



NATIONAL CONFERENCE
of STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

2016 Survey:
State Legislative Compensation, Session Per Diem and Mileage

<i>Salaries</i>						
<i>Regular sessions</i>						
<i>State or other jurisdiction</i>		<i>Per diem salary</i>	<i>Limit on days</i>	<i>Annual salary</i>	<i>Mileage cents per mile</i>	<i>Session per diem rate</i>
Alabama		...	...	\$42,830 (a)	54/mile.	(b)
Alaska		...	...	\$50,400	54/mile.	\$223 or \$249 a day (depending on the time of year). Tied to the federal rate. Legislators who reside in the capitol area receive 75% of the federal rate.
Arizona		...	...	\$24,000	44.5/mile.	\$35 a day for the first 120 days of the regular session and for special sessions and \$10 a day thereafter; members residing outside Maricopa County receive an additional \$25 a day for the first 120 days of the regular session and for special sessions and an additional \$10 a day thereafter (V). Set by statute.
Arkansas		...	...	\$39,400	54/mile.	\$150 a day plus mileage (V). Tied to the federal rate.
California		...	...	\$100,113	53/mile.	\$176 a day for each day in session.
Colorado		...	...	\$30,000	49/mile.	\$99 a day for members living outside Denver; \$45 a day for members who live 50 or fewer miles from the capitol (V). Set by the legislature.
Connecticut		...	...	\$28,000	54/mile.	No per diem is paid.
Delaware		...	...	\$44,541	40/mile.	No per diem is paid.
Florida		...	...	\$29,697	44.5/mile.	\$152 a day based on the number of days in Tallahassee (V).
Georgia		...	...	\$17,342	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$173 a day (U). Set by the Legislative Services Committee.
Hawaii		...	...	\$60,180	(c)	\$175 a day throughout session for members who do not reside on the island of Oahu; \$10 a day for members living on Oahu during the mandatory five-day recess only.
Idaho		...	...	\$16,684	54/mile. One roundtrip per week	\$129 a day for members establishing a second residence in Boise; \$49 a day if no second residence is established and up to \$25 a day travel (V). Set by the compensation commission.
Illinois		...	...	\$67,836	39/mile	\$111 a session day.
Indiana		...	...	\$24,671	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$161 a day (U). Tied to federal rate.
Iowa		...	...	\$25,000	39/mile.	\$160 a day; \$120 a day for Polk County legislators (U). Set by the legislature to coincide with the federal rate.
Kansas		\$88.66 a day (C)	...	...	54/mile.	\$140 a day.
Kentucky		\$188.22 a day	...	...	54/mile.	\$154 a day.
Louisiana		...	...	\$16,800	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$157 a day (U). Tied to federal rate.

Salaries

Regular sessions

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Maine		...	...	\$14,074 a year first regular session; \$9,982 a year second regular session. (d)	44/mile.	\$38 a day lodging (or mileage and tolls up to \$38 a day in lieu of housing). \$32 a day meals. Set by statute.
Maryland		...	...	\$46,061	54/mile. (e)	\$45 a day meals. \$101 a day lodging.
Massachusetts		...	...	\$60,032	(f)	(f)
Michigan		...	...	\$71,685	54/mile.	\$10,800 a year expense allowance for session and interim (V). Set by the compensation commission.
Minnesota		...	...	\$31,141	Tied to federal rate. (g)	\$86 a day for senators; \$66 a day for representatives.
Mississippi		...	...	\$10,000	54/mile.	\$140 a day (U). Tied to federal rate.
Missouri		...	...	\$35,915	37.5/mile.	\$112 a day (U). Tied to federal rate.
Montana		\$82.64 a day (L)	...	...	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$112.85 a day (U).
Nebraska		...	...	\$12,000	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$140 a day for members residing 50 miles or more from the capitol; \$51 a day for members residing inside the 50-mile radius.
Nevada		\$146.29 a day (C)	Up to 60	...	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$140 a day.
New Hampshire		...		\$200 per 2-year term.	(h)	No per diem is paid.
New Jersey		...	...	\$49,000	None	No per diem is paid.
New Mexico		...	...	...	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$163 a day (V). Tied to federal rate.
New York		...	...	\$79,500	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$174 a day (including overnight) or \$59 a day (no overnight).
North Carolina		...	...	\$13,951	29/mile. One roundtrip per week.	\$104 a day (U). Set by statute.
North Dakota		\$172 a day (C)	...	...	54/mile. One roundtrip per week. Tied to federal rate.	Up to \$1,682 a month lodging (V).
Ohio		...	...	\$60,584	52/mile. (i)	No per diem is paid.
Oklahoma		...	...	\$38,400	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$157 a day (U). Tied to federal rate.
Oregon		...	...	\$23,568	54/mile.	\$140 a day.
Pennsylvania		...	...	\$85,339	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$175 a day. Tied to federal rate.
Rhode Island		...	...	\$15,414	57.5/mile.	No per diem is paid.
South Carolina		...	...	\$10,400	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$140 a day. Tied to federal rate.
South Dakota				\$6,000/session	(j)	\$140 a day (L) (U).
Tennessee		...	...	\$20,884	47/mile.	\$204 a day (L) (U). Tied to federal rate.
Texas		...	...	\$7,200	50/mile. \$1.24/mile for single, twin and turbo engine airplanes. Set by general appropriations bill.	\$190 a day (U). Set by ethics commission.
Utah		\$273 a day (C)	...	...	56/mile.	Up to \$100 plus tax a day (C) lodging; up to \$39/date meals (V). Tied to in-state lodging and meal reimbursement rates.
Vermont		...	...	\$693.74/w during session.	54/mile. Tied to federal rate.	\$115 a day lodging (including overnight) or \$74 a day (no overnight).
Virginia		...	...	\$18,000 a year Senate; \$17,640 a year House.	54/mile.	\$185 a day senators; \$185 a day delegates.
Washington		...	...	\$45,474 a year; increases to \$46,839 a year eff. 9/1/2016.	54/mile.	\$120 a day.

<i>Salaries</i>						
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West Virginia		...	...	\$20,000	48.5/mile.	\$131 a day (U). Set by compensation commission.
Wisconsin		...	...	\$50,950	51/mile. One roundtrip per week	Senate - up to \$88 a day (\$44 a day legislators living in Dane County). Assembly - up to \$138 a day (including overnight) or up to \$69 a day (no overnight). The maximum number of days per year that per diem can be claimed is 80 days.
Wyoming		\$150 a day	...	...	54/mile.	\$109 a day (V). Set by legislature.

Source : National Conference of State Legislatures, 2016.

Key:

C — Calendar day

L — Legislative day

(U) — Unvouchered

(V) — Vouchered

... — Not applicable

Notes:

(a) Alabama. The State Personnel Board met on Oct. 27, 2015, and set the median annual household income amount at \$42,830. This current median annual household amount will begin on January 1, 2016 and will continue through December 31, 2016.

(b) Alabama. Legislators no longer receive a set per diem rate while in session. Legislators are reimbursed for in-state travel expenses which include mileage and per diem in accordance with rates and procedures applicable to state employees. All out-of-district reimbursable travel must be for official business and in the interests of the state or in the performance of official duties, as approved by the applicable presiding officer.

(c) Hawaii. Members may claim a mileage reimbursement for reasonable and necessary use of a personal automobile in the conduct of official legislative business and discharge of duties when meeting certain criteria.

(d) Maine. Annual cost of living adjustments apply. In addition, legislators receive a constituent service allowance (\$2,000 a year for senators and \$1,500 a year for representatives).

(e) Maryland. \$750 annual allowance for in-district travel as taxable income. Members may decline the allowance.

(f) Massachusetts. \$10-\$100 a day depending on distance from State House (V). Set by the legislature.

(g) Minnesota. Senate: a reasonable allowance. House: range of \$100-\$1,650 a month for mileage reimbursement for travel in the legislative district during interim. During session, House members can request up to one round trip per week if they live more than 50 miles from the capitol.

(h) New Hampshire. Round trip home to the State House at 38 cents/mile for the first 45 miles and 19 cents/mile thereafter, or members will be reimbursed for actual expenses and mileage will be paid at the federal rate.

(i) Ohio. One roundtrip per week from home to the State House for legislators outside Franklin County only.

(j) South Dakota. 42 cents/mile for one roundtrip from capital to home each weekend. One trip is paid at 5 cents/mile.