

CITY OF SAN LEANDRO LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE

Guidelines for Compliance & Frequently Asked Questions July 2012

Guidelines for Compliance with the Living Wage Ordinance (LWO)

Service Providers

For Profit Service Providers

Affects for-profit entities that provide services to the City valued at \$25,000 or greater within the City's fiscal year; and which has six (6) or more employees.

Any employee working on City services under contract with the City is covered by the LWO for the time spent performing said services.

Non-Profit Service Providers

Affects non-profit entities that provide services to the City valued at \$100,000 or more within the City's fiscal year; and which has six (6) or more employees

Any employee working more than 25% of their time on the City-contracted services being procured by the City under the contract with the employer is subject to.

Lessees

Affects lessee's of public property, licensees, concessionaires and franchises that generate \$350,000 or more in annual (calendar) gross receipts.

Any employee who spends more than 25% of their working time on the leased property or engaged in work directly related to the license, concession or franchise is subject to.

Financial Aid Recipients

Affects any entity receiving more than \$100,000 in City grants, loans, or other cash/non-cash assistance within the City's fiscal year. Compliance is required for the duration of one year for each \$100,000 of assistance, pro-rated up to a maximum duration of five (5) years after receiving said aide.

Any employees who spend more than 25% of their working time engaged in work directly related to the purposes for which the City's aid was provided are subject to.

Subcontractors/Sub-Lessees

Affects both for-profit and non-profit employers that enter into a subcontract with the primary employer/contractor and assumes some of the obligations of the primary employer/contractor.

Subcontractor's and sub-lessee's are also subject to the same living wage provisions and requirements as the primary employer or lessee. Employees who are or would be covered

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under the state prevailing wage rate requirement would only be covered by the Ordinance if their current prevailing wage rate was lower than the living wage rate.

Compensation

Covered businesses are required to pay no less than \$13.83 per hour or \$12.33 with health benefits valued at least \$1.50 per hour, subject to annual CPI adjustment.

Reporting and Compliance

Covered businesses self-certify compliance and are subject to periodic re-certification and audit of living wage related records.

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Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the City of San Leandro's Living Wage Ordinance?

"Living wage" is an hourly wage level that sets wages at a level higher than the Federal or State minimum wage. The City of San Leandro Ordinance specifies that an hourly wage and a health benefit dollar level be applied to certain contracts, agreements and leases between the City and for-profit and non-profit entities. It does not apply to every business in the City.

2. When does the Living Wage take effect and when do businesses have to start complying and provide higher wages to their employees?

September 1, 2007 is the effective date. Applicable businesses must comply with the Ordinance when they enter into a lease, contract or concessionaire or other agreement with the City of San Leandro, or when an existing agreement is amended to benefit the business.

For example, if a lease contract expires in two years, compliance would not be required for the two years the lease remains in effect and unchanged. New contracts entered into or amended thereto affecting financial aid or extending the term after the effective date are subject to the Ordinance. Covered employees would be entitled to the higher wage on the effective date of the new or modified contract or agreement.

All contracts and agreements with the City of San Leandro will include the requirement that the Living Wage Ordinance shall be complied with.

3. What is the required Living Wage rate?

Covered businesses are required to pay no less than \$13.83 per hour, which includes wages and employer health benefits. Health benefits must be valued at \$1.50 per hour in order to be counted towards the requirement. In other words, an employee not receiving any employer health benefits would receive an hourly wage of at least \$13.83, while one receiving health benefits would receive an hourly wage of at least \$12.33.

The living wage rate will be adjusted annually in July to reflect the consumer price index.

4. Are there any other required employee benefits specified?

Yes. It specifies that employees must receive at least 22 days off per year (calendar) for sick leave, vacation, holiday, or personal necessity. At least 12 of the required days off shall be compensated at the same rate as regular compensation while 10 of the required 22 days may be uncompensated days off. Part-time employees shall be entitled to accrue compensated days off in increments proportional to that accrued by full-time employees.

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Employees shall be eligible to use accrued days off after the first 6 months of satisfactory employment or in accordance with the employer's policy, whichever is sooner.

5. What types of employee's are covered by the Ordinance? And does it cover full-time and part-time employees?

Employees spending at least 25% of their work time on a City of San Leandro contract are covered, as long as they work for a business applicable under the terms of a covered agreement or contract. Both part-time and full-time employees are covered if they meet those criteria. Employees who are or would be covered under the state prevailing wage rate requirement would only be covered by the Ordinance if their current prevailing wage rate was lower than the living wage rate.

Please see "Guidelines for Compliance" for additional detail.

6. What types of businesses are covered by the San Leandro Living Wage Ordinance?

The Living Wage Ordinance applies to entities providing services to the City of San Leandro via contract or agreement, lessees of the City and recipients of City financial aid. Please see "Guidelines for Compliance" for the thresholds and criteria for each type of employer, lessee, financial aid recipient, or subcontractor and lessee.

7. Does the Living Wage Ordinance apply to sub-contractors or sub-lessees?

Subcontractor's and sub-lessee's are also subject to the same living wage provisions and requirements as the primary employer or lessee. Employees who are or would be covered under the state prevailing wage rate requirement would only be covered by the Ordinance if their current prevailing wage rate was lower than the living wage rate. For example, employees of a firm hired to do building improvements for the contractor would be subject to the prevailing wage requirements under state law.

8. Does the Living Wage Rate affect tenants of a financial aid recipient?

It depends on the circumstances, for example, if a developer receives a \$500,000 city loan to rehab a commercial building and the tenants pay the market rate, they would not be subject to the LWO. However, the benefitting developer or business (and successors) would be subject to the LWO.

9. What types of employees are exempt?

The Ordinance shall not be applicable to employees under 18 years of age, volunteers, qualified temporary employees working for the City of San Leandro, other government employees, employees that participate in a job training program, qualified disabled employees covered by a sub-minimum wage certificate or equivalent, interns or employees receiving academic credit through a job training program, employees already subject to the State's prevailing wage requirement (if living wage rate is higher than the prevailing wage rate, then the living wage rate would apply) , employees while working stand-by or on-call

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duty, and any other employee where the application of the Ordinance would be prohibited by State or Federal law.

10. Are any exemptions or waivers allowed for a business?

Following City Manager review and recommendation, the City Council may approve waivers with or without conditions to any of the Living Wage provisions, upon determination that such action is in the best interest of the City.

11. What other types of businesses are not covered by the City of San Leandro Living Wage Ordinance?

Commodity suppliers and suppliers of goods (paper, office supplies, equipment, etc.) and their employees are not covered.

12. What steps are in place to prevent discrimination or employer retaliation against the provisions of the Ordinance?

Retaliation and discrimination against any person on account of having inquired into or having claimed a violation of the Ordinance is unlawful. Any employee who alleges violation of any of the Living Wage requirements may report such acts to the City. The City may investigate such complaints and take appropriate action to enforce the Ordinance.

13. How do the worker retention provisions of the Ordinance work?

Briefly, any business that replaces another business in a lease, contract, subcontract, etc. is required to offer employment to the employees of the prior tenant or contractor for a period of 90 days. If the new business already has its own employees, then employment must be offered on the basis of seniority to its own and the prior employees. Managerial, supervisory, professional, paraprofessional, and confidential and office employees are exempted from this provision.

14. How is the Living Wage Ordinance enforced? Are there penalties against businesses found not to be complying?

Employers self-certify compliance. The City may also periodically require employer re-certification and review the businesses living wage related records. Each business is required to allow access to its workforce and living wage related records by authorized City of San Leandro representatives to ensure compliance.

Violations of the Living Wage Ordinance are subject to fines of up to \$5,000, and/or the City may terminate the violator's agreement. Any person may bring action against a business in the Superior Court of California to enforce the measure.

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15. Who can answer more questions about the Ordinance; and where can I get a copy of it?

The Finance Department of the City currently administers the Living Wage Ordinance. Please contact the department at 510-577-3376 if you have any questions. You may obtain a copy of the Ordinance from the Finance Department; or it is available on the City's website at: <http://www.sanleandro.org/depts/finance/livwage/default.asp>