

NEW LAW: Connecticut Minimum Wage To Increase To \$15 By 2023

On May 20, 2019, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont signed [House Bill 5004](#) into law –making Connecticut the latest state to enact a \$15 per hour minimum wage.

Under this new law, Connecticut’s minimum wage will increase as follows:

- October 1, 2019 — \$11.00 per hour
- September 1, 2020 — \$12.00 per hour
- August 1, 2021 — \$13.00 per hour
- July 1, 2022— \$14.00 per hour
- June 1, 2023 — \$15.00 per hour

- June 1, 2024 and beyond – minimum wage will be adjusted by the percentage change in the Employment Cost Index for all civilian workers’ salaries and wages, over the 12-month period ending on June 30 of the preceding year, as calculated by the United States Department of Labor.

The new law also freezes the allowable tip credit for service employees at the 2019 levels (i.e. \$3.72 for waitpersons and \$1.87 for bartenders). Therefore, the minimum wage rate for tipped employees will also increase as follows:

Waitpersons

- October 1, 2019 — \$7.28 per hour
- September 1, 2020 — \$8.28 per hour
- August 1, 2021 — \$9.28 per hour
- July 1, 2022— \$10.28 per hour
- June 1, 2023 — \$11.28 per hour

Bartenders

- October 1, 2019 — \$9.13 per hour
- September 1, 2020 — \$10.13 per hour
- August 1, 2021 — \$11.13 per hour
- July 1, 2022— \$12.13 per hour
- June 1, 2023 — \$13.13 per hour

It is recommended that all Connecticut employers prepare for these increases.