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# OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ALASKA

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Becky Weimer

Department of Labor and Workforce Development

FROM: Kady Levale Office of the Lieutenant Governor

465.3509

**DATE:** May 5, 2022

RE: Filed Emergency Regulations: Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Department of Labor and Workforce Development Wage and Hour emergency regulations re: minimum wage exemption for camp counselors (8 AAC 15.125)

Attorney General File: Emergency Regulations

Regulation Filed:

,

Effective Date: 5/5/2022

Expiration Date: September 1, 2022 unless made permanent

5/5/2022

by the adopting agency

Print: 242, July 2022

cc with enclosures: Joseph Felkl, Department of Law

Judy Herndon, LexisNexis

# FINDING OF EMERGENCY

The <u>Department of Labor & Workforce Development</u> finds that an emergency exists and that the attached regulation is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare. The facts constituting the emergency include the following:

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development has a documented historic practice of applying a learner exemption, pursuant to AS 23.10.070(3), to Alaska's minimum wage laws to persons working as counselors for seasonal nonprofit residential camps in the state. However, a recent review revealed that the Department's applicable regulation (8 AAC 15.125) does not provide specific legal authority for this practice. Camp programs have completed summer staffing in reliance on the Department's historic practice. These camps open in less than three weeks, making it impossible for the Department to promulgate corrective regulations under the timeframes established by Alaska's Administrative Procedure Act. To avoid the shutdown of these camps, and the resulting loss of safe, high quality, and effective childcare, the Department finds that promulgation of this emergency regulation is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Amending 8 AAC 15.125 will permit the minimum wage exemption to be expressly extended to camp counselors so that seasonal nonprofit residential camps can reliably operate during the summer of 2022.

### ADOPTION ORDER

Under the authority of AS 23.10.070 and 23.10.085, the attached 2 pages of regulation changes are therefore adopted as an emergency regulation to take effect immediately upon filing by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180(3).

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Date:	5/5/2022	
		DocuSigned by:
		Dr. Fannikan D. Wedbetter, Commissioner
		Department of Labor & Workforce Development

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Kevin Meyer, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on

May 5 , 20 10 , at 9 10 a.m., I filed the attached regulation according to the

provisions of AS 44.62.

Effective: May 5, 2022

Register: 242, July 2022

Expires 142, July 2022

Expires 142, July 2022

Unless made "permanent"

by the adopting agency

# FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

I, KEVIN MEYER, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:

Josh Applebee, Chief of Staff
Kady Levale, Notary Administrator
April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed and affixed the Seal of the State of Alaska, in Juneau, on December 11th, 2018.

OF THE STATE OF TH

KEVIN MEYER LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

## **EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

Register 242, July 2022 Labor and Workforce Development

8 AAC 15.125(a) is amended to read:

- (a) An exemption for student learners from the minimum wage requirement of AS 23.10.065 is available when the student learner is
- (1) enrolled in a course of study and training in a cooperative vocational training program under a recognized state or local educational authority or in a substantially similar program conducted by a private school; or

(2) employed as a counselor at a summer camp; in this paragraph, "summer camp" means a seasonal, non-profit, residential camp that provides

- (A) creative recreational and educational opportunities;
- (B) a program of activities for campers;
- (C) sustained supervision of campers; and
- (D) trained leadership tasked with educating campers on living out of doors and on the resources of campers' natural surroundings.
- 8 AAC 15.125(b) is amended to read:
  - (b) An application for an exemption under
- (1) (a)(1) of this section must be made on a form provided by the department. The information required must be complete and must be signed by the employer and the student learner's school coordinator or principal. To qualify for the exemption, the employment must meet all the requirements set out in AS 23.10.325 23.10.370 and ch. 5 of this title relating to the employment of children; or

# **EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

Register 242, July 2022 Labor and Workforce Development

(2) (a)(2) of this section must be made on a form provided by the department.

The information required must be complete and must be signed by the seasonal, nonprofit, residential camp employer. To qualify for the exemption, the employment must meet all the requirements set out in AS 23.10.325 - 23.10.370 and ch. 5 of this title relating to the employment of children.

(Eff. 12/9/78, Register 68; am 4/30/2021, Register 238; am <u>5/5/2m</u>, Register 242)

**Authority:** AS 23.10.070 AS 23.10.085



# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WAGE AND HOUR

# Summer Camp Counselor Exemption

The Summer Camp Counselor exemption: The Department's emergency Amendment of 8 AAC 15.125 allows seasonal nonprofit residential camps to apply for a minimum wage exemption for camp counselors during the summer of 2022 The exemption applies exclusively to seasonal employees working as counselors assigned to supervise campers at seasonal nonprofit residential camps for the 2022 summer season. The camp is responsible for the organized planning of initial training and for the progressive on-the-job training through work experience of counselors for the purpose of teaching leadership, childcare and first aid skills. To qualify for the exemption the seasonal nonprofit residential camp employer applicant must meet the requirements set out under 8 AAC 15.125(a)(2):

### 8 AAC 15.125(a)(2):

(a) An exemption for student learners from the minimum wage requirement of AS 23.10.065 is available when the student learner is

- (2) employed as a counselor at a summer camp; in this paragraph, "summer camp" means a seasonal, non-profit, residential camp that provides
  - (A) creative recreational and educational opportunities;
  - (B) a program of activities for campers;
  - (C) sustained supervision of campers; and
  - (D) trained leadership tasked with educating campers on living out of doors and on the resources of campers' natural surroundings.

A. EMPLOYER/CAMP INFORMATION [to be completed by I	EMPLOYER]		
Name of Employer	Name of Camp:		
Employer Local Mailing Address			
Location of Employment (physical address)			
Length of camp operation:			
Duties to be Performed by Camp Counselor:			
Legal Names of Camp Counselor(s):	Wages to be paid for work:		
Employer's Authorized Representative:	Title:		
Employer's Authorized Signature:	Date:		

# For Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Use Only The Summer Camp Counselor Exemption for\_\_\_\_\_\_ For the duration of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_\_ has been Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Revoked \_\_\_\_\_ Remarks/Amendments: Dr. Tamika L. Ledbetter, Commissioner Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_