

How Much Do NFL Referees Make?

2026 pay scale

Level	Approx. pay
Rookie / newer official	~\$50,000 - \$80,000
Established referee	~\$150,000 - \$205,000
Veteran / top referee	Up to ~\$250,000
Playoffs	Roughly double the game rate; Super Bowl is the top payday

NFL officiating is part-time; figures are estimates from industry reporting.