State of Alaska  
Wage and Hour Administration Jurisdiction

The Wage and Hour Administration (W&H) has jurisdiction to investigate contractual claims for wages up to $20,000, and minimum wage and overtime claims for unlimited amounts on behalf of employees working within the State of Alaska.

Work performed beyond the three-mile limit from shore in Alaska’s territorial waters or across terrestrial state border lines is not included in W&H’s jurisdiction.

Work performed on Annette Island (Metlakatla) is not subject to W&H jurisdiction. Similarly, there are W&H jurisdictional concerns with operations of federally recognized Indian tribes in Alaska.

Work performed aboard foreign flagged vessels registered outside the United States is outside the jurisdiction of W&H.

W&H’s jurisdiction excludes military installations, unless a private employer who serves the general public on the military installation is the employer. W&H does not have jurisdiction over wage claims by State of Alaska or federal employees.

If an Alaskan employee is represented by a union, W&H’s authority is preempted by the federal Labor Management Relations Act, until all union remedies are exhausted.

W&H has jurisdiction to enforce child labor laws against all Alaskan employers, unless the minor is employed in a business owned and operated by their parent. W&H has no jurisdiction over federal employers in child labor matters.

W&H has authority to enforce Alaska’s prevailing wage laws (Title 36) on public construction contracts over $25,000. Projects funded partially with federal funds are beyond W&H’s jurisdiction to enforce Alaska Resident Hire when doing so violates federal funding standards. W&H does not have jurisdiction over federal contracts.