

ACCOUNTING
AND CONTROL
MANUAL

BULLETIN

NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

DIVISION OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

BULLETIN NO. P-293

December 22, 1981

To : All State Departments and Agencies

Subject: Changes in Social Security Coverage for 1982

The Federal Social Security Administration has made two changes in social security coverage effective in 1982.

1. The SSA has changed its policy regarding coverage for members of religious orders who have taken a vow of poverty. These individuals are no longer exempt from social security coverage when they are employed outside the order. This change applies to all current employees as well as to employees hired in the future. These individuals are now subject to the general rules for determining eligibility for social security coverage.

Please review your records and determine which of your employees must now have social security coverage. Submit AC-1040's to start social security in Payroll Period 20 for Institutions and Payroll Period 21 for Administrative agencies. Also, submit a listing of these employees, including name, social security number, and line number to:

Bureau of Payroll Audit
Payroll Deduction Section-8th Floor
AES State Office Building
Albany, New York 12236
Attention: Kathryn Harrison

2. The SSA has made a determination that the value of meals and lodging furnished to an employee for the convenience of the employer (i.e. non-taxable maintenance) is not covered wages and therefore is not subject to the social security tax. Therefore, beginning in Payroll Period 20 for Institutions and Payroll Period 21 for Administrative agencies, the amount of non-taxable maintenance will be deducted from the biweekly gross salary prior to the computation of the social security tax deduction.

As a result of this change Special Charge Vouchers (AC-916's) prepared to refund non-taxable maintenance, for 1982 and after, will require an additional payee for an employee who is covered by social security. The payee name will be the Social Security State Employees Contribution Account, and the amount is the social security rate in effect for the year times the amount of non-taxable maintenance being refunded. However, if that amount would cause the social security tax to exceed the maximum contribution for the year, contact the Payroll Deduction Unit at (518) 473-1989 for assistance.