Seattle's Minimum Wage

Small Employers (500 or Fewer Employees)

Does the employer pay towards the individual employee's medical benefits and/or does the

	employee's medical benefits and/or does the employee earn tips?	
	YES	МО
2015	\$10.00	\$11.00
2016	\$10.50	\$12.00
2017	\$11.00	\$13.00
2018	\$11.50	\$14.00
2019	\$12.00	\$15.00
2020	\$13.50	\$15.75
2021	\$15.00	See minimum wage for large employers

Large Employers

(501 or More Employees)

Does the employer pay towards the employee's medical benefits?

*\$16.00		
\$15.00	\$15.45	
\$13.50	\$15.00	
\$12.50	\$13.00	
\$11.00	\$11.00	
YES	NO	
YES	NO	

Seattle's Minimum Wage Ordinance went into effect on April 1, 2015

Who is covered by Seattle's Minimum Wage?

All employees working within Seattle city limits regardless of employees' immigration status or location of their employer.

How do I calculate employer size?

Count the employer's total number of individual employees worldwide. For franchises, count all employees in the franchise network.

When can medical benefits count towards minimum wage?

For a small employer's medical benefit payments to count toward an employee's minimum wage, the employee must be enrolled in a silver-level or higher plan as defined by the federal Affordable Care Act. A small employer cannot pay the lower minimum wage if the employee declines medical benefits or is not eligible for medical benefits. This is subject to limited exceptions.

* Beginning in 2019, all large employers pay the same minimum wage regardless of payments toward an employee's medical benefits.