

## **“LIVING WAGE ACT OF 2006”**

Title I of the Way to Work Amendment Act of 2006, effective June 8, 2006 (D.C. Law 16-118, D.C. Official Code §2-220.01 *et seq.*), as amended, (“Living Wage Act of 2006”) applies to all contracts for services in the amount of \$100,000 or more in a 12-month period.

The Living Wage Act of 2006 requires a contractor to:

1. pay its employees and subcontractors who perform services under the contract no less than the current living wage rate;
2. include in any subcontract for \$15,000 or more a provision requiring the subcontractor to pay its employees who perform services under the contract no less than the current living wage rate;
3. provide a copy of the Living Wage Act Fact Sheet to each employee and subcontractor who performs services under the contract;
4. post the Living Wage Act Notice in a conspicuous place in its place of business;
5. include in any subcontract for \$15,000 or more a provision requiring the subcontractor to post the Living Wage Act Notice in a conspicuous place in its place of business;
6. maintain its payroll records under the contract in the regular course of business for a period of at least three (3) years from the payroll date; and
7. require its subcontractors with subcontracts for \$15,000 or more under the contract to maintain its payroll records under the contract in the regular course of business for a period of at least three (3) years from the payroll date.

## **EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008, THE CURRENT LIVING WAGE RATE IS \$12.10.**

Starting in 2008, the Department of Employment Services may adjust the living wage annually. The OCP will publish the current living wage rate on its website at [www.ocp.dc.gov](http://www.ocp.dc.gov).

The payment of wages required under the Living Wage Act of 2006 shall be consistent with and subject to the provisions of D.C. Official Code §32-1301 *et seq.*

The requirements of the Living Wage Act of 2006 **do not apply** to:

1. Contracts or other agreements that are subject to higher wage level determinations required by federal law (i.e., if a contract is subject to the Service Contract Act and certain wage rates are lower than the District's current living wage, the contractor must pay the higher of the two rates);
2. Existing and future collective bargaining agreements, provided, that the future collective bargaining agreement results in the employee being paid no less than the established living wage;
3. Contracts for electricity, telephone, water, sewer or other services provided by a regulated utility;
4. Contracts for services needed immediately to prevent or respond to a disaster or eminent threat to public health or safety declared by the Mayor;
5. Contracts or other agreements that provide trainees with additional services including, but not limited to, case management and job readiness services; provided that the trainees do not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act of 2006;
6. An employee under 22 years of age employed during a school vacation period, or enrolled as a full-time student, as defined by the respective institution, who is in high school or at an accredited institution of higher education and who works less than 25 hours per week; provided that he or she does not replace employees subject to the Living Wage Act of 2006;
7. Tenants or retail establishments that occupy property constructed or improved by receipt of government assistance from the District of Columbia; provided, that the tenant or retail establishment did not receive direct government assistance from the District;
8. Employees of nonprofit organizations that employ not more than 50 individuals and qualify for taxation exemption pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, approved August 16, 1954 (68A Stat. 163; 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3));
9. Medicaid provider agreements for direct care services to Medicaid recipients, provided, that the direct care service is not provided through a home care agency, a community residence facility, or a group home for mentally retarded persons as those terms are defined in section 2 of the Health-Care and Community Residence Facility, Hospice, and Home Care Licensure Act of 1983, effective February 24, 1984 (D.C. Law 5-48; D.C. Official Code § 44-501); and
- (10) Contracts or other agreements between managed care organizations and the Health Care Safety Net Administration or the Medicaid Assistance Administration to provide health services.

The Mayor may exempt a contractor from the requirements of the Living Wage Act of 2006, subject to the approval of Council, in accordance with the provisions of Section 109 of the Act.