



# INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ALERT

## Australian Fair Pay Commission's Federal Wage Decision

On 26 October 2006, the Australian Fair Pay Commission (AFPC) handed down its initial Federal Wage Decision under the new Federal WorkChoices Legislation.

The decision becomes operative as from 1 December 2006 (commences midnight 30 November 2006) and contains increases to the minimum wage rates as follows:

- A increase of \$27.36 per week in the standard Federal Minimum Wage;
- An increase of \$27.36 per week in all Australian Pay and Classification Scales up to and including \$700.00 per week; and
- An increase of \$22.04 per week in all Pay Scales above \$700.00 per week.

These increases will apply in all Federal Awards relative to organisations covered by the WorkChoices legislation (i.e. Constitutional Corporations). Employers and employees covered by collective agreements and individual agreements made after the introduction of WorkChoices (27 March 2006) are required to pay wages at least equal to the new minimum wages. Employees are entitled to receive the minimum wage rates included in a Pay Scale (previously reliant on a federal or state award (NAPSA)).

The Increases/Pay Scales do not apply to:

- Employees covered by the five-year transitional federal award system;
- Employees covered by A.W.As or Certified Agreements approved prior to WorkChoices;
- Employees covered by preserved state agreements

All Members will receive updated Pay Rate Sheets in the near future as well as being available on the website. All Award Services subscribers will receive updated award sheets as soon as they are available.

For further information please contact the staff at ACSEA 3852 5177.