

PUBLIC HOSPITAL PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS' (BIO-MEDICAL ENGINEERS) (STATE) AWARD 2023

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Application by NSW Ministry of Health.

(Case No. 214567 of 2023)

Before Chief Commissioner Constant

17 August 2023

AWARD

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Arrangement

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PART B

Table 1 - On-Call Rates

PART A

1. Definitions

- (i) "Biomedical Engineer" means a person appointed as such having qualifications acceptable to the Institution of Biomedical Engineers as an Associate, or such other qualifications deemed by the employer to be appropriate.
- (ii) "Director/Deputy Director" means an officer appointed as Head of a Department or as Second-in-Charge of a Department provided that such position is approved by the employer and such officer having qualifications acceptable to the Institution of Biomedical Engineers to be a member of such institution, or such other qualifications deemed appropriate by the employer.
- (iii) "Employer" means the Secretary of the Ministry of Health exercising employer functions on behalf of the Government of New South Wales.
- (iv) "Hospital" means a public hospital as defined under section 15 of the *Health Services Act 1997*, as amended or varied from time to time.
- (v) "Service" means service before and/or after commencement of this Award as a biomedical engineer in any one or more hospitals in New South Wales or any other hospital deemed acceptable by the employer.

- (vi) "Union" means the Health Services Union NSW.

2. Grading Committee

A committee consisting of up to three representatives of the employer and up to three representatives of the Union shall be constituted to consider and recommend to the employer upon application by the Union or a hospital:

- (i) the grading of any new position or any variation of grading of a position as a result of any substantial change in duties and/or responsibilities; and
- (ii) the date of the effect of the grading recommended:

Provided that:

- (i) an officer shall, whilst the grading of their position is under consideration, be ineligible to be a member of the Committee;
- (ii) the committee shall not, without sufficient reason, recommend the retrospective operation of any grading or remuneration; and
- (iii) where a retrospective date of effect is recommended, such date shall not be earlier than a date six months prior to the date on which the matter was referred to the Committee.

3. Salaries

Full time Biomedical Engineer employees shall be paid the salaries as set out in the Health Professional and Medical Salaries (State) Award 2023, as varied or replaced from time to time.

Full time Biomedical Engineer employees shall be paid the allowances as set out in Table 1 of Part B - Monetary Rates, of this Award.

4. on Call

- (i) An "on-call period" is a period during which an officer is required, by the hospital where the person is employed, to be on call.
- (ii) For the purposes of calculation of payment of on-call allowance and for call-back duty, an on-call period shall not exceed 24 hours.
- (iii) An officer shall be paid for each on-call period, an allowance which shall be at the option of the employer, either per on-call period or per week.
- (iv) The on-call rates are set out in Table 1 - On Call Rates, of this Award.

5. Exemptions

This Award shall not apply to members, novices or aspirants of religious orders in the hospitals the names of which are or shall hereafter be included in the Third Schedule to the *Health Services Act 1997*, of New South Wales.

6. Anti-Discrimination

- (i) It is the intention of the parties bound by this Award to seek to achieve the object in section 3(f) of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* to prevent and eliminate discrimination in the workplace. This includes discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, marital or domestic status, disability, homosexuality, transgender identity, age and responsibilities as a carer.

- (ii) It follows that in fulfilling their obligations under the dispute resolution procedure prescribed by this Award the parties have obligations to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the operation of the provisions of this Award are not directly or indirectly discriminatory in their effects. It will be consistent with the fulfilment of these obligations for the parties to make application to vary any provision of the Award which, by its terms or operation, has a direct or indirect discriminatory effect.
- (iii) Under the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*, it is unlawful to victimise an employee because the employee has made or may make or has been involved in a complaint of unlawful discrimination or harassment.
- (iv) Nothing in this clause is to be taken to affect:
 - (a) any conduct or act which is specifically exempted from anti-discrimination legislation;
 - (b) offering or providing junior rates of pay to persons under 21 years of age;
 - (c) any act or practice of a body established to propagate religion which is exempted under section 56(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*;
 - (d) a party to this Award from pursuing matters of unlawful discrimination in any State or Federal jurisdiction.
- (v) This clause does not create legal rights or obligations in addition to those imposed upon the parties by the legislation referred to in this clause.

NOTES -

- (a) Employers and employees may also be subject to Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation
- (b) Section 56(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977* provides:

 "Nothing in this Act affects ... any other act or practice of a body established to propagate religion that conforms to the doctrines of that religion or is necessary to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of the adherents of that religion.

7. Conditions of Service

The Public Hospitals (Professional and Associated Staff) Conditions of Employment (State) Award 2023, as varied or replaced from time to time, shall apply to all persons covered by this Award.

In addition, the Health Industry Status of Employment (State) Award 2023, as varied or replaced from time to time, shall also apply to all relevant employees.

8. Labour Flexibility

- (i) An employer may direct an employee to carry out such duties as are reasonable, and within the limits of the employee's skill, competence and training consistent with employee's classification, grouping and/or career stream provided that such duties are not designed to promote deskilling.
- (ii) An employer may direct an employee to carry out such duties and use such tools and equipment as may be required provided that the employee has been properly trained or has otherwise acquired the necessary skills in the use of such tools and equipment.
- (iii) Any direction issued by an employer pursuant to subclause (i) and (ii) shall be consistent with the employer's responsibilities to provide a safe and healthy work environment.
- (iv) Existing provisions with respect to the payment of mixed functions/higher duties allowances shall apply in such circumstances.

9. Dispute Resolution

The dispute resolution procedures contained in the Public Hospitals (Professional and Associated Staff) Conditions of Employment (State) Award 2023, as varied or replaced from time to time, shall apply.

10. No Extra Claims

Other than as provided for in the *Industrial Relations Act* 1996 and the Industrial Relations (Public Sector Conditions of Employment) Regulation 2014 (or its successor however described), there shall be no further claims/demands or proceedings instituted before the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales for extra or reduced wages, salaries, rates of pay, allowances or conditions of employment with respect to the employees covered by the Award that take effect prior to 30 June 2024 by a party to this Award.

11. Area, Incidence and Duration

- (i) This Award takes effect from 1 July 2023 and shall remain in force for a period of one year. The allowances in the second column in Table 1 of Part B - Monetary Rates will apply from the first full pay period on or after (ffppoa) 1 July 2023.
- (ii) This Award rescinds and replaces the Public Hospital Professional Engineers' (Biomedical Engineers) (State) Award 2022 as published 16 December 2022 (393 I.G. 828) and all variations thereof.
- (iii) This Award shall apply to persons employed in classifications contained herein employed in the New South Wales Health Service under s115(1) of the *Health Services Act* 1997, or their successors, assignees or transmittes.

PART B

Table 1 - On-Call Rates

In the period 1 July 2023 to the commencement of the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2023, the applicable rates of pay are those that applied immediately prior to the first full pay period on or after 1 July 2023.

Item No.	Clause No.	Allowance Description	Rate to apply from ffppoa 01/07/2023 \$
1	4	On-Call Allowance (per period)	9.92
1	4	Per on-call period per week (per week)	49.54

N. CONSTANT, *Chief Commissioner*

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