

What Sports Officials Make

Referee & umpire pay, 2026

League	Annual pay range
NFL	~\$205,000 avg (up to ~\$250,000)
NBA	~\$150,000 entry (up to ~\$555,000)
MLB	\$150,000 - \$450,000 (chiefs \$500K+)
NHL	\$165,000 - \$360,000 (referees)

Estimates from league CBAs and industry reporting; leagues do not publish official salaries.