

Office of the State Comptroller

PAYROLL BULLETIN

Subject

Federal Tax Changes, Revised Federal Withholding Certificates (W-4) and Federal Tax Adjustment for 1990

Bulletin No.

P-640

Date

January 2, 1990

Federal Tax

Federal Income Withholding Tax tables have changed effective January 1, 1990. The new tax tables reflect adjustments for inflation. Also, the value of a withholding allowance has been increased to \$39.42 weekly, \$78.85 biweekly and \$170.83 monthly. A copy of the new tax tables from Circular E, dated January 1990, is attached.

The Internal Revenue Service has revised Form W-4 for 1990 (see attached). It is important that the 1990 Form W-4 be used by all new employees and any current employees who wish to change their withholding for 1990. Using the 1989 or earlier issues of Form W-4 could result in incorrect withholding for some employees. Payroll Offices should have an ample supply of the 1990 W-4 on hand. To request a supply contact the IRS at the toll free number, 1-800-424-3676.

Federal Tax Adjustment

OSC did not have the 1990 Federal tax tables in place when the payrolls for Administration Period 19-Lag (checks dated January 3, 1990) were produced. This resulted in the incorrect withholding of Federal taxes. The difference will be calculated by OSC and adjusted automatically in Administration Period 20-Lag (checks dated January 17, 1990). The Federal tax amounts which will appear on the payroll registers will reflect the adjustment, although it will not be designated as such. The Federal tax will automatically return to normal in Administration Period 21-Lag (checks dated January 31, 1990).

Questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to the Payroll Planning Unit at (518) 486-3728.

Attachment

Special classes of employment	Treatment under different employment taxes						
and special types of payment	Income tax withholding	Social security	Federal unemployment				
Wage limit:	•						
Maximum of taxable wages paid each employee by same employer in same calendar year.	Unlimited to a second	\$50,400 for 1990; \$48,000 for 1989. (Limit for new owner of business is payments in certain cases.)	\$7,000 reduced by predecessor's wage				
b. Individuals concurrently employed by two or more related corporations and paid through a common paymaster that is one of the corporations. Please see Employment Tax Regulations sections 31.3121(s)-1 and 31.3306(p)-1 for details.	Taxable	The related corporations are consic purposes of paying wages subjetaxes. (Limit for new owner of business is payments in certain cases.)	A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACTOR O				
Workmen's compensation.	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt				

Income Tax Withholding— Percentage Method

If you do not want to use the wage bracket tables to figure how much income tax to withhold, you can use a percentage computation based on the table below and the appropriate rate table. This method works for any number of withholding allowances the employee claims.

Percentage Method Income Tax Withholding Table

Payroll Period							One with- holding allowance
Weekly	10	0.000	-	.:	•		\$39.42
Biweekly .		6		16		٠	78.85
Semimonthly						DC.	85.42
Monthly .	3			2		- 5	170.83
Quarterly .							512.50
Semiannually	Ē	13	1	- 3			1.025.00
Annually .		- 23	=			33	2,050.00
Daily or misce	ella	ne	ous	(e	ach		
day of the pay	yro	ll p	eric	ò)			7.88

Use these steps to figure the income tax to withhold under the percentage method:

- (a) Multiply one withholding allowance (see table above) by the number of allowances the employee claims.
- (b) Subtract that amount from the employee's wages.

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(c) Determine amount to withhold from appropriate table on pages 22 and 23.

Example.—An unmarried employee is paid \$450 weekly. This employee has in effect a Form W-4 claiming two withholding allowances. Using the percentage method, figure the income tax as follows:

(1)	Total wage payment				\$4	50.0	00
(2)	One allowance	\$	39.	42			
(3)	Allowances claimed on Form W-4			2			
(4)	Line 2 times line 3 .			٠.		78.	<u>34</u>
(5)	Amount subject to withholding (subtract line 4 from line 1)		119		\$3	371.	16
(6)	Tax to be withheld on \$371.16 from Table 1—single person, page 22					52.	22
	page 22	2.4	-4	÷4		52.	
Tot	al to be withheld				\$	52.	22

To figure the income tax to withhold, you may reduce the last digit of the wages to zero, or figure the wages to the nearest dollar.

Annual Income Tax Withholding.—Figure the income tax to withhold on annual wages under the Percentage Method of Withholding for an annual payroll period. Then prorate the tax back to the payroll period.

Example.—A married person claims four withholding allowances. She is paid \$270 a week. Multiply the weekly wages by 52 weeks to figure the annual wage of \$14,040. Subtract \$8,200 (the value of 4 withholding allowances) for a balance of \$5,840. Using the table for the annual payroll period gives tax of \$366.00 to be withheld. Divide the annual tax by 52. The weekly tax is \$7.04.

Income Tax Withholding— Wage Bracket Method

Note: If you cannot use the wage bracket tables because wages exceed the amount shown in the last bracket of the table, use the percentage method of withholding described on this page. Be sure to reduce wages by the amount of total withholding allowances before using the percentage method tables on pages 22 and 23.

Under the wage bracket method, find the proper table (on pages 24 through 43) for your payroll period and the employee's marital status as shown on his or her Form W-4. Then, based on the number of withholding allowances claimed on the Form W-4 and the amount of wages, find the amount of tax to withhold. If your employee is claiming more than 10 withholding allowances, see the following section.

Adjusting Wage Bracket Withholding for Employees Claiming More Than 10 Withholding Allowances.—

Note: The percentage method of figuring withholding adapts to any number of allowances.

The wage bracket tables are for up to 10 allowances. More than that will often occur. This is because of the special withholding allowance, additional allowances for deductions and credits, and the system itself. Usually, it is worthwhile for employees to claim all the withholding allowances to which they are entitled.

To adapt the tables to employees with more than 10 allowances:

- (a) Multiply the number of withholding allowances over 10 by the allowance value for the payroll period. (The allowance values are in the Percentage Method Income Tax Withholding Table on this page.)
- (b) Subtract the result from the employee's wages.
- (c) On this amount, find and withhold the tax in the column for 10 allowances.

This is a voluntary method. If you use the wage bracket tables, you may continue to withhold the amount in the "10" column when your employee has more than 10 allowances. You can also use any other method described in this guide or in Pub. 493. You can get Pub. 493 at most IRS offices.

Alternative Methods of Income Tax Withholding

The Internal Revenue Code allows employers to use different methods for figuring income tax withholding.

Pub. 493 gives-

- (a) Alternative formula tables for percentage method withholding (for automated payroli systems).
- (b) Wage bracket percentage method withholding tables (for automated payroll systems).
- (c) Combined income tax and social security tax withholding tables.

Some other methods are explained below. Use the method that best suits your payroll system.

Annualized Wages. — Multiply wages for a payroll period by the number of payroll periods in the calendar year. Figure the amount of withholding required on the total wages for the whole year. Then divide that amount by the number of payroll periods. The result will be the amount of withholding for the payroll period.

Average Estimated Wages.—You may withhold the tax for a payroll period based on estimated average wages, with necessary adjustments, for any quarter. For details, please see Regulations section 31.3402(h)(1)-1.

Cumulative Wages.—An employee may ask you, in writing, to withhold tax on cumulative wages. If so, and you have paid the employee for the same kind of payroll period (weekly, biweekly, etc.) since the beginning of the year, you may figure the tax as follows:

Tables for Percentage Method of Withholding

(For Wages Paid After December 1989)

TABLE 1—If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Weekly

(a)	SINGLE	person-	-including	head	of	household:
-----	--------	---------	------------	------	----	------------

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

Over-

\$23

\$397

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

But not over of excess over-**—**\$397 15% —\$928 \$56.10 plus 28%

\$928 -\$2,121..... \$204.78 plus 33% \$2,121..... \$598.47 plus 28% (b) MARRIED person—

If the amount of wages (after subtracting

withholding allowances) is:

Over---But not over-\$65 **—**\$689 15% \$689

\$1,573

—\$1,573. \$93.60 plus 28% —\$3,858: \$341.12 plus 33%

-\$689 --\$1.573

. of excess over-

of excess over-

-\$8,359

-\$65

of excess over

\$3,858..... \$1,095.17 plus 28%

The amount of income tax

to be withheld shall be:

-\$3,858

TABLE 2—If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Biweekly

-\$23

-\$397

-\$928

-\$2,121

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Over--But not over of excess over-\$46 **—**\$794 15% -\$46 \$794 -\$1,856. \$112.20 plus 28% -\$794 —\$4,242. \$409.56 plus 33% \$1,856 ---\$1.856 \$4,242.....\$1,196.94 plus 28% ---\$4,242

(b) MARRIED person—

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$131 Over-But not over---

\$131 ---\$1,379..... 15% \$1,379

-\$131 -\$3,146. \$187.20 plus 28% -\$1,379

The amount of income tax

\$3,146 —\$7,716..... \$681.96 plus 33% -\$3,146 \$7,716..... \$2,190.06 plus 28% -\$7,716

TABLE 3—If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Semimonthly

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Over	But not over	•	of excess over—
\$50	 \$860	15%	— \$50
\$860	-\$2,010	\$121.50 plus 28%	\$860
\$2,010	—\$4,596	\$443.50 plus 33%	-\$2,010
\$4,596.,	,	\$1,296.88 plus 289	6 —\$4,596

(b) MARRIED person-

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$142

But not over-

\$142 **—\$1,494**..... 15% \$1,494 \$3,408 \$8,359..... \$2,372.55 plus 28%

Over---

-\$142 ---\$3,408. \$202.80 plus 28% -\$1,494 -\$8,359..... \$738.72 plus 33% -\$3,408

TABLE 4—If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Monthly

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$100 0

Over-But not over of excess over-\$100 **—**\$1,721. 15% -\$100 \$1,721 -\$4,021..... \$243.15 plus 28% -\$1,721 \$4,021 -\$9,192..... \$887.15 plus 33% **-\$4,021** \$9,192...... \$2,593.58 plus 28% -\$9.192

(b) MARRIED person—

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Over-But not overof excess over-**—\$2,988.....** 15% \$283 --\$283 \$2,988 --\$6,817..... \$405.75 plus 28% -\$2,988 \$6,817 -\$16,718. \$1,477.87 plus 33% -\$6.817 \$16,718. \$4,745.20 plus 28% --\$16,718

TABLE 5-If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Quarterly

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$300 0

Ov	er—	But not over	at	excess over-
		\$5,163		— \$300
\$5	.163	—\$12,063.	\$729.45 plus 28%	\$5,163
\$1	2,063	—\$27,575	\$2,661.45 plus 33%	— \$12,063

\$27,575..... \$7,780.41 plus 28% —\$27,575

(b) MARRIED person-

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$850 0

Over-	But not over-	₩ of (excess over-
\$850	\$8,963	15%	— \$850
\$8,963	— \$20,450	\$1,216.95 plus 28%	— \$8,963
\$20,450	— \$50,153	\$4,433.31 plus 33%	-\$20,450
\$50,153.		\$14,235.30 plus 28%	\$50,153

TABLE 6-If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Semiannual

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

over \$600 0

Not over	\$600	0 ,	
Over	But not over -	· of	excess over-
\$600	— \$10,325	15%	\$600
\$10,325	— \$24,125	\$1,458.75 plus 28%	-\$10,325
\$24,125	\$55,150	\$5,322.75 plus 33%	\$24,125
\$55,150		\$15,561.00 plus 28%	-\$55,150

(b) MARRIED person-

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$1,700. 0

 Over—
 But not over—
 of excess over—

 \$1,700
 —\$17,925...
 15%
 —\$1,700

 \$17,925
 —\$40,900...
 \$2,433.75 plus 28%
 —\$17,925

 \$40,900
 —\$100,305...
 \$8,866.75 plus 33%
 —\$40,900

 \$100,305...
 \$28,470.40 plus 28%
 —\$100,305

TABLE 7-If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is Annual

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$1,200. 0

Over	But not over —	of c	excess over-
\$1,200	—\$20,650	15%	\$1,200
\$20,650	—\$48,250	\$2,917.50 plus 28%	-\$20,650
\$48,250	— \$110,300	\$10,645.50 plus 33%	—\$48,250
\$110,300)	\$31,122.00 plus 28%	-\$110,300

(b) MARRIED person-

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:

Not over \$3,400.....

 Over—
 But not over—
 of excess over—

 \$3,400
 —\$35,850
 15%
 —\$3,400

 \$35,850
 —\$81,800
 \$4,867.50 plus 28%
 —\$35,850

 \$81,800
 —\$200,610
 \$17,733.50 plus 33%
 —\$81,800

 \$200,610
 \$56,940.80 plus 28%
 —\$200,610

TABLE 8—If the Payroll Period With Respect to an Employee is a Daily Payroll Period or a Miscellaneous Payroll Period

(a) SINGLE person—including head of household:

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) divided by the number of days in the payroll period is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld per day shall be:

Not over \$4.60. 0

Over—	But not over —		of excess over—
\$4.60	—\$ 79.40	15%	\$4.60
\$79.40	\$185.60	\$11.22 plus 28%	\$79.40
\$185.60	—\$424.20	\$40.96 plus 33%	 \$185.60
\$424.20.		\$119.70 plus 28%	-\$424.20

(b) MARRIED person-

If the amount of wages (after subtracting withholding allowances) divided by the number of days in the payroll period is:

The amount of income tax to be withheld per day shall be:

Not over \$13.10. 0

1990 Form W-4



Purpose. Complete Form W-4 so that your employer can withhold the correct amount of Federal income tax from your pay.

Exemption From Withholding. Read line 6 of the certificate below to see if you can claim exempt status. If exempt, complete line 6; but do not complete lines 4 and 5. No Federal income tax will be withheld from your pay. This exemption expires February 15, 1991.

Basic Instructions. Employees who are not exempt should complete the Personal Allowances Worksheet. Additional worksheets are provided on page 2 for employees to adjust their withholding allowances based on itemized deductions, adjustments to income, or two-earner/two-job situations. Complete all worksheets that apply to your situation. The worksheets will help you figure the number of withholding allowances you are

entitled to claim. However, you may claim fewer allowances than this.

Head of Household. Generally, you may claim head of household filing status on your tax return only if you are unmarried and pay more than 50% of the costs of keeping up a home for yourself and your dependent(s) or other qualifying individuals.

Nonwage Income. If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or dividends, you should consider making estimated tax payments using Form 1040-ES. Otherwise, you may find that you owe additional tax at the end of the year.

Two-Earner/Two-Jobs. If you have a working spouse or more than one job, figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim on all jobs using worksheets from only one Form

W-4. This total should be divided among all jobs. Your withholding will usually be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the W-4 filed for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed for the others.

Advance Earned Income Credit. If you are eligible for this credit, you can receive it added to your paycheck throughout the year. For details, obtain Form W-5 from your employer.

Check Your Withholding. After your W-4 takes effect, you can use Publication 919, is My Withholding Correct for 1990?, to see how the dollar amount you are having withheld compares to your estimated total annual tax. Call 1-800-424-3676 (in Hawaii and Alaska, check your local telephone directory) to order this publication. Check your local telephone directory for the IRS assistance number if you need further help.

			rers	onal Allowances	TTOTRAILCEL			
A	Enter "1" for yourse	elf if no one el	se can claim you as	s a dependent				· · · · · A
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)	Enter number of dep	pendents (oth	ner than your spous	e or yourself) whon	you will claim	on your tax ret	urn	20 20 20 D
Ξ	Enter "1" if you will	file as a head	of household on y	our tax return (see	conditions unde	er "Head of Ho	usehold," al	oove) E
•	Enter "1" if you have	e at least \$1,	500 of child or dep	endent care exper	ses for which y	ou plan to clair	n a credit	98F <u></u>
3	Add lines A through	F and enter	total here					▶ G
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	For accuracy, do all worksheets that apply.	\$25,000 combine on page :	are single and have OR if you are mad dearnings from all 2 if you want to avo her of the above sit Form W-4 below.	arried and have a jobs exceed \$44,0 id having too little t	working spot 00, then turn to ax withheld.	use or more to the Two-Earn	han one jo er/Two-Job	b, and the Worksheet
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	Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet	
Note 1	: Use this worksheet only if you plan to itemize deductions or claim adjustments to income on your 1990 tax return Enter an estimate of your 1990 itemized deductions. These include: qualifying home mortgage interest, 10% of personal interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes (but not sales taxes), medical	7.
	expenses in excess of 7.5% of your income, and miscellaneous deductions (most miscellaneous deductions are now deductible only in excess of 2% of your income) (\$5,450 if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er)	<u>\$</u>
2	Enter: \$4,750 if head of household \$3,250 if single \$2,735 if married filling and the same and t	\$
_	\$2,725 if married filing separately	•
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1. If line 2 is greater than line 1, enter zero .	
4	Enter an estimate of your 1990 adjustments to income. These include alimony paid and deductible IRA contributions 4	4
5	Add lines 3 and 4 and enter the total	
6	Enter an estimate of your 1990 nonwage income (such as dividends or interest income)	
7	Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter the result, but not less than zero	
8	Divide the amount on line 7 by \$2,000 and enter the result here. Drop any fraction	
9 10	Enter the number from Personal Allowances Worksheet, line G, on page 1	*
10	the total on line 1, below. Otherwise, stop here and enter this total on Form W-4, line 4 on page 1	
	Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet	
Note	: Use this worksheet only if the instructions at line G on page 1 direct you here.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1	Enter the number from line G on page 1 (or from line 10 above if you used the Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet) . 1	
2	Find the number in Table 1 below that applies to the LOWEST paying job and enter it here	
3	If line 1 is GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO line 2, subtract line 2 from line 1. Enter the result here (if zero, enter "0") and on Form W-4, line 4, on page 1. DO NOT use the rest of this worksheet	
Note	or If line 1 is LESS THAN line 2, enter "0" on Form W-4, line 4, on page 1. Complete lines 4–9 to calculate the additional dollar withholding necessary to avoid a year-end tax bill.	
4	Enter the number from line 2 of this worksheet	
5	Enter the number from line 1 of this worksheet	
6	Enter the number from line 1 of this worksheet	
7	Find the amount in Table 2 below that applies to the HIGHEST paying job and enter it here	\$
8	Multiply line 7 by line 6 and enter the result here. This is the additional annual withholding amount needed 8	\$
9	Divide line 8 by the number of pay periods each year. (For example, divide by 26 if you are paid every other week.) Enter the result here and on Form W-4, line 5, page 1. This is the additional amount to be withheld from each paycheck 9	\$

Table 1: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Married Filing Jointly					All Others			
If wages from LOWEST paying job are—				nter on ne 2 above	If wages from LOWEST paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above		
0 - \$4,000 4,001 - 8,000 8,001 - 19,000 19,001 - 23,000 23,001 - 25,000 25,001 - 27,000 .27,001 - 29,000 29,001 - 35,000				0 1 2 3 4 5 6	0 - \$4,000 . 4,001 - 8,000 . 8,001 - 14,000 . 14,001 - 16,000 . 16,001 - 21,000 . 21,001 and over .	0 1 2 2 3 4 5 5		
35,001 - 41,000 41,001 - 46,000 46,001 and over	:	:	:	8 9 10				

Table 2: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Married Filing J	ointly	All Others								
If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above	If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above							
0 - \$44,000 44,001 - 90,000 90,001 and over	. \$310 . 570 . 680	0 - \$25,000 25,001 - 52,000 and over	. \$310 . 570 . 680							

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The time needed to complete this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: Recordkeeping 46 min., Learning about the law or the form 10 min., Preparing the form 70 min. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form more simple, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC 20224, Attn: IRS Reports Clearance Officer, T:FP; or the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1545-0010), Washington, DC 20503.