Building and Construction General Onsite Award 2020

Residential Construction Sector

Effective 1 July 2026

This national award applies to Pty Ltd employers and their employees. In WA it does not apply to sole traders, unincorporated partnerships, or unincorporated trusts. These enterprises are covered by the WA state awards system. For further information contact iradvice@mbawa.com

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Means construction activities undertaken in relation to a single occupancy or dual occupancy residential building which, when complete, consists of less than five floor levels.

AWARD INCREASES 1 JULY 2026

Following the Fair Work Commission 2026 Minimum Wage Review, the wages in this award have increased by 4.75%. Apprentices receive proportionate increases.
Effective from first full pay period on or after 1 July 2026.

ALLOWANCES

Allowances have also increased and are paid in addition to wage rates in this circular unless specifically stated as already included.

WHAT IF I CURRENTLY PAY OVER THE AWARD?

If you are already paying above the relevant wage rate contained in this circular, no increase to wages is required.

Types of employment

DAILY HIRE

Daily hire employees are full time or part time permanent employees, not casual, who are engaged in writing, on one day's notice of termination (by either party). Daily hire employees receive all other permanent benefits including annual leave, personal leave, and redundancy.

WEEKLY HIRE

Weekly hire employees are full-time or part time permanent employees, whose notice of termination is subject to the National Employment Standards (NES). Weekly hire employees receive all other permanent benefits including annual leave, personal leave, and redundancy.

CASUALS

Casual employees are engaged for a minimum daily engagement of four (4) hours.

Casual employees receive a 25% loading on top of their hourly rate in compensation for annual leave, personal leave, redundancy, notice of termination and other permanent benefits.

Residential Construction

Wages - From 1 July 2026

Rates include industry allowance, follow the job loading and tool allowance.

LEVEL	CLASSIFICATION	DAILY HIRE p/hr.	WEEKLY HIRE p/hr.	CASUAL HIRE p/hr.	TRAVEL p/day.
Level 5 (CW/ECW5)	Forklift 48kw to 220kw, mobile crane 10-100 Ton	n/a	$32.72	$40.90	$22.41
Level 5 (CW/ECW5)	Carver	$34.88	$33.80	$42.25	$22.41
Level 4 (CW/ECW4)	Forklift up to 48kw	n/a	$30.03	$37.54	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Carpenter; Stonemason; Tilelayer	$32.96	$31.95	$39.94	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Plasterer	$32.77	$31.76	$39.70	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Bricklayer	$32.64	$31.63	$39.53	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Roof tiler, Roof fixer	$32.43	$31.43	$39.29	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Painter; Glazier	$32.11	$31.12	$38.90	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Waterproofer; Rigger; Dogger; other Construction Tradesperson	$31.84	$30.86	$38.58	$22.41
Level 2 (CW/ECW2)	Traffic Controller; Concrete finisher; Hoist or winch driver; Scaffolder; Steelfixer; Landscaper	$30.99	$30.03	$37.53	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level d)	Trades assistant; Concrete cutting or drilling machine operator; Concrete floater; Drilling machine operator; Landscape labourer; Mixer driver (concrete);	$30.40	$29.47	$36.84	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level c)	After twelve months in the industry	$29.89	$28.97	$36.21	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level b)	After three months in the industry	$29.52	$28.61	$35.76	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level a)	New entrant - Upon commencement in the industry	$28.98	$28.08	$35.10	$22.41

Residential Civil Construction
Wages - From 1 July 2026

LEVEL	CLASSIFICATION	WEEKLY HIRE p/hr.	CASUAL HIRE p/hr.	TRAVEL p/day.
Level 7 (CW/ECW7)	Mobile crane with lifting capacity in excess of 180 ton and not exceeding 220 ton; Operator, tower crane driver; Operator mobile crane with lifting capacity in excess of 220 ton	$34.47	$43.08	$22.41
Level 6 (CW/ECW6)	Mobile crane with lifting capacity in excess of 100 ton; Operator of mobile crane with lifting capacity in excess of 140 ton and not exceeding 180 ton	$33.55	$41.94	$22.41
Level 5 (CW/ECW5)	Forklift—from 48 kW (65 hp) up to but not exceeding 220 kW (295 hp); Mobile crane—over 10 but not exceeding 100 ton; Operator, drilling machine, over 230 mm diameter	$32.72	$40.90	$22.41
Level 4 (CW/ECW4)	Forklift—up to but not exceeding 48 kW (65 hp); Loader, front end or overhead, up to and including 2.25 cubic metres; Mobile concrete boom pump operator; Mobile crane—up to and including 10 ton; Pile driver; Roadmarker operator	$31.79	$39.74	$22.41
Level 3 (CW/ECW3)	Mobile concrete line pump operator; Operator, drilling machine, up to and including 155 mm diameter; Tradesperson Landscaper	$30.86	$38.58	$22.41
Level 2 (CW/ECW2)	Forklift Over 4300kg; concrete batching plant operator; Concrete finisher; Hoist or winch driver; Scaffolder; Steelfixer; Landscaper; Traffic Controller	$30.03	$37.53	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level d)	Trades assistant; Concrete cutting or drilling machine operator; Concrete floater; Landscape labourer; Mobile concrete pump hoseperson or line hand	$29.47	$36.84	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level c)	Labourer after twelve months in the industry	$28.97	$36.21	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level b)	Labourer after three months in the industry	$28.61	$35.76	$22.41
CW/ECW1 (level a)	New entrant - Upon commencement in the industry	$28.08	$35.10	$22.41

Residential Construction
Apprentice wages - From 1 July 2026

APPRENTICES WHO HAVE NOT COMPLETED YEAR 12

Rates per hour include industry and tool allowances

WAGE LEVEL	CARPENTER	TILELAYER	PLASTERER	BRICKLAYER	PAINTER	ROOFTILER	TRAVEL per day
1st stage	$17.22	$17.22	$17.04	$16.91	$16.40	$16.71	$16.81
2nd stage	$20.17	$20.17	$19.98	$19.85	$19.34	$19.65	$19.05
3rd stage	$24.59	$24.59	$24.40	$24.27	$23.76	$24.07	$20.17
4th stage	$29.00	$29.00	$28.82	$28.69	$28.18	$28.49	$21.29

APPRENTICES WHO HAVE COMPLETED YEAR 12

Rates per hour include industry and tool allowances.

WAGE LEVEL	CARPENTER	TILELAYER	PLASTERER	BRICKLAYER	PAINTER	ROOFTILER	TRAVEL per day
1st stage	$18.70	$18.70	$18.51	$18.38	$17.87	$18.18	$16.81
2nd stage	$21.64	$21.64	$21.45	$21.33	$20.82	$21.12	$19.05
3rd stage	$24.59	$24.59	$24.40	$24.27	$23.76	$24.07	$20.17
4th stage	$29.00	$29.00	$28.82	$28.69	$28.18	$28.49	$21.29

ADULT APPRENTICES

Rates per hour include industry and tool allowances

CARPENTER	TILELAYER	PLASTERER	BRICKLAYER	PAINTER	ROOFTILER
$29.17	$29.17	$28.98	$28.85	$28.34	$28.65

ADULT APPRENTICES TRAVEL

1st Year	2nd Year	3rd year	4th Year
$16.81 per day	$19.05 per day	$20.17 per day	$21.29 per day

Residential Construction
Apprentice wages - From 1 July 2026

Apprentices travel allowance guidelines

Apprentices will only receive the daily travel allowance for days when they attend work. The allowance is not paid for days they attend school. When a school-based apprentice attends off-the-job training located away from the school in which they are enrolled, they will receive 25% of the allowance as prescribed above.

Adult apprentices

An adult apprentice is an employee who is 21 years of age or over at the time of signing the contract of training.
An adult apprentice will continue to receive the rate of pay that is applicable to the classification the adult apprentice was engaged immediately prior to signing the contract of indenture.
If the apprentice has not been previously employed, the rate of pay will be the rate prescribed for the lowest paid classification prescribed in the award **(**$28.44) **or the rate prescribed for the relevant year of apprenticeship, whichever is the greater.**

School Based Apprentices

A school-based apprentice is an employee who is undertaking an apprenticeship while also completing their high school studies.

School-based apprentices do not get paid for the time they attend school or TAFE but instead they are paid 25% more hours than they worked (including overtime). These additional hours are called “deemed training hours” and are always payable at ordinary time.
For example, if an employee works 8 ordinary hours a week, they will receive 8 ordinary hours plus 2 “deemed training hours.”
If an apprentice following the completion of their high school studies converts from a school-based apprentice to a full-time apprentice, the time spent as a school based will count towards their progression through the relevant wage scale at the rate of 2 years school based to 1-year full time. For example, if you had a school-based apprentice for 2 years, prior to them commencing as a full-time apprentice, they will likely commence their full-time apprenticeship as a second year.
School-based apprentices accrue pro-rata leave entitlements, such as annual leave and personal leave. These entitlements accrue on worked hours only (not deemed training hours).

Training costs – fees and textbooks

All fees charged by an RTO and the cost of all prescribed textbooks for the apprenticeship, which are paid by an apprentice, shall be reimbursed by the employer:
• Within six months of commencement of the apprenticeship
• At a stage of the apprenticeship, or
• Within three months of the commencement of training provided by the RTO
whichever is the later, unless there is unsatisfactory progress.
An employer may meet its obligations under this clause by paying any fees and/or cost of textbooks directly to the RTO.

Residential Construction – From 1 July 2026
Allowances

Daily fares and travel allowance	$22.41 per day
Distant work (outside radial +50km from employee residence)	60 per km
Transfer during working hours	$1.00 per km
Overtime meal allowance	$19.74
TRADESPERSON'S TOOL ALLOWANCES (These tool allowances ARE included IN THE enclosed WAGE RATES – DO NOT ADD AGAIN)	
Carpenter; Tilelayer	$ 41.22 per week
Plasterer	$ 34.10 per week
Bricklayer	$29.26 per week
Roof Tiler	$21.59 per week
Painter; Glazier; Signwriter	$9.89 per week

LEADING HANDS	Per…
In charge of 1 person	$26.86 per week $0.71 per hour
In charge of 2 to 5 people	$9.31 per week $1.56 per hour
In charge of 6 to 10 people	$74.98 per week $1.97 per hour
In charge of more than 10 people	$100.72 per week $2.65 per hour

WORK - RELATED		Per hour *(unless otherwise shown)*
Structures without story levels.	Work above 15 meters For each additional 15 meters	94c 94c
Underground	Per Week Per Day	$20.14 per week $4.48 per day
Multi- story- From building commencement to 15th floor level		77c
Laser safety officer		$3.95 per day
Carpenter diver		$1.33
Scaffolding and Rigging certificate (trades only)		94 c
First Aid (Minimum Qualification)		$4.03 per day
First Aid (Higher Certificate)		$6.38 per day
Air-conditioning / refrigeration industry		$88.41 per wk
Electrician's Licence (all purpose)		$ 35.81 per wk
In charge of plant		$ 52.60 per wk
Lift Industry Allowance		$163.63 per wk

For further information please contact Master Builders via email at iradvice@mbawa.com or call us on 0429 301 981.