

## DOL Increases Civil Penalty Amounts for 2025

The Department of Labor (DOL) has <u>released</u> its 2025 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 \$2,451 to \$2,515 per violation.
- The maximum penalty for failing to file a **Form 5500** for an employee benefit plan increases from \$2,670 to \$2,739 per day.
- The maximum penalty for violations of the **poster requirement under the FMLA** increases from \$211 to \$216 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	2024 PENALTY AMOUNT	2025 PENALTY AMOUNT			
Wage and Hour					
Repeated or willful violations of minimum wage or overtime requirements (FLSA)	Up to <b>\$2,451</b> for each violation	Up to <b>\$2,515</b> for each violation			
Violations of child labor laws	Up to <b>\$15,629</b> for each employee subject to the violation	Up to <b>\$16,035</b> 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 <b>\$71,031</b> for each violation (doubled to <b>\$142,602</b> if the violation is repeated or willful)	Up to <b>\$72,876</b> for each violation (doubled to <b>\$145,752</b> if the violation is repeated or willful)			
Willful failure to post FMLA general notice	Up to <b>\$211</b> for each separate offense	Up to <b>\$216</b> for each separate offense			
Violations of the Employee Polygraph Protection Act (EPPA)	Up to <b>\$25,597</b> for each violation	Up to <b>\$26,262</b> for each violation			

Failure to file an annual report (Form 5500) with the DOL (unless a filing exemption applies)	Up to <b>\$2,670</b> per day	Up to <b>\$2,739</b> per day
Failure of a multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) to file an annual	Up to <b>\$1,942</b> per day	Up to <b>\$1,992</b> per day

report (Form M-1) with the DOL		
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 <b>\$190</b> per day, but not to exceed <b>\$1,906</b> per request	Up to <b>\$195</b> per day, but not to exceed <b>\$1,956</b> 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 <b>\$141</b> per day for each failure (each employee is a separate violation)	Up to <b>\$145</b> 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 <b>\$169</b> per day	Up to <b>\$173</b> per day

Violation of posting requirement	Up to <b>\$16.131</b> for each violation	Up to <b>\$16,550</b> for each violation
Other-than-serious violation	Up to <b>\$16,131</b> for each violation	Up to <b>\$16,550</b> for each violation
Serious violation	Up to <b>\$16,131</b> for each violation	Up to <b>\$16,550</b> for each violation
Willful violation	Between <b>\$11,524</b> and <b>\$161,323</b> per violation	Between <b>\$11,823</b> and <b>\$165,514</b> per violation
Uncorrected violation	Up to <b>\$16,131</b> per day until the violation is corrected	Up to <b>\$16,550</b> per day until the violation is corrected

Up to **\$1,406** per failure

Up to **\$1,443** per failure

Failure to provide summary of benefits

and coverage (SBC)

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