work week (209 hours)	44-hour work week (226 hours)
All the business and workplaces	4,320 won	34,560 won	902,880 won	976,320 won

* Application period: Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2011