



COOK COUNTY
BUREAU OF
FINANCE

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MEMORANDUM

Date: January 30, 2026

To: Raffi Sarrafian, Chief Procurement Officer
Fritz Kaegi, Assessor

From: Tanya S. Anthony,  Chief Financial Officer

Subject: Living Wage for 2026

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with the updated living wage hourly rates for 2026 as required by Section 2-408 of the Cook County Code of Ordinances. The living wage is \$15.87 for employers who provide health benefits to an employee where the employee's health benefit contribution does not exceed 25% of the cost of the health benefit premium. Otherwise, the living wage is \$19.83 per hour.

In accordance with Sections 2-408, 34-160, and 2-318 of the Cook County Code of Ordinances, the current living wage must be posted on the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Procurement Officer and the Cook County Assessor's websites. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.