

Subject: EXEMPT/NON-EXEMPT CLASSIFICATIONS

Date: May 11, 2011

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Replaces Policy Dated: June 29, 2005

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines which ensure compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

SCOPE: Pinal County takes appropriate action to ensure compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act. All employees are identified as exempt from coverage or non-exempt from coverage as provided by law and in accordance with prescribed FLSA guidelines.

FLSA-EXEMPT employees are those who are exempt from the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act that obligate employers to pay overtime for time worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek. An employee who meets the duties tests for the following executive, administrative, professional, or Computer employment may be classified as exempt:

Executive Exemption

To qualify for the executive employee exemption, all of the following tests must be met:

- The employee must be compensated on a salary basis (as defined in the regulations) at a rate not less than \$455 per week;
- The employee's primary duty must be managing the enterprise, or managing a customarily recognized department or subdivision of the enterprise;
- The employee must customarily and regularly direct the work of at least two or more other full-time employees or their equivalent; and
- The employee must have the authority to hire or fire other employees, or the employee's suggestions and recommendations as to the hiring, firing, advancement, promotion or any other change of status of other employees must be given particular weight.

Administrative Exemption

To qualify for the administrative employee exemption, all of the following tests must be met:

- The employee must be compensated on a salary or fee basis (as defined in the regulations) at a rate not less than \$455 per week;
- The employee's primary duty must be the performance of office or non-manual work directly related to the management or general business operations of the employer or the employer's customers; and
- The employee's primary duty includes the exercise of discretion and independent judgment with respect to matters of significance.

Professional Exemption

To qualify for the **learned professional** employee exemption, all of the following tests must be met:

- The employee must be compensated on a salary or fee basis (as defined in the regulations) at a rate not less than \$455 per week;

- The employee's primary duty must be the performance of work requiring advanced knowledge, defined as work which is predominantly intellectual in character and which includes work requiring the consistent exercise of discretion and judgment;
- The advanced knowledge must be in a field of science or learning; and
- The advanced knowledge must be customarily acquired by a prolonged course of specialized intellectual instruction.

To qualify for the **creative professional** employee exemption, all of the following tests must be met:

- The employee must be compensated on a salary or fee basis (as defined in the regulations) at a rate not less than \$455 per week;
- The employee's primary duty must be the performance of work requiring invention, imagination, originality or talent in a recognized field of artistic or creative endeavor.

Computer Employee Exemption

To qualify for the computer employee exemption, the following tests must be met:

- The employee must be compensated **either** on a salary or fee basis (as defined in the regulations) at a rate not less than \$455 per week **or**, if compensated on an hourly basis, at a rate not less than \$27.63 an hour;
- The employee must be employed as a computer systems analyst, computer programmer, software engineer or other similarly skilled worker in the computer field performing the duties described below;
- The employee's primary duty must consist of:
 - 1) The application of systems analysis techniques and procedures, including consulting with users, to determine hardware, software or system functional specifications;
 - 2) The design, development, documentation, analysis, creation, testing or modification of computer systems or programs, including prototypes, based on and related to user or system design specifications;
 - 3) The design, documentation, testing, creation or modification of computer programs related to machine operating systems; or
 - 4) A combination of the aforementioned duties, the performance of which requires the same level of skills.

FLSA NON-EXEMPT employees are those who must be paid overtime for time worked in excess of 40 hours in a workweek. These provisions include standards for minimum wage, equal pay, and overtime pay.

Positions within Pinal County may be changed from one category to another as the requirements of the law change or as the nature and scope of duties and responsibilities of particular jobs change. Existing and newly established positions will be evaluated and assigned to the appropriate category by the Human Resources Director or his/her designee.