



March 11, 2025

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# Compensation-County Mayor

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Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website ([ctas.tennessee.edu](http://ctas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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# Compensation-County Mayor

Reference Number: CTAS-23

The minimum compensation for full time county mayors is set in T.C.A. § 8-24-102 and is determined according to county population by classes. The office is full time, except in counties where the voters have determined by referendum that the workload does not necessitate a full-time mayor. If the county mayor's office is determined by referendum not to be a full-time position, this must be done prior to the election of the county mayor or the county mayor will be entitled to the minimum salary. T.C.A. §§ 5-6-105, 8-24-102(e).

A minimum salary, determined by population class, is set by the General Assembly, although the county legislative body may increase that amount. T.C.A. §§ 8-24-102 and 8-24-114. However, the compensation for the full-time county mayor must be at least five percent greater than the maximum salary payable to any other constitutional officer. T.C.A. § 8-24-102(e).

As the sheriff is the next most highly compensated constitutional officer, the full-time county mayor's compensation must be at least five percent greater than the sheriff's salary.

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**Source URL:** <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/eli/compensation-county-mayor>