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June 1, 2023

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Employment Department Announces Weekly Benefit Amounts for Unemployment Insurance and Paid Leave Oregon

Salem, Ore. — Today, the Oregon Employment Department announced the 2023-24 minimum and maximum weekly benefit amounts for Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Paid Leave Oregon. Paid Leave Oregon is new and will begin paying benefits in September.

By law, the department calculates the minimum and maximum benefit amounts once a year. These calculations are based on Oregon's State Average Weekly Wage and are effective from July 1 through June 30 of the following year. The State Average Weekly Wage increased from \$1,224.82 to \$1,269.69.

The minimum weekly benefit amount is the lowest amount the program will pay a claimant for each week they claim benefits, and the maximum benefit amount is the most the program will pay, regardless of income.

2023-24 Unemployment Insurance and Paid Leave Oregon weekly benefit amounts

| Program | Minimum weekly benefit amount | Maximum weekly benefit amount |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Unemployment Insurance | \$190 | \$813 |
| Paid Leave Oregon | \$63.48 | \$1,523.63 |

Unemployment Insurance

Starting July 2, 2023, the minimum weekly benefit amount for new unemployment insurance claims will go from \$183 to \$190 per week, and

the maximum weekly benefit amount will go from \$783 to \$813 per week. This increase only affects claims filed July 2, 2023, or later. People who file new unemployment insurance claims before July 2 will continue to receive the same benefit amount.

This is an increase of approximately 3.8%. The minimum weekly benefit amount is 15% of the State Average Weekly Wage, and the maximum is 64%. During the most recent quarter, 11.5% of recipients received the minimum weekly benefit amount, and 24.5% received the maximum.

For Unemployment Insurance, the weekly benefit amount is usually 1.25% of what a claimant earned during their "base period," which is roughly the first 12 of the 15 months before the date they filed their claim.

Visit <u>unemployment.oregon.gov</u> to use OED's <u>UI benefits calculator</u>.

Paid Leave Oregon

For Paid Leave Oregon, the minimum weekly benefit amount is 5% of the State Average Weekly Wage, and the maximum is 120%. When benefits start in September, the minimum weekly benefit amount will be \$63.48, and the maximum will be \$1,523.63.

Paid Leave Oregon calculates weekly benefit amounts based on how much the employee earns on average in a week and how much leave they take in a week, so the amount is different for every employee. Lower wage earners will generally receive more of their usual wages than higher wage earners.

<u>Paidleave.oregon.gov</u> has fact sheets and guidebooks on its <u>resources</u> page.

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