

RosterElf

Meat Industry Award (MA000059) — Pay Rates 2026/27

Effective the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2026 · Source: Fair Work pay guide (published 24 June 2026)

Adult classification rates

Level	Typical roles	Weekly	Ordinary /hr	Casual /hr
Level 1	Entry-level: labouring, packing, general hands	\$978.10	\$25.74	\$32.18
Level 2	Basic slaughtering/boning duties, some experience	\$1004.90	\$26.44	\$33.05
Level 3	Slaughtering, boning, slicing with competency	\$1010.90	\$26.60	\$33.25
Level 4	Skilled slaughtering/boning, multi-task operators	\$1034.60	\$27.23	\$34.04
Level 5	Advanced skilled operators, leading hands	\$1052.90	\$27.71	\$34.64
Level 6	Highly skilled / supervisory operators	\$1074.50	\$28.28	\$35.35
Level 7	Trade-qualified / specialist meat workers	\$1119.10	\$29.45	\$36.81

Casual /hr includes the 25% casual loading on ordinary hours. Penalties below apply on top.

Penalty rates

When worked	Full-time / part-time	Casual
Saturday	\$38.61 (150%)	\$38.61 (150%)
Sunday	\$51.48 (200%)	\$51.48 (200%)
Public holiday	\$64.35 (250%)	\$51.48 (200%)

Dollar figures are for Level 1. Other levels scale from their own ordinary rate above.

Junior rates (% of adult)

Age	% of adult rate
17	60%
18	75%
19	85%
Under 17	50%

Apprentice rates

Stage	Ordinary /hr
1st year / Stage 1 (did not complete year 12)	\$14.73
2nd year / Stage 2	\$17.67
3rd year / Stage 3	\$25.03
4th year / Stage 4	\$27.98

Common allowances

Allowance	Amount
Clothing allowance – meat processing establishment	\$0.74 per day (max \$3.70 per week)
Cold work allowance – below 0°C but not below " 16°C	\$0.77 per hour
Cold work allowance – below " 16°C but not below " 18°C	\$1.33 per hour
Cold work allowance – below " 18°C but not below " 21°C	\$1.88 per hour

Cold work allowance – below " 21°C	\$2.56 per hour
First aid allowance	\$4.18 per day
Leading hand – supervising 3–9 employees	\$17.91 per week
Leading hand – supervising 10 or more	\$25.74 per week
Meal allowance – overtime	\$19.14

General information only — not legal, payroll, tax or financial advice; do not rely on it for payroll decisions. Rates are indicative FY2026/27 minimums under the Meat Industry Award 2020 [MA000059] and depend on classification, enterprise agreements and individual circumstances; always confirm against the current Fair Work pay guide before paying wages. RosterElf is not affiliated with, or endorsed by, the Fair Work Ombudsman, and RosterElf Pty Ltd accepts no liability for reliance on this sheet.

Full guide, live calculator & penalty breakdowns: rosterelf.com/guides/award-rates/meat