

Wage claim

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry's (DLI's) Labor Standards Division can help you file a wage claim and recover unpaid wages. Contact Labor Standards at 651-284-5075 or dli.laborstandards@state.mn.us.

When you can file a wage claim

- **You were fired or let go (with written request):** Employer must pay you within 24 hours.
- **You were fired, quit or let go (no written request):** Employer must pay on the next payday or within 20 days if that payday is within five days of your last day.
- **You are currently employed:** Employers must pay at least every 31 days. Claims may not be accepted if it's been less than 31 days since your last payment.
- **You received deductions from your pay:** No deductions allowed without written authorization.
- **Your pay is reduced:** Employers must give written notice of any pay reduction in advance.



How to file a wage claim

1. **Contact Labor Standards:** Call or email (above). An investigator will reach out within three business days.
2. **Complete an intake:** Provide:
 - employer's name, address, phone number, email and manager/owner name;
 - your rate(s) of pay;
 - dates worked that were not paid;
 - amount and dates of unlawful deductions, if applicable;
 - date of your last workday, if applicable; and
 - date you demanded your final wages, if applicable.
3. **Investigator review:** The investigator submits your intake for supervisor review. Stay available for follow-up to avoid delays.
4. **Claim assignment:** The supervisor assigns the claim to an investigator, who sends your employer a Notice of Wage Claim, requiring a response within 10 days.
5. **Claim resolution:** The investigator works to resolve the issue. After the claim is closed, you'll receive a letter with the results and information on legal resources for further action. Wage claims usually take 21 days to close but may take longer, depending on the circumstances of the claim.

How to make a demand for final wages

If you fired, let go or quit and haven't received your final paycheck:

1. **Write and deliver a letter:** Demand your final wages in writing. Use certified mail if possible. Sample letters are available for both terminated employees and employees who quit at dli.mn.gov/wage-claim.
2. **File a wage claim:** If your employer doesn't pay you after receiving your letter, contact Labor Standards to file a wage claim.



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651-284-5075 • dli.laborstandards@state.mn.us • dli.mn.gov