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LEGAL NOTICE NO. 65 OF 2021

Labour Code Wages (Minimum Wages) Notice, 2021

Pursuant to section 51(1) of the Labour Code Order, 1992¹ and after considering the recommendations of the Wages Advisory Board and informing the Board of my decision, I,

MOSHE LEOMA

Minister responsible for labour and employment, make the following Notice -

Citation and commencement

1. This notice may be cited as Labour Code Wages (Minimum Wages) Notice, 2021 and shall come into operation on the 1st of July, 2021.

Interpretation

2. In this notice, unless the context otherwise requires -

“clothing, textile and leather manufacturing sector” means manufacturing of clothing or footwear apparel as well as processes leading to their manufacturing from weaving, dressing, dyeing, tanning inclusive of manufacturing of luggage, handbags, belts, shoes and apparatus for export purpose as well as for marketing in Lesotho through formal wholesale and retail businesses, but does not include formal and informal sector where manufacturing of these items employs less than twenty people or for marketing on the premises or streets or house to house and includes other manufactures of any goods which employs a large scale of workers;

“construction sector” means any commercial or industrial business or undertaking operating in the building of physical infrastructure, houses or structures and employing more than five people including roads, footpaths, houses, bridges walls or related structures, and those undertakings operating in the manufacturing of building materials, like crush stones, mining, stone cutting and brick making;

“construction machine operator” means a person operating machinery

with an engine ranging from mobile crane, excavator, bull dozer, jack hammer, front-end loader, caterpillar and side scraper;

“construction worker” means a person employed in construction sector as a manual labourer;

“domestic worker” includes a gardener, clothes washer at a home or residence, cook, house cleaner and child minder;

“general minimum wage” means a wage which applies to any skilled or manual labour employed in a commercial or an industrial undertaking other than a construction worker, textile general worker, hospital worker or any other worker specified in this notice;

“hospitality sector” means a commercial and an industrial undertaking involved in tourism, receiving and accommodating guests, with or without provision of food, drinks and beverages, whether alcoholic or non-alcoholic, on the premises or away from the premises and includes hotels, lodges, motels, restaurants, food caterers and guest houses, betting and gambling and excludes a commercial and an industrial undertaking which falls under general minimum wage, and small businesses;

“retailers” means a commercial and an industrial undertaking selling goods and services directly to the public and includes mini-supermarket, bakeries, cafes, gas and petrol filling stations with more than five employees, other than small business;

“retail sector” means a commercial or an industrial business or undertaking operating in the business of purchasing goods or products with the sole aim of re-sale and includes those businesses which manufacture goods for public consumption such as medium sized bakery, meat markets, vegetables markets with less than forty employees but more than five;

“security industry” means a business or undertaking operating in the business of providing protection of goods, property or persons to and includes a person or company or employing another person as a watchman;

“small business” means a commercial or an industrial undertaking which does not employ more than ten persons and is wholly owned by Basotho companies or partnerships with majority shareholding of Basotho as natural persons, but does not include holders of trader’s licenses of supermarkets and wholesalers and includes the following -

- (a) butchery;
- (b) café or snack bar;
- (c) coal and wood dealer;
- (d) general café;
- (e) green grocer; and
- (f) public bar;

“textile general worker” means a person employed in the clothing, textile and leather manufacturing sector which performs all kinds of tasks other than machine operating, security work, watchmen, administration, clerical work as well as messengers and gardeners;

“textile machine operator- trained” means a person who operates machinery within the clothing, textile and leather manufacturing sector and who has completed more than twelve months with the same employer or who has been certified as such and includes garments sewing machine operator, miscellaneous products in textile and kindred material shoe sewing;

“textile machine operator-trainee” means a person who is a machine operator within the clothing, textile and leather manufacturing sector and who has not completed twelve months with the same employer or who has not been certified as such;

“trained security guards” means a person who has completed more than twelve months service with the same employer within the security industry or holds a certificate as a security guard or person;

“transport sector” means a commercial or an industrial business or undertaking which employs persons holding a relevant drivers licence to convey goods, services, or passengers regardless of the sector in which the business or undertaking is engaged in;

“watchman” means a person who is privately employed to guard or patrol a private dwelling house or an area but is not deployed by a security company;

“wholesalers” includes the following undertakings;

- (a) supermarkets;
- (b) furniture shop; and
- (c) bakeries with more than forty employees.

Minimum wages

- 3. The minimum wages are as set out in the schedule.

Repeal

- 4. The Labour Code Wages (Minimum Wages) Notice, 2019² is repealed.

DATED: 15TH JUNE, 2021

**MOSHE LEOMA
MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

NOTE

- 1. Order No. 24 of 1992
- 2. L.N. No. 39 of 2019

SCHEDULE
BASIC MINIMUM WAGES

Sector	Minimum Monthly (Maloti)	Minimum Weekly (Maloti)	Minimum Daily (Maloti)
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**A. CLOTHING, TEXTILE AND LEATHER MANUFACTURING
SECTOR**
**Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same
employer -**

(i)	Textile General Worker	2166.00	500.00	99.00
(ii)	Textile Machine Operator	2328.00	538.00	107.00
(iii)	Textile Machine Operator Trainee	2166.00	500.00	99.00

**Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same
employer -**

(i)	Trained Machine Operator	2417.00	559.00	112.00
(ii)	Textile General Worker	2399.00	554.00	111.00

B. CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

(i)	Construction Machine Operator and Certificated (Bricklayer, Carpenter, Steel Fixer, Welder, Electrician and Plumber)	3962.00	936.00	218.00
(ii)	Construction Worker (Unskilled Heavy Physical Worker)	2517.00	632.00	133.00

Employees with more than twelve months of continuous service with the same employer -

(i)	Construction Machine Operator and Certificated (Bricklayer, Carpenter, Steel Fixer, Welder, Electrician and Plumber)	4416.00	1044.00	269.00
(ii)	Construction Worker (Unskilled Heavy Physical Worker)	2771.00	691.00	144.00

C. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SECTOR

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

(i)	Wholesale, Supermarkets and Furniture Shops	2431.00	561.00	118.00
(ii)	Bakeries with more than forty employees	2431.00	561.00	118.00

Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

(i)	Wholesale, supermarkets, furniture shops	2580.00	596.00	142.00
(ii)	Bakeries with more than forty employees	2580.00	596.00	142.00

D. RETAIL SECTOR (OTHER THAN SMALL BUSINESS) -

- (i) mini-supermarket;
- (ii) Bakeries with less than forty employees;
- (iii) Café; and
- (iv) Gas and petrol filling stations.

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2182.00	544.00	116.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2323.00	586.00	123.00
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E. HOSPITALITY SECTOR

- (i) Hotels, Motels and Lodges -

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2431.00	619.00	129.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2580.00	663.00	137.00
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(ii) Restaurants, Food Caterers and Guest Houses -

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2209.00	555.00	118.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2372.00	593.00	122.00
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F. SERVICE SECTOR -

(i) Security

Security Guard with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

2079.00	520.00	107.00
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Security Guard with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer and those certified by Home Affairs -

2445.00	622.00	144.00
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(ii) Watchman

Watchman with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

1881.00	468.00	102.00
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Watchman with more than twelve months of continuous service with the same employer -

	2040.00	514.00	116.00
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(iii) Funeral Parlour

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	2431.00	611.00	130.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	2580.00	649.00	162.00
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(iv) Cleaning services

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	2431.00	611.00	130.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	2580.00	644.00	162.00
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G. TRANSPORT SECTOR AND ANY OTHER DRIVER

(i) Employees with the licence code which appears on the driver's licence;

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

B/EB/C1:	2408.00	597.00	147.00
C/EC1:	2607.00	652.00	161.00
EC:	4845.00	1208.00	305.00

Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

B/EB/C1:	2638.00	661.00	165.00
C/EC1:	2858.00	719.00	178.00
EC:	5951.00	1486.00	366.00

- (ii) Certificated (auto electrician, motor mechanic, panel beater, spray painter)

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	3674.00	868.00	203.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	3889.00	913.00	210.00
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H. SMALL BUSINESS

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	1235.00	305.00	69.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	1400.00	413.00	75.00
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I. DOMESTIC WORKER (including light physical worker)

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

	680.00	179.00	41.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

751.00	197.00	52.00
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J. GENERAL MINIMUM WAGE

Employees with less than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

1766.00	439.00	95.00
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Employees with more than twelve months continuous service with the same employer -

1927.00	485.00	109.00
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K. CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

1. An employee who has completed more than one year of continuous service with the same employer in the textile, clothing and leather manufacturing shall be entitled to receive six (6) weeks paid maternity leave.
2. An employee who has completed more than one year of continuous service with the same employer other than in the textile, clothing and leather manufacturing sector and private security sector shall be entitled to receive six (6) weeks paid maternity leave before confinement and six (6) weeks paid maternity leave after confinement.
3. An employee who has completed more than one year of continuous service with the same employer in the private security sector shall be entitled to receive six (6) weeks paid maternity leave.
4. The benefit in items (1) and (2) shall be limited to two confinements per employee during her employment with the same employer.