

Uniforms, vehicle & travel entitlements

There are new versions of several awards starting from 4 February 2020.

Check out [Changes to awards in 2020 \(www.fairwork.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/awards/changes-to-awards-in-2020\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/awards/changes-to-awards-in-2020) for more information.

As part of their job, employees may be required to:

- wear uniforms
- drive vehicles and/or
- travel to other locations.

In these situations, an employee may be entitled to a payment or repayment, depending on the industry and the job they do.

Employees required to buy work related items can't be forced by their employer to use their wages to pay for these items, if the requirement is unreasonable.

If you're covered by an enterprise agreement or other [registered agreement \(www.fairwork.gov.au/Dictionary.aspx?TermID=2034\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Dictionary.aspx?TermID=2034), payments for uniforms, vehicles and travel will be contained in your agreement. To find an agreement, go to the [Fair Work Commission website \(https://www.fwc.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/agreements\)](https://www.fwc.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/agreements).

Find more information about payments for uniforms, vehicles and travel in your award by selecting from the list below.

Based on what you've told us, it looks like you're covered by the Hospitality Industry (General) Award [MA000009].

Uniform entitlements

An employee may have to do work that requires special clothing or work that damages their clothing or footwear.

Special clothing includes:

- uniforms (eg. shirts with the company logo on them)
- items worn for workplace health and safety reasons (eg. protective aprons and protective footwear).

It doesn't include neat casual clothing, black or white clothing, shoes, socks or stockings.

If an employee has to wear special or protective clothing the employer has to:

- provide the clothing or
- reimburse the employee for the cost of the clothing.

The employer also has to pay an employee an allowance each week to cover washing costs, where the employee has to wash any special clothing.

For allowance amounts, go to [Penalty rates and allowances \(www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default).

When special clothing is provided and is not returned at the end of the employment, an employer may be able to deduct the value from an employee's wages as long as:

- the employee signed a receipt for the items when they commenced employment
- the receipt specified the value of the items, and
- the deduction is not due to genuine wear and tear, damage, loss or theft that is not the employee's fault.

Vehicle and transport costs

When a hotel manager employee is asked to use their own vehicle for work purposes they get a vehicle allowance. An employer can ask them to record all the details of their official travel in a log book as a condition of the allowance being paid. For allowance amounts, go to [Penalty rates and allowances \(www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default).

An employee has to be reimbursed the cost of any transport when they:

- start earlier than their normal time and
 - their normal means of transport isn't available and
 - the employer doesn't provide suitable transport or
- finish at a time when
 - their normal means of transport isn't available
 - it would be unreasonable to expect the employee to use their normal means of transport
 - the employer doesn't provide free accommodation or suitable transport.

Travel costs and travel time

When an employee (except a casual) has to work at a place more than 80 km away from their usual workplace they have to be paid an amount equal to the cost of fares reasonably spent in travelling from the usual workplace to the new workplace.

Airport catering employees have to be paid a travelling allowance each day. For allowance amounts, go to [Penalty rates and allowances \(www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default) .

Use the [Property receipt template – Hospitality industry \(DOC 50KB\) \(www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/766/Property-receipt-template-hospitality-industry.doc.aspx\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/766/Property-receipt-template-hospitality-industry.doc.aspx) to record any items of uniform or property provided to an employee.

To find out more about who this award applies to, go to the [Hospitality Award summary \(www.fairwork.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/awards/award-summary/ma000009-summary\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/awards-and-agreements/awards/award-summary/ma000009-summary) .

Source reference: [Hospitality Industry \(General\) Award \[MA000009\] clause 26 ^{PDF} \(http://awardviewer.fwo.gov.au/award/show/MA000009\)](http://awardviewer.fwo.gov.au/award/show/MA000009)

Source reference: [Fair Work Act 2009 ss.325\(1\) \(http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Series/C2009A00028\)](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Series/C2009A00028) ^{PDF}

Think a mistake might have been made?

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

Check out our [Fixing a workplace problem \(www.fairwork.gov.au/workplace-problems/fixing-a-workplace-problem/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/workplace-problems/fixing-a-workplace-problem/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

- Check the [Penalty rates and allowances \(www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/penalty-rates-and-allowances/default) to see what other allowances are paid
- Check [Deducting pay and overpayments \(www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/deducting-pay-and-overpayments\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/deducting-pay-and-overpayments) for what deductions are and aren't allowed

Help for small business

- Find tools, resources and information you might need on our [Small business page \(www.fairwork.gov.au/Find-help-for/Small-business/default\)](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Find-help-for/Small-business/default) .

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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.