

Hop to it and check pay rates before Easter

21 March 2016

The Fair Work Ombudsman is urging employers and employees to check the pay rates and entitlements that apply to their workplace over Easter.

"Whether you are a business operator preparing for Easter trading or an employee working through Easter, it's important to be aware of the public holidays and any penalty rates that apply," Fair Work Ombudsman Natalie James says.

"Our website can assist employers and workers alike understand and comply with their rights and obligations so there aren't any issues arising post-Easter."

Information available on [the public holidays page \(www.fairwork.gov.au/leave/public-holidays\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/leave/public-holidays) includes an overview of the workplace laws that apply on public holidays, including what employers need to pay and what employees are entitled to.

The website also contains details of applicable public holidays in each state and territory.

Good Friday (March 25) and Easter Monday (March 28) are national public holidays, but in some states and territories, Easter Saturday and/or Easter Sunday are public holidays.

Employees and employers can use the Fair Work Ombudsman's free online tools and resources to check entitlements specific to their workplace.

A Pay and Conditions Tool (PACT) can provide information on pay, shift, penalty, leave and redundancy entitlements.

Ms James says most underpayments are inadvertent and the result of employers failing to check their minimum obligations under workplace laws.

"It is important for employers to be fully aware of the minimum pay rates that apply to their employees, otherwise they can end up facing bills for back-payment of wages they were not budgeting for," she says.

The Fair Work Ombudsman was striving to build a culture of compliance with workplace laws to ensure an even playing field for all businesses.

"We are committed to supporting compliant, productive and inclusive Australian workplaces by providing practical advice that is easy to access, understand and apply," Ms James said.

Employers and employees seeking assistance can also phone the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94. A free interpreter service is available by calling 13 14 50.

Small businesses calling the Infoline can opt to receive priority service to assist with their inquiries.

Follow Fair Work Ombudsman Natalie James on Twitter [@NatJamesFWO](https://twitter.com/NatJamesFWO) (<http://twitter.com/NatJamesFWO>), the Fair Work Ombudsman [@fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) (http://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au (<http://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au>).

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

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.