Compliance Bulletin

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DOL Increases Civil Penalty Amounts for 2024



The Department of Labor (DOL) has <u>released</u> its 2024 inflation-adjusted civil monetary penalties that may be assessed on employers for violations of a wide range of federal laws, including:

- The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA);
- The Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA);
- The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA); and
- The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act).

To maintain their deterrent effect, the DOL is required to adjust these penalties for inflation, no later than Jan. 15 of each year. Key penalty increases include the following:

- The maximum penalty for violations of federal **minimum wage or overtime requirements** increases from \$2,374 to \$2,451 per violation.
- The maximum penalty for failing to file a **Form 5500** for an employee benefit plan increases from \$2,586 to \$2,670 per day.
- The maximum penalty for violations of the **poster requirement under the FMLA** increases from \$204 to \$211 per offense.

Action Steps

Employers should become familiar with the new penalty amounts and review their pay practices, benefit plan administration and safety protocols to ensure compliance with federal requirements.

REQUIREMENT	2023 PENALTY AMOUNT	2024 PENALTY AMOUNT		
Wage and Hour				
Repeated or willful violations of minimum wage or overtime requirements (FLSA)	Up to \$2,374 for each violation	Up to \$2,451 for each violation		
Violations of child labor laws	Up to \$15,138 for each employee subject to the violation	Up to \$15,629 for each employee subject to the violation		
Violations of child labor laws that cause death or serious injury to an employee under age 18	Up to \$68,801 for each violation (doubled to \$137,602 if the violation is repeated or willful)	Up to \$71,031 for each violation (doubled to \$142,602 if the violation is repeated or willful)		
Willful failure to post FMLA general notice	Up to \$204 for each separate offense	Up to \$211 for each separate offense		
Violations of the Employee Polygraph Protection Act (EPPA)	Up to \$24,793 for each violation	Up to \$25,597 for each violation		

Employee Benefits			
Failure to file an annual report (Form 5500) with the DOL (unless a filing exemption applies)	Up to \$2,568 per day	Up to \$2,670 per day	
Failure of a multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) to file an annual report (Form M-1) with the DOL	Up to \$1,881 per day	Up to \$1,942 per day	
Failure to furnish plan-related information requested by the DOL *Under ERISA, administrators of employee benefit plans must furnish to the DOL, upon request, any documents relating to the employee benefit plan.	Up to \$184 per day, but not to exceed \$1,846 per request	Up to \$190 per day, but not to exceed \$1,906 per request	
Failure to provide the annual notice regarding CHIP coverage opportunities *This notice applies to employers with group health plans that cover residents of states that provide a premium assistance subsidy under a Medicaid or CHIP program.	Up to \$137 per day for each failure (each employee is a separate violation)	Up to \$141 per day for each failure (each employee is a separate violation)	
For 401(k) plans, failure to provide blackout notice or notice of right to divest employer securities	Up to \$164 per day	Up to \$169 per day	
Failure to provide summary of benefits and coverage (SBC)	Up to \$1,264 per failure	Up to \$1,362 per failure	

Employee Safety-OSH Act			
Violation of posting requirement	Up to \$15,625 for each violation	Up to \$16,131 for each violation	
Other-than-serious violation	Up to \$15,625 for each violation	Up to \$16,131 for each violation	
Serious violation	Up to \$15,625 for each violation	Up to \$16,131 for each violation	
Willful violation	Between \$11,162 and \$156,259 per violation	Between \$11,524 and \$161,323 per violation	
Uncorrected violation	Up to \$15,625 per day until the violation is corrected	Up to \$16,131 per day until the violation is corrected	

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