

# County Officials Salary Schedule

*Fiscal Year 2009-2010*



COUNTY MAYOR  
COUNTY HIGHWAY OFFICIAL  
COUNTY SHERIFF  
TRUSTEE  
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT  
CLERK OF  
GENERAL SESSIONS COURT  
CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT  
CLERK OF PROBATE COURT  
CLERK AND MASTER  
COUNTY CLERK  
REGISTER OF DEEDS  
ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY  
ADMINISTRATOR OF ELECTIONS

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE **UT**

COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE

# County Officials Salary Schedule

*Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE 

COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE

*Promoting better county government through direct assistance  
to county officials and their associations*

TO: County Officials  
FROM: Mike Garland, Executive Director  
DATE: February 2009  
SUBJECT: County Officials' Compensation FY 2009-2010

**COUNTY OFFICIALS.** Compensation for most county officials is governed by T.C.A. § 8-24-102, which establishes the minimum compensation for county officials. This law provides for an automatic increase in the minimum salary each year based on the percentage increase given to state employees for the previous fiscal year. It requires the commissioner of finance and administration to certify to the comptroller of the treasury the average annualized increase in state employees' compensation on or before May 1 of each year. Because no state employee increases were appropriated for the FY 2009, the commissioner certified on September 11, 2008, that state employees received an average increase of 0% for the fiscal year 2008-2009, and as a result, salary schedules for most county officials will not change.

The certification provision and other requirements are contained in T.C.A. § 8-24-102(d), as amended July 1, 2007, as follows:

*On July 1, 2002, and each July thereafter, the minimum compensation for county officials, as provided by this section, shall be increased by a dollar amount equal to the average annualized general increase in state employees' compensation, including the equivalent percentage increase in average state employees' salaries represented by appropriated funds made available to address classification compensation issues, during the prior fiscal year multiplied by the compensation established herein for the county officials of the county with the median population of all counties; provided, however, that the annualized general increase tied to the increase in state employees' compensation shall not exceed five percent (5%) in any given year. Provided further, notwithstanding the dollar amount provided herein, the percentage increase provided for county officials by this subsection shall not be less than the percentage increase established for county officials of the county with the median population of all counties. On or before May 1 of each year, the commissioner of finance and administration shall certify to the comptroller of the treasury the average annualized general increase in state employee's compensation during that fiscal year. "Average annualized general increase in state employee's compensation" means the average percentage increase in base salaries for state employees, plus the equivalent percentage increase in average state employees' salaries represented by recurring appropriation amounts provided to improve the level of retirement benefits, longevity benefits, and deferred compensation benefits or other similar benefits that are made available to state employees, not including health insurance benefits.*

The tables on the following pages contain our calculations of the minimum salary for each official, according to the statutory population classes, for the 2009-2010 fiscal

year. With the exception of general sessions court judges, these salaries have not changed.

Other requirements regarding salaries are as follows:

**ADMINISTRATORS OF ELECTIONS.** Separate legislation (T.C.A. § 2-12-208) provides for minimum salaries for the administrators of elections. These salaries are based upon percentages of the assessor's compensation. As with the statute discussed above, this law provides for yearly salary increases based upon increases for state employees during the prior fiscal year and calculated in the same manner.

**GENERAL SESSIONS COURT JUDGES.** Salaries of general sessions court judges are to be increased annually in the same manner as state court judges, which is the actual percentage change in the consumer price index between the previous two calendar years (T.C.A. §§ 16-15-5003 and 8-23-103). The CPI change between 2007 and 2008 is 3.8 percent, so the total salary of the general sessions court judges will be increased by that amount on July 1 for the coming fiscal year. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a general sessions court judge's salary may not exceed that of a circuit court judge, which the Administrative Office of the Courts has advised us will be \$154,320 for the coming fiscal year.

*CTAS does not prepare salary schedules for general sessions court judges because the salaries in each county are based on the private acts and general laws that apply in each particular county, and on salary calculations made by the Administrative Office of the Courts pursuant to T.C.A. § 16-15-5003(j)(7).*



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION  
STATE CAPITOL  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0285

DAVE GOETZ  
COMMISSIONER

September 11, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable John G. Morgan  
Comptroller of the Treasury

FROM: M.D. Goetz, Jr. *MDG/RS*

SUBJECT: Compensation of County Officials

Under provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-24-102, I certify that the average annualized general increase in state employee compensation is zero percent (0 %) in the fiscal year 2008-2009. Tennessee Code Annotated 8-24-102(d) provides that the annualized general salary increase for certain county officials shall not exceed five percent (5%) in any given year.

There are no other recurring compensation or benefits adjustments for state employees in the appropriations act which would affect the county officials salary adjustment pursuant to the law cited above.

MDG:BB

Attachment

cc: Richard V. Norment  
Assistant to the Comptroller

# COUNTY MAYOR

## *Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

Population Class	2009-2010
400,000 and more	\$ 123,476
275,000-399,999	\$ 115,208
250,000-274,999	\$ 108,212
225,000-249,999	\$ 104,395
200,000-224,999	\$ 100,579
175,000-199,999	\$ 96,763
150,000-174,999	\$ 92,947
125,000-149,999	\$ 89,131
100,000-124,999	\$ 85,315
65,000-99,999	\$ 83,407
50,000-64,999	\$ 80,226
35,000-49,999	\$ 73,866
23,000-34,999	\$ 71,322
12,000-22,999	\$ 66,702
Less than 12,000	\$ 60,350

### NOTES

1. The county mayor's compensation shall be at least 5 percent higher than the salary paid to any other county constitutional officer (T.C.A. § 8-24-102(e)). The salaries noted above are based upon the assumption that the general officers and the sheriff receive the statutory minimum amount. Therefore, the minimum salary of the county mayor in a particular county may be higher than the amounts listed above if other officials are paid in excess of the statutory minimum. For example, if the sheriff is paid more than the minimum amount the mayor must be paid at least 5 percent more than the sheriff's actual salary.
2. The county legislative body may set the salary of the county mayor in an amount greater than the salary noted above.
3. The increase in minimum salary for FY 2008-2009 in counties at or below the median population was \$3,325. In all other counties it was 4.89%, but only for FY 2008-2009. For 2009-2010, there is NO INCREASE FROM FY 2008-2009.
4. These salaries were effective July 1, 2008, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2010.

# COUNTY HIGHWAY OFFICIAL

## *Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

Population Class	FY 2009-2010
400,000 and more	N/A
275,000-399,999	N/A
250,000-274,999	\$ 103,059
225,000-249,999	\$ 99,425
200,000-224,999	\$ 95,791
175,000-199,999	\$ 92,156
150,000-174,999	\$ 88,522
125,000-149,999	\$ 84,887
100,000-124,999	\$ 81,253
65,000-99,999	\$ 79,436
50,000-64,999	\$ 76,407
35,000-49,999	\$ 70,350
23,000-34,999	\$ 67,927
12,000-22,999	\$ 63,527
Less than 12,000	\$ 57,477

### NOTES

1. The compensation of the chief administrative officer of the county highway department shall be at least 10 percent higher than the salary paid to the general officers of the county (T.C.A. § 8-24-102(g)). The salaries noted above are based upon the assumption that the general officers receive the statutory minimum amount. Therefore, the minimum salary of the chief administrative officer in a particular county may be higher than the amounts listed above if county general officials are paid in excess of the statutory minimum.
2. The county legislative body may set the salary of the chief administrative officer in an amount greater than the salary noted above (T.C.A. § 8-24-102).
3. The increase in minimum salary for FY 2008-2009 in counties at or below the median population was \$3,167. In all other counties it was 4.89%, but only for FY 2008-2009. For 2009-2010, there is NO INCREASE FROM FY 2008-2009.
4. These salaries were effective July 1, 2008, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2010.

# COUNTY SHERIFF

## *Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

Population Class	F/Y 2009-2010
400,000 and more	\$ 117,597
275,000-399,999	\$ 109,723
250,000-274,999	\$ 103,059
225,000-249,999	\$ 99,425
200,000-224,999	\$ 95,791
175,000-199,999	\$ 92,156
150,000-174,999	\$ 88,522
125,000-149,999	\$ 84,887
100,000-124,999	\$ 81,253
65,000-99,999	\$ 79,436
50,000-64,999	\$ 76,407
35,000-49,999	\$ 70,350
23,000-34,999	\$ 67,927
12,000-22,999	\$ 63,527
Less than 12,000	\$ 57,477

### NOTES

1. The compensation of the sheriff shall be at least 10 percent higher than the salary paid to the general officers of the county (T.C.A. § 8-24-102(g)). The salaries noted above are based upon the assumption that the general officers receive the statutory minimum amount. Therefore, the minimum salary of the sheriff in a particular county may be higher than the amounts listed above if the county general officials are paid in excess of the statutory minimum.
2. Sheriffs may receive additional compensation set by the county legislative body for ex-officio services as workhouse superintendent (T.C.A. § 8-24-103(a)(3); 8-24-111).
3. The increase in minimum salary for FY 2008-2009 in counties at or below the median population was \$3,167. In all other counties it was 4.89%, but only for FY 2008-2009. For 2009-2010, there is NO INCREASE FROM FY 2008-2009.
4. These salaries were effective July 1, 2008, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2010.



**TRUSTEE, CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT,  
CLERK OF GENERAL SESSIONS COURT,  
CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT,  
CLERK OF PROBATE COURT,  
CLERK & MASTER, COUNTY CLERK,  
AND REGISTER OF DEEDS**  
*Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

Population Class	FY 2009-2010
400,000 and more	\$ 106,906
275,000-399,999	\$ 99,748
250,000-274,999	\$ 93,690
225,000-249,999	\$ 90,386
200,000-224,999	\$ 87,082
175,000-199,999	\$ 83,778
150,000-174,999	\$ 80,474
125,000-149,999	\$ 77,170
100,000-124,999	\$ 73,866
65,000-99,999	\$ 72,214
50,000-64,999	\$ 69,461
35,000-49,999	\$ 63,954
23,000-34,999	\$ 61,751
12,000-22,999	\$ 57,751
Less than 12,000	\$ 52,251

**NOTES**

1. The amounts listed above are minimum salaries. The county legislative body may set the salaries of general officers above the amounts listed above so long as all general officers are still paid the same salary with the exception of certain education incentive payments for which some officials may be eligible (T.C.A. § 8-24-102(h)).
2. The increase in minimum salary for FY 2008-2009 in counties at or below the median population was \$2,879. In all other counties it was 4.89%, but only for FY 2008-2009. For 2009-2010, there is NO INCREASE FROM FY 2008-2009.
3. These salaries were effective July 1, 2008, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2010.
4. Clerks of court that serve more than one court may, at the discretion of the county legislative body, be paid additional compensation in the amount of ten percent of the clerk's base compensation. Increases paid to court clerks under this provision will result in an increase in the minimum salary for the sheriff, highway superintendent, and county mayor. (T.C.A. § 8-24-102(j)(2)).

# ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY

## *Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

Population Class	F/Y 2009-2010
400,000 and more	\$106,906
275,000-399,999	\$99,748
250,000-274,999	\$93,690
225,000-249,999	\$90,386
200,000-224,999	\$87,082
175,000-199,999	\$83,778
150,000-174,999	\$80,474
125,000-149,999	\$77,170
100,000-124,999	\$73,866
65,000-99,999	\$72,214
50,000-64,999	\$69,461
35,000-49,999	\$63,954
23,000-34,999	\$61,751
12,000-22,999	\$57,751
Less than 12,000	\$52,251

### NOTES

1. The minimum salary of the assessor of property is equal to the minimum salary paid to general officers of the county (T.C.A. § 8-24-102). If the general officers of the county are paid an amount in excess of the minimum, the assessor will also receive at least that much. Also, the county legislative body may provide additional salary for the assessor pursuant to T.C.A. § 67-1-508(b) and (c). See T.C.A. § 8-24-102(h).
2. The increase in minimum salary for FY 2008-2009 in counties at or below the median population was \$2,879. In all other counties it was 4.89%, but only for FY 2008-2009. For 2009-2010, there is NO INCREASE FROM FY 2008-2009.
3. These salaries were effective July 1, 2008, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2010.

# ADMINISTRATOR OF ELECTIONS

## *Salary Schedule for Fiscal Year 2009-2010*

Population Class	F/Y 2009-2010
400,000 and more	\$ 96,216
275,000-399,999	\$ 89,773
250,000-274,999	\$ 84,321
225,000-249,999	\$ 81,348
200,000-224,999	\$ 78,374
175,000-199,999	\$ 75,400
150,000-174,999	\$ 72,427
125,000-149,999	\$ 69,453
100,000-124,999	\$ 66,479
65,000-99,999	\$ 64,993
50,000-64,999	\$ 62,515
35,000-49,999	\$ 57,559
23,300-34,999	\$ 55,576
12,000-22,999	\$ 51,976
Less than 12,000	\$ 47,026

### NOTES

1. These figures are minimum salaries for certified administrators of elections in counties where the election commission office is open five full days a week. The figures represent ninety percent of the base salary of the assessor of property for counties falling within these population classifications (T.C.A. § 2-12-208). The county legislative body may provide additional salary for certified administrators of elections in excess of these amounts (T.C.A. § 2-12-208(b)).
2. These salaries were effective July 1, 2008, and will remain in effect through June 30, 2010.

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