

State Employees Will Get Raises In New Budget

By Administrator
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North Carolina's state employees will receive a pay boost in the upcoming state budget. Co-chairs of the House and Senate appropriations committees said most state employees will receive a two percent permanent pay raise, with larger increases for State Highway Patrol troopers, correctional officers and those in lower-paid positions. Retired state workers will receive a one percent cost-of-living supplement. The salary increases are possible thanks to pro-growth economic policies implemented by legislative Republicans that have generated North Carolina's fourth consecutive revenue surplus this year.

Overall, the budget will direct more than \$200 million in additional funding toward pay raises for state employees and will include:

- A 2 percent permanent salary increase for most state employees and a one-time cost-of-living supplement for retirees.
- Funding to raise the minimum salary for all full-time state employees to at least \$31,200.
- A new pay plan for State Highway Patrol troopers that will raise starting pay to \$44,000 and provide troopers a roughly eight percent average pay raise. The new plan will also accelerate the timeframe for a trooper to get to top pay to six years.
- Roughly \$22 million to provide correctional officers working in state prisons a four percent salary increase. The budget will also expand the covered population for the line of duty death benefit, and double the benefit's value from \$50,000 to \$100,000, ensuring all families of the victims from recent prison attacks receive that benefit.
- \$20 million for pay raises for public university employees and \$24 million for community college employees.

"North Carolina is continuing to increase compensation for our valued state employees including teachers, principals, state troopers, and correctional officers to attract, retain, and reward the very best public workforce in the nation," said senior House appropriations chairman Rep. Nelson Dollar (R-Wake.)

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“This budget agreement proves it is possible to provide meaningful raises to our state employees while still demonstrating fiscal discipline, living within our means and allowing taxpayers to keep more of their hard-earned money,” said Senate Appropriations/Base Budget Committee co-chairman Brent Jackson (R-Sampson.)

Recent Compensation Increases for North Carolina State Employees:

- 2014 – 2015: \$1,000 pay raise for state employees
- 2015 – 2016: \$750 bonus for state employees
- 2016 – 2017: 1.5 percent salary increase + 0.5 percent bonus for state employees
- 2017 – 2018: \$1,000 pay raise for state employees