

**Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service
Alexandria, VA 22350-1100**

Issue Date: March 17, 2026

SUBJECT: Federal Wage System Special Wage Rates for the Southern Colorado (RUS) Wage Area

TO: Commanding Officers of Military Departments and DoD Component Installations in the Area

- REFERENCES:
- (a) Office of Personnel Management Compensation Policy Memorandum 2022-02, "Achieving a \$15 Per Hour Minimum Pay Rate for Federal Employees", dated January 21, 2022.
 - (b) Office of Personnel Management letter, dated January 27, 2022, authorized the establishment of special rates for employees under all FWS regular and special wage schedules, where necessary, to achieve a \$15 per hour minimum hourly rate of pay.
 - (c) Operating Manual, Federal Wage System, Subchapter S12, Special Rates or Rate Ranges Under the Federal Wage System.
 - (d) Office of Personnel Management letter, dated December 18, 2025, authorized the use of 5 CFR § 532.801 (unrestricted rates) in wage areas affected by pay inversion.
 - (e) Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service, Federal Wage System Regular and Special Production Facilitating Wage Rate Schedule for the 023R Southern Colorado (RUS) Wage Area, dated March 17, 2026.

Issued under authority of DoD Instruction 5120.39, dated October 1, 2015, subject to the limitations contained in CPM 2026-05, dated February 23, 2026. The Federal Wage System Regular & Special Production Facilitating Wage Rate Schedule at reference (e) is amended by the following special rates:

WG WL-WS GRADE	WG-RATES					WL-RATES					WS-RATES					WD-WN Pay Level
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
1	18.05	18.80	19.55	20.30	21.06	19.85	20.68	21.51	22.33	23.16	27.15	28.28	29.41	30.54	31.67	
2	19.42	20.23	21.04	21.85	22.66	21.36	22.25	23.14	24.03	24.92	28.52	29.71	30.90	32.09	33.28	
3	20.78	21.65	22.52	23.38	24.25	22.87	23.82	24.77	25.73	26.68	29.88	31.13	32.38	33.62	34.87	1
4	22.15	23.07	23.99	24.92	25.84	24.36	25.38	26.40	27.41	28.43	31.25	32.55	33.85	35.15	36.46	2
5	23.51	24.49	25.47	26.45	27.43	25.86	26.94	28.02	29.10	30.17	32.61	33.97	35.33	36.69	38.05	3
6	24.88	25.92	26.96	27.99	29.03	27.37	28.51	29.65	30.79	31.93	33.98	35.40	36.82	38.23	39.65	4
7	26.25	27.34	28.43	29.53	30.62	28.87	30.07	31.27	32.48	33.68	35.35	36.82	38.29	39.77	41.24	5 1
8	27.61	28.76	29.91	31.06	32.21	30.37	31.64	32.91	34.17	35.44	36.71	38.24	39.77	41.30	42.83	6 2
9	28.98	30.19	31.40	32.61	33.81	31.88	33.21	34.54	35.87	37.20	38.08	39.67	41.26	42.84	44.43	7 3
10	30.35	31.61	32.87	34.14	35.40	33.38	34.77	36.16	37.55	38.94	39.45	41.09	42.73	44.38	46.02	8 4
11	31.71	33.03	34.35	35.67	36.99	34.88	36.33	37.78	39.24	40.69	40.63	42.32	44.01	45.71	47.40	9 5
12	33.08	34.46	35.84	37.22	38.60	36.39	37.91	39.43	40.94	42.46	41.85	43.59	45.33	47.08	48.82	10 6
13	34.44	35.88	37.32	38.75	40.19	37.89	39.47	41.05	42.63	44.21	43.10	44.90	46.70	48.49	50.29	11 7
14	35.81	37.30	38.79	40.28	41.78	39.39	41.03	42.67	44.31	45.95	44.40	46.25	48.10	49.95	51.80	8
15	37.18	38.73	40.28	41.83	43.38	40.90	42.60	44.30	46.01	47.71	45.73	47.64	49.55	51.45	53.36	9
16											47.11	49.07	51.03	53.00	54.96	
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KARL H. FENDT
Chief
Wage and Salary Division

Effective Date: March 22, 2026
Supersedes Schedule Issued: November 25, 2025