Junior pay rates

A junior is an employee under 21 years of age. Use our Pay Calculator (http://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/FindYourAward) to calculate junior pay rates.

Juniors get paid a percentage of the relevant adult pay rate unless:

- the award, enterprise agreement or other registered agreement (www.fairwork.gov.au/Dictionary.aspx?TermID=2034) doesn't have junior rates, or
- they have completed an apprenticeship and are trade qualified.

The percentages that apply are usually based on the employee’s age and increase on their next birthday.

Example: Junior pay rate increases

Carly is 17 years old and works in a shop. She’s entitled to 60% of the adult pay rate under her award. She turns 18 on 22 March. From 22 March she’s entitled to 70% of the adult pay rate.

Think a mistake might have been made?

Mistakes can happen. The best way to fix them usually starts with talking.

Check out our Help resolving workplace issues (www.fairwork.gov.au/how-we-will-help/how-we-help-you/help-resolving-workplace-issues/default) section for practical advice on:

- figuring out if a mistake has been made
- talking to your employer or employee about fixing it
- getting help from us if you can’t resolve it.

What to do next

- Use our Pay Calculator (http://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/FindYourAward) to calculate junior pay rates

Help for small business


You might also be interested in

- Protections at work (www.fairwork.gov.au/employee-entitlements/protections-at-work/default)

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The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.