#### Earning and Learning: An Employment and Education Update

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MinnState.edu

# Salaries and Pay, Part I

- » Employers cannot require applicants to disclose their pay history for purpose of determining salary/wages/benefits/other compensation
- » Applicant can voluntarily disclose pay history if chooses to do so to negotiate
- » Employers can ask applicants what their expectations for compensation are
- » Minn. Stat. 363A.08



# Salaries and Pay, Part II

- » On January 1, 2025, employers must disclose salary range for positions in any posting
  - Minimum and maximum salary or hourly wage
  - General description of benefits, including health and retirement benefits
  - "Posting" means "any solicitation intended to recruit applicants for a specific available position" and includes recruitment done by third parties
- » Minn. Stat. 181.173

# Salary and Pay, Part III

- » 2024 FLSA rule intended to increase minimum salaries for exempt employees
  - July 1, 2024: \$43,888
  - Jan. 1, 2025: \$58,656
    - BUT *Texas v. Department of Labor* (June 2024): enjoined Texas only from being required to comply with 2024 salaries
    - BUT BUT Mayfield v. DOL: 5th Cir. (Sept. 2024): Held 2019 salaries valid
    - BUT BUT BUT Texas v. Department of Labor (Nov. 2024): vacated entire 2024 Rule
- » Will next administration do a smaller salary increase?

# Salary and Pay, Part IV

- » There's always the State of Minnesota
- » Minnesota Minimum Wage increase on 1/1/2025 to \$11.13/hour
- » Minn. Stat. 177.24

### **State and Federal Law FAQs**

- » FAQ: Student Data Privacy.
- » FAQ: Immigration and Custom Enforcement.

# Paid Leave Program I (Minn. Stat. 268B)

- » New Program to provide paid leave for
  - medical leave for serious health condition
  - family leave for others' serious health condition or bonding with new baby or child; safety issues; military deployment
- » TBD: State plan or Minnesota State plan
- » If former, eligible workers paid by State funds, not Minnesota State

# Paid Leave II

- » Covers workers who earn at least 5.3% of statewide average annual wage (currently, approx. \$5300) in base period
- » Can receive 12 weeks for medical leave or 12 weeks for family/safety/deployment leave in year
- » Can receive 20 weeks if use both in a year
- » Sliding scale determines how much paid; less than 100% salary, higher percentage of salary for lower wage earners
- » Employees must give 30 days' notice to ER if need for leave foreseeable; otherwise, as soon as practicable

# Paid Leave III

- » Employers can supplement benefits but employee cannot collect more than 100% of salary
- » Employees can use vacation leave or sick leave or PTO in lieu of program
- » Employers must pay at least 50% of premiums; can make employee deductions for remaining portion
- » Goes into effect January 1, 2026
- » More to come

## **New Legislation – Minnesota RISE Act**

- » "Minnesota Respond, Innovate, Succeed, and Empower (RISE) Act."
  - Enacted this past legislative session.
  - Effective on January 1, 2025.
- » Accommodating students with disabilities.
  - Requires an accommodation policy;
  - Details how the institution must disseminate the policy;
  - Details documentation of disability that the institution must accept;
  - Requires a list of representative accommodations;
  - Requires a notice of a fundamental alteration.

# **Earned Sick and Safe Time Update**

- » New uses
  - Funeral arrangement or attendance/legal matters re: death of family member
- » Weather/public emergency exception: CAN'T use ESST leave if
  - Job duties require to respond to public emergency/weather event; and
  - CBA or MOU waives application of ESST for position, or written policy given to employee, if not represented by union

#### **United States Supreme Court**

#### Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard College. Students for Fair Admissions v. University of North Carolina.

- » Opinions issued on June 29, 2023 (holding that the Harvard and UNC admissions programs that considered race as a "plus" factor in a holistic process violated the Equal Protection Clause (UNC) and Title VI (Harvard)).
- » Department of Education issued a FAQ document on August 14, 2023. <u>SFFA Resource FAQ DOJ Seal ED Seal</u>.
- » Would also apply to programs with individual admission processes.

## **OCR Guidance**

- » On January 14, 2021, the OCR issued "<u>Question and Answers</u> <u>Regarding OCR's Interpretation of Title IX and Single Sex Scholarships,</u> <u>Clubs, and other Programs (PDF)</u>."
  - Single Sex Scholarships;
  - Summer programs;
  - Clubs, groups, organizations.
- » On October 5, 2020, the OCR classified the document as "Archived AND NOT FOR RELIANCE."
- » Will the new administration re-instate the Q&A?

#### **Pregnancy-related matters**

- » EEOC Rules re: Pregnant Workers Fairness Act
- » Reasonable accommodation and undue hardship mean the same as under ADA but PWFA covers more situations
- » Don't delay providing accommodations because temporary
- » Don't ask for documentation when need is "obvious"
- » May need to be temporarily relieved of essential job function(s)
- » Use interactive process when needed

# **Update on Responding to Sexual Violence**

- » Department of Education published final Title IX regulations in April 2024.
  - Effective date = August 1, 2024.
- » But Litigation Department enjoined from enforcing in 26 states and against schools in many other states, including several Minnesota State schools (litigation remains pending).
- » Will new administration rescind?
- » Continue using current 1B.3 Policy and 1B.3.1 Procedure while monitoring events.

### **PELRA Changes**

- Allow exclusive representative to meet with newly hired employees within 30 days of hire to meet for up to 30 minutes (Minn. Stat. 179A.07, subd. 9)
- » Exclusive rep can use employer-issued email address to communicate with members (*Id*.)
- New unfair labor practice if fail to provide information relevant to enforcement or negotiation of a contract in a timely manner (Minn. Stat. 179A.13, subd. 2)

# OCR Guidance #2

- » May 7, 2024 "Dear Colleague Letter: Protecting Students from Discrimination, such as Harassment Based on Race, Color, or National Origin, Including Shared Ancestry or Ethnic Characteristics."
- » <u>Dear Colleague Letter: Protecting Students from Discrimination,</u> <u>such as Harassment, Based on Race, Color, or National Origin,</u> <u>Including Shared Ancestry or Ethnic Characteristics (PDF)</u>.
- » Title VI.

# **Job Postings: Qualifications**

- » Executive Order 23-14 directed MMB to "update guidance on the hiring process that emphasizes skills and work experience" and reduce the reliance on college degree requirements
  - MMB has taken the position EO 23-14 applies to Minnesota State
  - MMB focused on classified positions and providing alternative pathways to qualification where degrees not required by law

# **Please Take Our Survey**

A link to our survey is provided in the chat. We appreciate your feedback and are always looking for ideas for future webinars and ways to improve.

# **Questions & Answers**

Please Chat in your questions to the host or the panelists.

## **Contact Information**

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# Thank you.



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