Compliance Advice

25 June 2026

Road Transport and Distribution Award 2020

Road Transport (Long Distance Operations) Award 2020

Clerks—Private Sector Award 2020

Storage Services and Wholesale Award 2020

Increased wage rates and allowances

Members have previously been advised of the Fair Work Commission's decision regarding the Annual Wage Review 2026. In summary:

- The national minimum wage (**NMW**) will be increased to $1004.90 per week, or $26.44 per hour.
- Modern award minimum wages will be increased by 4.75 per cent and in addition, where applicable:
  - the C13 rate will be increased by an amount that represents one-third of the difference between it and the C12 rate (approximately 1.2%); and
  - the C14 rate will be increased by the same percentage as the increase to the C13 rate.
- Allowances contained in awards will also be adjusted. **Members should note in particular the increase in the allowance payable to a recognised furniture carter removing and / or delivering furniture to $27.39 per week under the under the Road Transport and Distribution Award 2020**.

The new wage and allowance rates payable under the above awards are set out in the attached tables.

What is the operative date?

The increases are operative from 1 July 2026. They take effect in relation to a particular employee from the first full pay period that starts on or after 1 July 2026.

Can the increases be absorbed into over-award payments?

Generally, yes, unless this is inconsistent with a contractual arrangement in place between an employer and employee.

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Does the wage increase apply to employees covered by an enterprise agreement?

For most employees, the answer to this question would be no, however, this will depend upon the terms of the enterprise agreement.

All employees covered by an enterprise agreement must be paid a base rate of pay no less than the base rate of pay under the relevant modern award, or the NMW if they are an award-free employee.

Do you require further advice?

For further information or assistance regarding the variations to the award, or to discuss any workplace relations issue, please contact the Australian Industry Group Workplace Advice Line on 1300 55 66 77. Alternatively, please email workplaceadvice@australianindustrygroup.com.au.



Brent Ferguson
Head of National Workplace Relations Policy

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