# Payroll Handbook for Small Communities

## January 2014



State of Alaska Sean Parnell, Governor

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Susan Bell, Commissioner

Commissioner Division of Community and Regional Affairs Scott Ruby, Director

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## PREFACE

This updated *Payroll Handbook* includes tax forms and regulation changes effective January 2014 as well as forms from prior years used as examples. The *Payroll Handbook* has three chapters. Chapter 1 covers some of the basic information on labor laws that all employees should be familiar with. Chapter 2 reviews what records are needed to do payroll. Each record is briefly described and samples are shown. Chapter 3 has a step-by-step process to complete payroll records. The chapter also has examples of how these records are filled out.

By reviewing this handbook, you will become more familiar with:

- Why you need payroll records;
- How to set up personnel records for tax purposes;
- Labor laws affecting wage rates and payroll record requirements;
- How to figure federal and state payroll taxes;
- How to create and maintain payroll records; and
- How to pay the payroll taxes.



## INTRODUCTION

As a bookkeeper for a small community, you probably prepare paychecks and payroll taxes, keep payroll and personnel records, and disburse payroll taxes to the federal and state governments. **This handbook will help you prepare payroll and meet federal and state payroll tax requirements**. If you are new on the job or have had trouble handling the community's payroll, this handbook will be useful. Even if you have been successfully doing your job for a long time, the information in this handbook may be new.

For further assistance on payroll record keeping and paying taxes, contact a local government specialist from the Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED).



## WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

### Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED)

#### Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) Regional Offices

#### Kotzebue

PO Box 350 Kotzebue, AK 99752 Phone: 907-442-3696 Fax: 907-442-2402

#### Nome

PO Box 1769 Nome, AK 99762 Phone: 907-443-5459 Fax: 907-443-3596

#### Bethel

PO Box 348 Bethel, AK 99559 Phone: 907-543-3475 Fax: 907-543-4152

#### Dillingham

PO Box 790 Dillingham, AK 99576 Phone: 907-842-5135 Fax: 907-842-5140

#### Fairbanks

211 Cushman Street Fairbanks, AK 99701 Phone: 907-451-2749 Fax: 907-451-2742

#### **Anchorage Central Office**

550 W 7th Ave, Ste. 1770 Anchorage, AK 99501 Toll Free: 877-769-4614 Phone: 907-269-4556 Fax: 907-269-4563

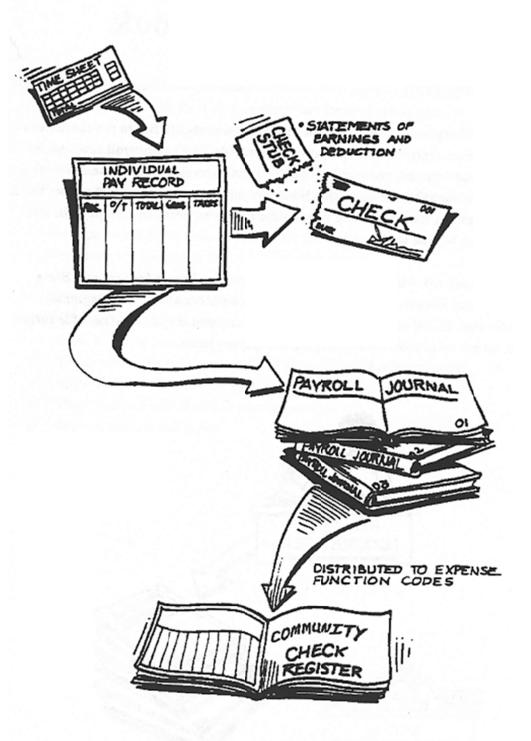
#### Juneau

PO Box 110809 Juneau, AK 99811 Phone: 907-465-4733 Fax: 907-465-3767

## **BOOKKEEPER'S CHECKLIST FOR PAYROLL PREPARATION**

This checklist may be helpful when preparing a payroll. Refer to specified pages in this handbook for more information.

- Every employer must have a federal Employer Identification Number (EIN). Find out if your employer has one. If not, apply for an EIN.
- Every employer must also have an Alaska Employer Identification Number (AEIN). Find out if your employer has one. If not, apply for an Alaska EIN.
- Review the organization's policies and procedures to determine pay rates for job classes. Also, review policies on overtime payments. If the organization does not have an established pay rate for jobs on the payroll or an overtime policy, the city or village council needs to set one up. For help, contact the nearest office of the Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA).
- Review current federal and state tax laws and regulations to determine tax rates, withholding requirements, payment procedures, and reporting requirements. Make sure you have the most current copies of all forms and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Circular E.
- Make sure all employees have a current W-4 and I-9 form on file. Every new employee must complete a W-4 before beginning work.
- Review the organization's payroll record keeping system to make sure the following records are kept:
  - Current pay rates for all employees
  - Time sheets or time cards to record hours worked
  - o Leave slips to record leave used
  - Pay records for each employee, summarized by quarter
  - Payroll journal combining all information from individual pay records
  - A copy of the statement of earnings and deductions given to each employee
  - Copies of tax payments, quarterly tax returns, and correspondence with the IRS and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- Make sure the community and contractors have workers' compensation insurance and premiums are paid.
- Examine the checking account before completing payroll to make sure money is available to cover the paychecks, the withholding, and the employer costs, if required with FICA, ESA, and FUTA (Federal Insurance Contributions Act, Employment Security Act, and the Federal Unemployment Tax Act).
- Even if the organization does not have money to pay the taxes, complete and submit the tax reports to the IRS. If these reports are not submitted, your organization will receive penalties from the IRS. Do not pay wages without paying the taxes that are owed!
- Complete the payroll and pay the taxes to the IRS.



## **Payroll Record Keeping**

## **CHAPTER 1: THE BASICS**

#### Accurately preparing payroll is important

Correctly paying wages and taxes is critical to every employer, including municipal and tribal governments. Bookkeepers must carefully follow federal and state payroll tax requirements. Otherwise, the community may lose property to the federal government for back taxes owed and workers may lose Social Security and unemployment benefits. By keeping accurate payroll records and paying the taxes owed, your community can avoid fines or even criminal prosecution.

## Differences between Hourly Wages, Salaries, and Contract Workers

This handbook assumes you are figuring payroll for hourly wage employees. Other classes of employees are treated differently when calculating payroll. For example, salaried employees are not usually paid overtime, and a person working under contract does not usually have federal withholding and Social Security taxes withheld.

Workers are paid either an hourly wage, a salary, or are under a contract. Because most people working for small communities earn hourly wages, this handbook focuses on payroll for workers earning hourly wages. Before we go further, let's look at some of the differences between salaries, and contractors.

## Hourly Wages or Salary?

Although the terms "wage" and "salary" are often considered to mean the same thing, the two concepts are different. Hourly wages are payments to an employee based on an hourly rate multiplied by the number of hours worked. Salary, on the other hand, is a payment to the employee usually based on working a standard number of hours per pay period (agreed by both parties). The important difference between these two classes of employees is that if a salaried employee works longer than 40 hours a week, he or she may not be entitled to overtime. Pay for salaried employees is easier to calculate because, typically, the gross amount earned is the same for every pay period. Whether the employee is salaried or earning an hourly wage, the payroll deductions are calculated in the same way.

## **Employee or Contractor ?**



Let's look at the difference between (salaried or hourly wage) and contractors. It is important to know the difference because you do not withhold taxes or pay benefits, such as unemployment insurance, for independent contractors.

Briefly, a person is considered an employee if you have the right to control and direct the details of the work to be performed. A person

is considered an independent contractor if you have the right to control or direct only the result of the work, but not the details of how the work will be performed. Also, holding a business license does not constitute a payee as a contractor, nor does the issuance of a contract.

There are some other differences when it may not be clear whether a person is working as an employer or as a contractor. (For information see IRS *Publication 15-A: Employer's Supplemental Tax Guide* or the IRS *Publication 963: Federal-State Reference Guide*.)

The IRS requires you to complete Form W-9: "*Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification*" from any individual or organization who performs services for you as an independent contractor. The completed form must be kept on file in the office – do not send it to the IRS. (See the example on the following page.) Form

(Rev. August 2013)

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Requ	est for 1	Гахра	ayer
Identification	Number	and	Certification

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

je 2.	Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above		
s on page	Check appropriate box for federal tax classification:	] Trust/estate	Exemptions (see instructions):
Print or type Specific Instructions on	Limted liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partner	rship) ▶	Exempt payee code (if any) Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any)
Prin c Ins	□ Other (see instructions) ►		
pecifi	Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name a	and address (optional)
See S	City, state, and ZIP code		
	List account number(s) here (optional)		
Par	t I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)		
to avo reside entitie	your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on the "Name id backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, fo nt alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other s, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see <i>How to ge</i> 1 page 3.	ora	
Note.	If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose er to enter.		identification number
Par	Certification		

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- 1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
- 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below), and

4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

**Certification instructions.** You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dvidends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividerds, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 3.

Signature of U.S. person ►

#### **General Instructions**

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted. **Future developments**. The IRS has created a page on IRS.gov for information about Form W-9, at *www.irs.gov/w9*. Information about any future developments affecting Form W-9 (such as legislation enacted after we release it) will be posted on that page.

#### **Purpose of Form**

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, payments made to you in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),

2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or

3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the

withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and 4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct.

Note. If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

**Definition of a U.S. person.** For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States,
- An estate (other than a foreign estate), or

Date

• A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

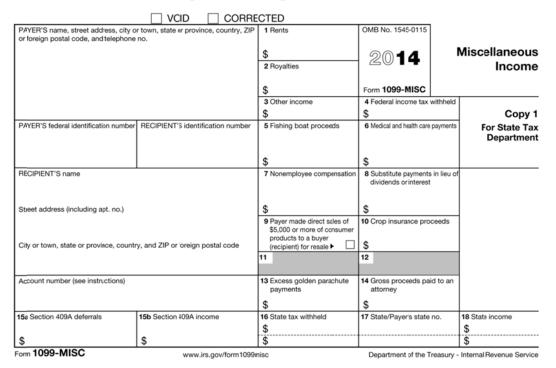
Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign parson, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership to concucting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

Form W-9 must be received before a payment is made to an individual or company hired as a contractor. If a contractor, business, or vendor refuses or neglects to give you a Form W-9, you must withhold part of their payment for taxes. This is called backup withholding. The rate of backup withholding is currently 28 %. Check with the IRS for the rate after December 31, 2013. If you must do backup withholding, you will need to deposit the amount you withheld and file an additional tax return at the end of the year, Form 945: "*Annual Return of Withheld Federal Income Tax*". This form is used to report any backup withholding associated with Forms 1099 and W-2G.

Even if you do not obtain a Form W-9 from the payee, you are not required to backup withholding on any payments you make if the payee is a tax-exempt organization, a government agency, a corporation or any other organization listed as exempt from back up withholding. (See IRS instructions for the Requester of Form W-9). If the contractor claims to be incorporated, the contractor must provide proof of incorporation and proof of workers compensation insurance.

#### Form 1099-MISC: Miscellaneous Income

At the end of the year, if the independent contractor has been paid more than \$600 during the calendar year for services, you must report the payments on IRS Form 1099-MISC in box 7, Nonemployee Compensation. (See form below).



Consider the following differences when it may not be clear whether a person is an employee or a contractor.

OR

#### EMPLOYEE

- 1. Paid by the hour, week, or month
- 2. Travel expenses are reimbursed
- **3.** Is told when, where, and how to do the work
- **4.** Works at your office or wherever you choose
- **5.** Tools and materials supplied by the employer
- 6. Doesn't generally risk his or her own money in the overall business
- 7. Works only for you
- **8.** Employer must pay workers compensation insurance

#### CONTRACTOR

- **1.** Paid by the job or by terms of contractual agreement
- **2.** Negotiates business and travel costs as part of the total contract

Payroll Handbook

- **3.** Is only told what is to be done and the deadline for completing the project.
- **4.** Works wherever the individual or company doing the work believes that it can be done most efficiently
- 5. Generally uses his or her own tools and materials when doing the work.
- **6.** Profit or loss is a direct result of how and when work is done
- 7. Works for whomever is willing to pay the fee; might work for more than one community at the same time
- **8.** Contractor must pay workers compensation insurance





#### Form 945: Annual Return of Withheld Federal Income Tax

In addition to filing Form 1099-MISC, use Form 945 to report annual income tax withheld from nonpayroll payments. Nonpayroll payments include the following:

- Gambling winnings; and
- Backup withholding from contractors who fail to provide a Social Security Number or Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN).

The annual deadline for filing Form 945 is January 31. For instance, the 945 forms for 2013 must be filed by January 31, 2014.

IRS Form 945 is shown here.

If any employee of the city, tribe or any council does not provide his or her Social Security Number, the individual becomes subject to backup withholding at a 28% rate on payments required to be reported in boxes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 on this form. For more information, obtain the most recent instructions

epartment of ternal Reven	15 the Treasury ue Service	For more inform	Return of Withh For withholding reported nation on income tax withhout Form 945 and its separ	on Forms 1099 and W-2 holding, see Pub. 15 (Circ	G. c. E) and Pub. 15-A		
Туре	Name (as dis Trade name,	tinguished from trade name		Employer identification num		If address is different	,
or Print	Address (nun	hber and street)				from prior return, cheo here. ►	* [
	City or town,	state or province, country,	and ZIP or loreign postal code				
A lfy	ou do not h	ave to file returns in	the future, check here	and enter date	final payments m	nade. 🕨	
1 Fe	deral income	e tax withheld from pe	ensions, annuities, IRAs,	gambling winnings, etc		1	
2 Ba	ckup withho	lding				2	+
3 То	tal taxes. If	\$2,500 or more, this r	must equal line 7M belo	w or Form 945-A, line N		3	+
	tal deposits m Form 945		verpayment applied from	a prior year and overp	ayment applied	4	
5 Ba	lance due.	f line 3 is more than li	ine 4, enter the difference	e and see the separate	instructions .	5	
			line 3, enter the differen				
		Check one:	Apply to next retur	n. 🗌 Send a refu	nd.		
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on forms 1099, 1098, 5498, and W-2G.

For more information, refer to the latest *Publication 505: Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax* or *Publication 15: Circular E, Employer's Tax Guide.* 

#### W-2: Wage and Tax Statement for Council Stipends

All stipends paid to council members for attending council meetings are reported on a W-2. City and tribal council members have different reporting requirements.

Stipends to city council members are treated as regular wages. FICA and federal income taxes are withheld and reported on the annual W-2 Wage and Tax statement.

22222	a Employee's social security number	OMB No. 154	5-0008				
<b>b</b> Employer identification number	EIN)		1 Wag	ges, tips, other compensation	2	Federal income ta	ax withheld
c Employer's name, address, and	ZIP code		<b>3</b> Soc	cial security wages	4	Social security ta	x withheld
			5 Me	dicare wages and tips	6	Medicare tax with	held
			7 Soc	cial security tips	8	Allocated tips	
d Control number			9		10	Dependent care	penefits
e Employee's first name and initial	Last name	Suff.		nqualified plans	<b>12</b> a	a 	
				loyee plan sick pay	y <b>12</b>	> 	
			14 Oth	er	120 00000000000000000000000000000000000		
					120 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	1 	
f Employee's address and ZIP coo							1
15 State Employer's state ID nun	16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State incon	ie tax	18 Local wages tips, etc.	<b>19</b> Lo	cal income tax	20 Locality name
Form W-2 Wage an Stateme	d Tax – nt C	30 J r	ł	Department	of the T	reasury—Internal	Revenue Service
Copy 1-For State, City, or Lo	cal Tax Department						

Tribal council member stipends fall under Revenue Ruling 59-354 (Rev. Rul. 59-354). In box 14 of the W-2, *Rev. Rul. 59-354* should be cited. This ruling holds that tribal stipends are includible in the council member's gross income, but they do not constitute wages for FICA and federal income tax withholding. If the council member is also an employee of the tribe, you can combine the employee wages with the council wages and in box 14 cite the ruling and the amount of council wages. Or you can have separate W-2s for the employee wages and another for the council wages. (See example on page 73)

## Laws To Know

Federal and state laws govern:

- How employees are paid;
- Deductions you must withhold from paychecks;
- What payroll records must be kept; and
- The length of time records must be kept.

The text below presents summaries of federal and state laws helpful to know before preparing payroll. Review the appendix for more information on the laws described in this section. Also, get a copy of *Establishing a Business In Alaska* to learn more about your legal requirements as an employer. To order a copy, contact the DCCED Division of Investments, 550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1770, Anchorage, AK 99501. You can also call toll free at 1-800-478-5626. In addition, the publication is available on CD or online at

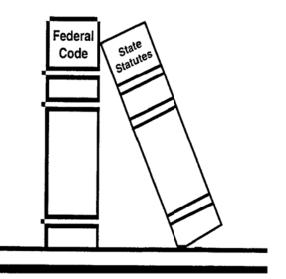
http://commerce.alaska.gov/ded/fin/pdf/EstablishingABusiness.pdf

## **Federal Laws**

### Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

Also known as the Wage and Hour Law;

- Sets federal minimum wage (\$7.25 per hour, effective July 24, 2009);
- Establishes normal work week (40 hours);
- Requires wage rate of one and a half times the normal wage rate for overtime;
- Requires employers to keep records of every employee; and
- Requires payroll records be kept at least three years.



## **Federal Laws**

### Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA)

Better known as Social Security and Medicare;

- Requires that employees and employers pay an equal amount to a federally operated trust fund;
- Requires an employer to withhold from employee's wages the employee's portion of taxes;
- Provides payments to workers participating in the system;
- Provides benefits to families of deceased workers;
- Requires an employer to keep records of every employee;
- Requires an employer to make payroll tax deposits either semiweekly or monthly; however, payroll tax deposits can be made each time payroll checks are issued; and
- Requires an employer to file quarterly tax reports (Form 941).

### Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA)

Note: Cities and boroughs are exempt from this Act. Federally recognized tribes are exempt if the tribe is current in filing and paying their state unemployment taxes (ESC) with the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

- Requires the employer to pay an unemployment benefit tax;
- Provides payments to unemployed workers;
- Requires the employer to keep separate employee records;
- Requires employee records be kept four years;
- Requires an employer to make quarterly tax payments; and
- Requires an employer to file an annual report.

### **Privacy Act and Paper Reduction Act**

- Uses Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFPTS);
- Requires an internet connection for online payments;
- Requires the EIN of the Employer;
- Requires a bank account and routing number;
- Provides a quick and easy payment method; and
- Accommodates telephone transactions.

## **Federal Laws**

#### Davis-Bacon Act

Note: Davis-Bacon does not apply to municipalities using their own workers and acting as general contractors.

• Requires contractors to pay "prevailing wages" for labor used to construct, alter, or repair public buildings financed with federal money.

#### **Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)**

- Requires a workplace be free from hazards;
- Requires records of accidents and injuries be kept; and
- Allows OSHA inspection of the workplace. If violations are discovered, fines may be imposed on the employer.

#### **Civil Rights Act of 1964**

- Prohibits discrimination in hiring, firing, or promoting based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; and
- Requires records retention of all personnel actions: hires, promotions, discharges, pay increases, etc. To defend personnel actions, employers should keep careful records on employees.

#### **Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA)**

- Requires proof of employee's legal right to work in the United States before hiring.
- Requires Form 1-9 be completed for every person hired after May 31, 1987. The form is kept on file by the employer for at least three years, or until one year after the employee leaves your employment (whichever is longer); and
- Requires employers present 1-9 forms for inspection to an officer of the Immigration and Naturalization Service or the State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) upon request.







## **State Laws**

#### Alaska Wage and Hour Act: Alaska Statute 23.10

Note: Cities and boroughs are required to follow only <u>some</u> provisions of this law.

- Establishes state minimum wage at \$7.75 per hour, as of January 1, 2010;
- Establishes a standard work week of 40 hours; and
- Requires that work in excess of 40 hours per week or 8 hours per day be paid at a wage rate one and a half times the regular wage rate for FLSA-eligible employees.

### Employment Security Act (ESA): Alaska Statute 23.20

- Establishes the State Unemployment Insurance Program;
- Requires employers file a "Liability Determination" with DOLWD;
- Requires accurate payroll records be maintained;
- Requires payroll records be kept for five years;
- Requires quarterly tax reports be filed; and
- Requires quarterly payment of taxes. However, payments can be made each time payroll checks are issued. This tax is often referred to as the Employment Security Contribution (ESC). It may also be called State Unemployment Insurance (SUI), or State Unemployment Tax (SUTA).

### "Little" Davis-Bacon Act: Alaska Statute 36.05

• Requires a contractor or subcontractor working on public construction projects to pay not less than the "current prevailing rate," as determined by the DOLWD. Municipalities using their own labor are exempt from this requirement.

### Workers' Compensation: Alaska Statute 23.30

• Requires an employer, including contractors, to get workers' health and disability insurance. Insurance must pay for full medical treatment for an "on-the-job" injury or illness and must pay 80% of the employee's net spendable weekly wage (up to certain limits) for a worker's absence due to injury or illness. For more information see: <u>http://www.labor.state.ak.us/wc/wc-brochure.pdf</u>

## **Federal Agency Contacts**

#### If you have questions on topics below, please contact the listed agency.

#### • U.S. Department of Labor, ESA Wage and Hour Division

Contact: Fair Labor Standards Act or Davis-Bacon Act 1111 3rd Ave., Suite 755 Seattle, WA 98101-3212 1-866-487-9243 http://www.dol.gov/whd/index.htm

#### • Internal Revenue Service for Cities, Tribes and Non-Profits

Cities:

Federal, State, and Local Government (FSLG) Pacific Coast Region Customer Account Services – Pacific Coast 1-877-829-5500 http://www.irs.gov/Government-Entities/Federal,-State-&-Local-Governments

Tribal Government: Indian Tribal Governments (ITG) 1-877-829-5500 <u>http://www.irs.gov/govt/tribes/index.html</u>

Charities and Non-Profits 1-877-829-5500 http://www.irs.gov/charities/index.html

#### • IRS Forms and Publications to Order or Download

Contact: Internal Revenue Service 1-800-829-4933 http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html?portlet=3

#### • U.S. Department of the Treasury

Contact: Electronic Federal Tax Payment System 1-800-555-4477 www.eftps.gov

#### • Social Security Administration

Contact: Social Security Room A11 222 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Anchorage, AK 99513 1-800-772-1213 www.socialsecurity.gov

#### • Immigration Reform and Control Act

Contact: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services 620 East 10th Ave., Suite 101 Anchorage, AK 99501-3799 <u>http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis</u>

> INFOPASS: <u>http://infopass.uscis.gov/</u> Forms or general information: 1-800-375-5283 <u>http://www.uscis.gov/forms</u>

## **State Agency Contacts**

#### • Employment Security Act (ESA)

Contact: Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Employment Security P.O. Box 115509 Juneau, AK 99811-5509 Phone: 1-907-465-2712 <u>http://www.labor.state.ak.us/esd</u>

#### • Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

Contact: Department of Labor and Workforce Development Wage and Hour Administration 3301 Eagle St. Suite 301 Anchorage, AK 99503-4149 Phone: 1-907-269-4900 <u>http://labor.state.ak.us/lss/whhome.htm</u>

#### • Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)

Contact: Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Labor Standards and Safety Occupational Safety and Health Section Juneau: 1-907-465-4855 Anchorage: 1-907-269-4955 <u>http://labor.state.ak.us/lss/oshhome.htm</u>

#### Workers' Compensation

Contact: Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Workers' Compensation P.O. Box 115512 Juneau, AK 99811 1-907-465-2790 http://labor.state.ak.us/wc/exit.html

#### • Social Security (FICA)

Contact: Department of Administration Division of Retirement and Benefits Social Security Administrator P.O. Box 110203 Juneau, AK 99811-0203 1-907-465-5707

### **Chapter 1 Review Federal and State Labor Laws**

#### **1. FLSA stands for**

- a. Fair Labor Standards Act
- b. Future Labor Statistics Act
- c. Federal Library Standards Account
- d. Federal Labor Systems Assistance
- 2. At year end, an employer must use IRS Form 1099-MISC if the employer paid more than \$600 in the calendar year to any of the following: (Circle all that apply)
  - a. An independent contractor
  - b. Stipends to a council member to attend meetings
  - c. Regular employees after running out of W-2 forms
- **3. True or False:** An independent contractor is subject to backup withholding if he or she does not provide a valid Social Security Number or Employer Identification Number.
- 4. True or False: Store all pay records, including time cards, for one year.
- 5. True or False: FICA is better known as Social Security and Medicare Tax.
- **6. True or False:** FICA is paid only by the employee through withholdings from paychecks.
- **7. True or False:** Employees generally set their own hours, use their own tools and directly risk profit or loss based on how and when their work is done.
- 8. True or False: Reporting and depositing FICA taxes is the responsibility of the employer.
- **9. True or False:** The federal Davis-Bacon Act only applies to contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of public buildings financed with federal money.

#### 10. FUTA stands for:

- a. Future Uplifting Tax Appraisal
- b. Federal Unemployment Tax Act
- c. Federal Unemployment Training Act
- d. Former Underworld Tax Assessors
- **11. True or False:** FUTA taxes are paid by municipalities to cover unemployment benefits for terminated workers.
- **12. True or False:** Some parts of the Alaska Wage and Hour Act do not apply to municipalities.

## 13. The "Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification" is IRS form

- a. W-2
- b. W-4
- c. I-9
- d. W-9

#### **14. ESA stands for:**

- a. Employment Security Act
- b. Employee Security Association
- c. Employment Social Administration
- d. Evaluation of Social Actions

#### **15.** The ESA requires payroll records be kept for at least:

- a. One year
- b. Three years
- c. Five years
- d. Seven years

## NOTES


#### Chapter 1 Review Federal State and Labor Laws: Answer Sheet

- **1.** [*a*.] Fair Labor Standards Act
- 2. [*a*.] An independent contractor
- **3.** [*True*.]
- **4.** [*False*.] FLSA requires three years retention of pay records. ESA requires five years. Extra records, such as time cards, must be kept four years.
- **5.** [*True*.]
- 6. [*False*.] Employer and employee pay a contribution to the Social Security and Medicare Tax.
- 7. [*False*.] Contractors do those things.
- **8.** [*True*.]
- **9.** [*True*.]
- **10.** [*b*.] Federal Unemployment Tax Act.
- **11.** [*False*.] Municipalities are exempt from FUTA.
- **12.** [*True*.]
- **13.** [*d*.] W-9
- **14.** [*a*.] Employment Security Act.
- **15.** [*c*.] Five years

## CHAPTER 2: PAYROLL AND PERSONNEL RECORDS

#### Keeping good payroll records will help you:

- Comply with federal and state tax laws
- Make sure workers are paid correctly
- Keep track of labor costs for community projects
- Help forecast labor costs

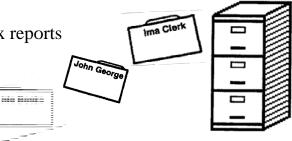
## **Records Needed to Prepare Payroll**

A good payroll accounting system keeps basic information on each employee. These files include:

#### Personnel Files

- W-4 forms
- o I-9 forms
- Pay rate history records
- Payroll Documents
  - o Time cards or time sheets
  - Individual pay records
  - o Payroll journal
  - o Statement of earnings and deductions
  - o Tax deposit records
  - o Copies of quarterly and annual tax reports
  - Annual and sick leave records





#### **Personnel Files**

Keep a separate personnel file for each employee that includes:

- Job application;
- Resume (if required);
- Hiring notice;
- Completed I-9 form (see Immigration Reform and Control Act for additional information);
- Form W-4: Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate;
- Employee ratings/evaluations;
- Work history of the employee (promotions, job changes, duties, work hours)
- Pay rate history and current rate;
- Payroll documents; and
- Annual wage and tax statements (IRS Form W-2).

As bookkeeper you need access to the personnel files. *However, access by other people is restricted because much of the information in the personnel files is confidential*. The employee may authorize others to inspect his or her personnel file. This authorization should be in writing from the employee.

For payroll record keeping, the most important items in the personnel files for each employee are:

- Form W-4: Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate
- Pay rate history records

#### Form W-4

Each employee is required to submit an IRS Form W-4 to the employer. The W-4 shows the number of withholding allowances claimed by an employee and is used to calculate the amount of federal income tax withheld from payroll checks.

The W-4 is filled out by each employee when he or she is hired and before the employee starts work. If the employee wants to change the number of withholding allowances claimed, a new W-4 must be submitted.

Employers are not required to get a new W-4 from employees each year, but should offer employees a

Nonwage income. If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or dividends, consider making estimated tax payments using For 1040-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals. Otherwise Form W-4 (2014) The exceptions do not apply to supplemental wage greater than \$1,000,000. Basic instructions. If you are not exempt, co the Personal Allowances Worksheet below. worksheets on page 2 further adjust your withholding allowances based or itemized deductions, certain credits, adjustments to inio r two-earners/multiple jobs situations. Purpose. Complete Form W-4 so that your employee can withhold the correct federal income tax from you pay. Consider completing a new Form W-4 each yea and when your personal or financial situation changes may owe additional tax. If you have pensi income, see Pub. 505 to find out if you si your withholding on Form W-4 or W-4P. Two earners or multiple jobs. If you have a working spouse or more than one job, figure to total number of allowances you are entitled to on all jobs using worksheets from only one Fo W-4. Your withholding usually will be most ac when all allowances are claimed on the Form Scemption for some of the online of using the online of th Complete all worksheets that apply. However, may claim fewer (or zero) allowarces. For regu wages, withholding must be based on allowar you claimed and may not be a flat amount or percentage of wages. Note, Ifanoto to: Note, Ifanother person can claim yos as a depender on his or her tax return, you cannot caim exemption from withholding if your income exceeds \$1,000 and includes more than \$350 of unearned income (for example, interest and dividends). Percentage of wages. Head of household. Generally, you can claim head of household filing status on your tax return only if you are unmartied and pay more than 50% of the costs of keeping up a home for yourself and your dependenticy or other qualitying ndividuals. See Filing Information, for information education, and Filing Information, for information or the highest paying job and zero allowa caimed on the others. See Pub. 505 for d nresident alien. If you are a nonresident al Notice 1392, Supplemental Form W-4 tructions for Nonresident Aliens, before mpleting this form. Exceptions. An employee may be able to clain exemption from withholding even if the employee dependent, if the employee: Check your withholding. After your Form W-4 take effect, use Pub. 505 to see how the amount you are having withheld compares to your projected total tak for 2014. See Pub. 505, especially if your earnings exceed \$130,000 (Single) or \$180,000 (Married). Future developments. Information about any future developments affecting form W-4 puch as legislation eached after we release it) will be posted at www.iss.gov/w4 Is age 65 or older, Tax credits. You can take projected tax credits into acc in figuring your allowable number of withholding allowar Is blind, or Will claim adjustments to income; tax creditemized deductions, on his or her tax return Personal Allowances Worksheet (Keep for your records.) A Enter "1" for yourself if no one else can claim you as a dependent . · You are single and have only one job; or в Enter "1" if: · You are married, have only one job, and your spouse does not work; or Your wages from a second job or your spouse's wages (or the total of both) are \$1,500 or less. С Enter "1" for your spouse. But, you may choose to enter "-0-" if you are married and have either a working spouse or more than one job. (Entering "-0-" may help you avoid having too little tax withheld.) . С D Enter number of dependents (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return . D Enter "1" if you will file as head of household on your tax return (see conditions under Head of household above) Е Е Enter "1" if you have at least \$2,000 of child or dependent care expenses for which you plan to claim a credit F Note. Do not include child support payments. See Pub. 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for details.) Child Tax Credit (inclucing additional child tax credit). See Pub. 972, Child Tax Credit, for more information. . If your total income wil be less than \$65,000 (\$95,000 if married), enter "2" for each eligible child; then less "1" if you have three to six eligible children or less "2" if you have seven or more eligible children. . If your total income will be between \$65,000 and \$84,000 (\$95,000 and \$119,000 if married), enter "1" for each eligible child н Add lines A through G and enter total here. (Note. This may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your tax return.) > H If you plan to itemize or claim adjustments to income and want to reduce your withholding, see the Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet on page 2. For accuracy, complete all If you are single and have more than one job or are married and you and your spouse both work and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$50,000 (\$20,000 if married), see the Two-Earners/Multiple Jobs Worksheet on page 2 to worksheets that apply. avoid having too little tax withheld. • If neither of the above situations applies, stop here and enter the number from line H on line 5 of Form W-4 below Separate here and give Form W-4 to your employer. Keep the top part for your records. Form **W-4** Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate OMB No. 1545-0074 2014 ▶ Whether you are entitled to claim a certain number of allowances or exemption from withholding is w by the IRS. Your employer n nay be required to send a copy of this form to the IRS. Lastname You 3 Single Married Married, but withhold at higher Single rat Note. If married, but legally separated, or spouse is a nonresident alien, check the "Single" box City or town, state, and ZIP code 4 If your last name differs from that shown on your social security card check here. You must call 1-800-772-1213 for a replacement card. Total number of allowances you are claiming (from line H above or from the applicable worksheet on page 2) 5 6 \$ Additional amount, if any, you want withheld from each paycheck I claim exemption from withholding for 2014, and I certify that I meet both of the following conditions for exemption. · Last year I had a right to a refund of all federal income tax withheld because I had no tax liability, and • This year I expect a refund of all federal income tax withheld because I expect to have no tax liability. . ► 7 If you meet both conditions, write "Exempt" here . Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this certificate and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Employee's signature (This form is not valid unless you sign it.) > Date > Employer's name and address (Employer: Complete lines 8 and 10 only if sending to the IRS.) 9 Office code (cptional) Employer identification Form W-4 (2014) For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see page 2. Cat. No. 10220Q

chance to update their W-4. You can get W-4 forms and related publications for each new employee from the IRS.

If an employee does not provide a signed W-4 by the time you are ready to do their first payroll, then process the employee's pay with zero allowances.

#### Form I-9

The purpose of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and **Immigration Services** Form I-9: *Employment* Eligibility *Verification* is to document that each new employee (both citizen and noncitizen) hired after November 6, 1986, and working in the United States must complete a Form I-9. All employees (citizens and noncitizens) hired after November 6, 1986, and working in the United States must complete a Form I-9. This information will be used by employers as a record of their basis for determining eligibility of an employee to work in the United States.

	Emplo Dq U.S. C	911	USCIS Form I-9 OMB No 1615-0047 Expires 03/31/2016			
►START HERE. Read instructio ANTI-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE document(s) they will accept from expiration date may also constitute	: It is illegal to disc an employee. The illegal discrimination	riminate agains refusal to hire a on.	t work-authorized individua n individual because the do	ls. Employers ocumentation	CANNO	T specify which ad has a future
Section 1. Employee Info than the first day of employment Last Name (Family Name)	nt, but not before a		offer.)	Other Names		
cast traine (, anny traine)		ine poster dans			o de de la la	
Address (Street Number and Name)	i i	Apt. Number	City or Town	st	ate 🔒	Zip Code
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) U.S. So	ecial Security Numbe	r E-mail Addres	55		Telepho	one Number
I am aware that federal law pro- connection with the completion lattest, under penalty of perjur	of this form.			s or use of fa	alse doc	uments in
A citizen of the United States						
A noncitizen national of the U	Inited States (See	instructions)				
A lawful permanent resident (	Alien Registration	Number/USCI	S Number):			
An alien authorized to work until (See instructions)	(expiration date, if a	pplicable, mm/do	1/yyyy)	. Some aliens	may write	e "N/A" in ths field.
For aliens authorized to work	provide your Alie	n Registration	Number/USCIS Number O	R Form 1-94	Admissio	on Number
1. Alien Registration Number	USCIS Number:				<b></b>	
OR					Do No	3-D Barcode t Write in This Space
2. Form I-94 Admission Numb	ber:				- Conto	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
If you obtained your admiss States, include the followin		CBP in connec	tion with your arrival in the	United		
Foreign Passport Numb	er:				L	
Country of Issuance:						
Some aliens may write "N/	A" on the Foreian	Passport Numb	er and Country of Issuanc	e fields. (See	instruct	ions)
[				1		
Signature of Employee:				Date (mm/o	(d/yyyy):	
Preparer and/or Translator	Certification (To	be completed	and signed if Section 1 is j	prepared by a	a person	other than the
l attest, under penalty of perjur information is true and correct.		isted in the co	mpletion of this form and	d that to the	best of	my knowledge the
Signature of Preparer or Translator:					Date (m	nm/dd/yyyy).
Last Name (Family Name)			First Name (Giv	en Name)		
Address (Street Number and Name)			City or Town		State	Zip Code
	STOP	Employer Co	mpletes Next Page	STOP		
5 C	-	ampiojer co	mpienes inter i uge	•		

Employers must retain the completed Form I-9. Form I-9 is accompanied by a complete list of acceptable documents which categorizes the types of documents necessary for establishing identity and employment authorization. See the next page for sample forms of I-9 and the list of acceptable documents.

#### LISTS OF ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS All documents must be UNEXPIRED

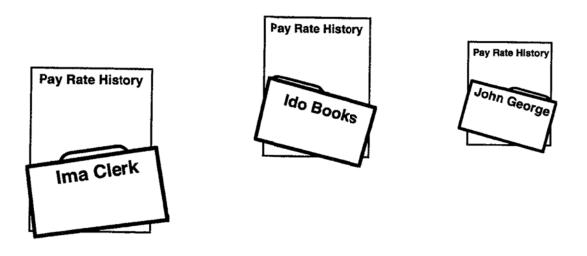
Employees may present one selection from List A or a combination of one selection from List B and one selection from List C.

	LIST A Documents that Establish Both Identity and Employment Authorization	R	LIST B Documents that Establish Identity AN	1D	LIST C Documents that Establish Employment Authorization
2.	U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)	1.	Driver's license or ID card issued by a State or outlying possession of the United States provided it contains a photograph or information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye	1.	A Social Security Account Number card, unless the card includes one of the following restrictions: (1) NOT VALID FOR EMPLOYMENT
	Foreign passport that contains a temporary I-551 stamp or temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine- readable immigrant visa	2.	color, and address ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or		<ul><li>(2) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH INS AUTHORIZATION</li><li>(3) VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH DHS AUTHORIZATION</li></ul>
4.	Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I-766)		information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address	2.	Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545)
5.	For a nonimmigrant alien authorized to work for a specific employer because of his or her status:	4.	School ID card with a photograph Voter's registration card	3.	Certification of Report of Birth issued by the Department of State (Form DS-1350)
	<ul> <li>a. Foreign passport; and</li> <li>b. Form I-94 or Form I-94A that has the following: <ul> <li>(1) The same name as the passport;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	5. 6. 7.	U.S. Military card or draft record Military dependent's ID card U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card	4.	Original or certified copy of birth certificate issued by a State, county, municipal authority, or territory of the United States bearing an official seal
	and (2) An endorsement of the alien's		Native American tribal document	5.	Native American tribal document
	nonimmigrant status as long as that period of endorsement has	9.	Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority		U.S. Citizen ID Card (Form I-197)
	not yet expired and the proposed employment is not in conflict with any restrictions or limitations identified on the form.	F	For persons under age 18 who are unable to present a document listed above:	7.	Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
6.	Passport from the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) with Form I-94 or Form I-94A indicating nonimmigrant admission under the Compact of Free Association Between the United States and the FSM or RMI	11	). School record or report card	8.	Employment authorization document issued by the Department of Homeland Security

Illustrations of many of these documents appear in Part 8 of the Handbook for Employers (M-274).

Refer to Section 2 of the instructions, titled "Employer or Authorized Representative Review and Verification," for more information about acceptable receipts.

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### **Pay Rate History Records**

The pay rate record shows how much the employee is paid per hour worked. This rate is used to calculate the employee's gross pay.

The pay rate history record shows the person's wage rate at the time of hiring. It also shows any changes in the wage rate because of promotion, demotion, cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), shift in job position, or other reason. The effective dates of all wage rate changes are also recorded.



#### Instructions for Completing a Pay Rate History Record

The pay rate history record should include the following information (numbered items in the list below correspond with the numbers on the illustration):

- 1. Employee's name as shown on the W-4 form
- 2. Employee's Social Security Number as shown on the W-4 form
- 3. Date the employee was hired
- 4. Employee's marital status for income tax purposes (M for married, S for single)
- 5. Number of allowances claimed for income tax purposes as shown on W-4
- 6. Employee classification as hourly or salaried
- 7. Date of pay rate change
- 8. Amount of new pay rate
- 9. Reason for entry in record, such as "new hire," "COLA" or "promotion."

		PAY I	RATE HIST	ORY		
Employee Name	(1)					
Social Security N	lumber	(2)				
Date of Hire	(3)			Income 1	Fax Status _	(4)
No. Exempts	(5)		Salaried _	(6)	_ Hourly	(6)
D. I.			-			
Date	Rate		Exp	lanation		
(7)	(8)	(9)	)			
-						
$\sim$	$\sim$	$\sim$	$/ \smallsetminus$	$\nearrow$	$\checkmark$	$\searrow$

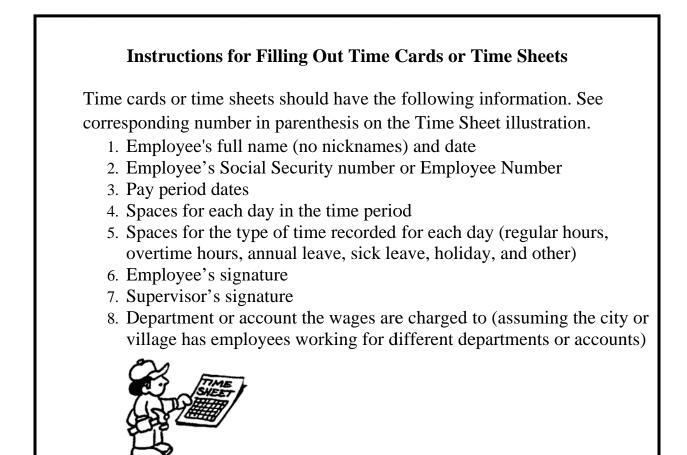
## **Payroll Documents**

#### Time Sheets

To calculate payroll, you need to know the hours worked by each employee. This information is recorded on a time sheet or card filled out by the employee and approved by the supervisor. Each day the employee fills in the hours worked and records any leave used. Each employee completes his or her own time sheet.

At the end of the pay period, the employee must sign and date the time sheet, and attach any leave forms to support authorized sick leave or annual leave (personal or vacation time) used. Time sheets and leave forms are signed by both the employee and supervisor. The supervisor must review time sheets and leave forms to make sure the information is correct, and then sign them. Unsigned time sheets or leave forms should be returned to the supervisor before you calculate any wages.

You should also review each time sheet for mistakes and tell the manager or supervisor if you detect any problems.



	TIME	SHEET - G	ENERAL		
(1) Employee	)		Da	te	
(2) Employee	e Social Securi	ty Number			
(3) Pay Perio	d: From	/ /	To/	/	
		(4)			<u></u>
Date 1 15	17 3 18 19 20	$     \begin{array}{c}       6 \\       21 \\       22 \\       23 \\       23 \\       23 \\       9     \end{array} $	24 25 26 27 3	28 29 30 31	) Total
Regular Hours	<u> </u>				
Overtime Hours					
Annual Leave					
Sick Leave					
Holiday (Regular Time)					
Holiday (Overtime)					
Other					
(5)			<u>To</u>	tal Hours	······································
Employee Signature	\$)			-	
				-	
Charge to: (8)					

**Don't throw away time sheets after doing the payroll**. Time sheets must be saved. Federal and state regulations require time sheets be kept at least two years in case of wage disputes. Put them in the employee's file with a copy of the paycheck. If questions come up about how much money an employee earned, the time sheets will help prove the payroll checks were correct.

#### Leave Authorization

Some communities use leave authorization forms to record annual, sick, and other types of leave. Review your personnel policies to ensure leave is dealt with correctly by supervisors, employees, and yourself.

When leave authorization forms are used, the employee submits a request for leave to the supervisor. If the supervisor approves the

	Leave Au	uthorization	ı		
Name:		SSN:			
Dates of Leave Requested: From:_ N	/// Ionth Day Hour	_ AM/PM	End:		AM/PN
Type of Leave Requested	Annual	Sick		Court	
APPROVAL OF RE	QUEST:	Supervisor			-
	Leave	e Taken			
Total Hours of Leave:	🗇 Annual		🗆 Sick _		
			Court		
Employee					
Employee Signature:		Supervisor	:		

leave request, the employee has an excused absence. After the employee returns from leave, the employee and supervisor sign the leave request form, confirming the amount of leave taken. The supervisor sends the leave slip to the bookkeeper. The bookkeeper adjusts the paycheck if the amount of pay for the pay period is affected. The leave slips are put in the employee's personnel file.

Leave slips are used by larger communities. Smaller communities may not need them. However, leave taken by an employee must be recorded on the time sheet even if leave slips aren't used.

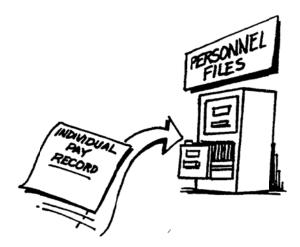
#### **Payroll Journal**

A payroll journal shows wages and deductions for all employees. It includes a summary of wages and deductions for each pay period. A separate summary sheet may be kept for each employee. In a computerized system, your software will

automatically maintain and update your payroll journal, as long as it is set up properly and you enter the payroll information correctly. In a manual recordkeeping system, you will have to update and maintain the payroll journal yourself.

### **Pay Records**

The payroll journal includes a separate summary sheet of earnings and deductions (pay periods, the pay rate,



hours worked, gross earnings, federal tax withheld, other deductions, net pay, and payroll check number) per pay period for each employee. These pay records are used to calculate payroll and tax information for each employee for the quarter (three-month period) and calendar year. Each quarter, the information from each pay period is added together to give you the total earnings and deductions for that employee. Use the totals at the end of the year to fill out the employee's W-2 wage statement and any annual tax reports. (See Chapter 3 "Year End Reports," for more information on W-2 wage statements.) The pay records are also used to make sure that no additional money is withheld after wage deductions have exceeded the limits for FICA and ESC payments.

AY No.	Cumula Earning
	<u> </u>
эе бу	
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	c of ee by

#### **Payroll Records**

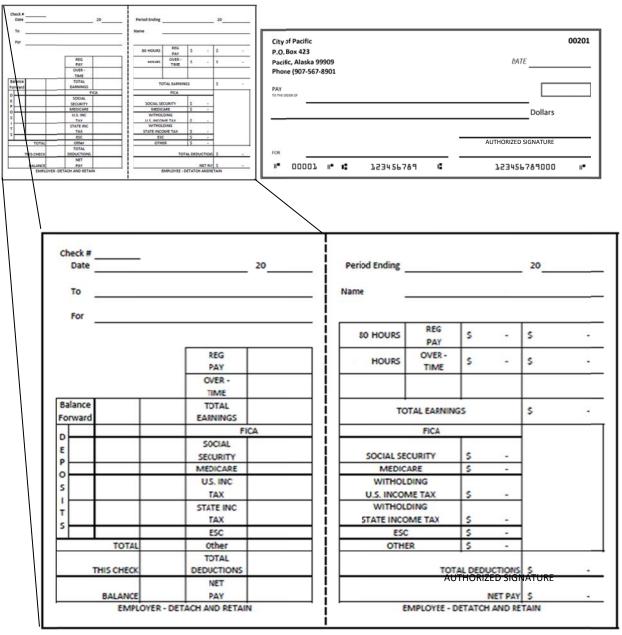
These records are permanent files (50 years) and are archived (safely stored outside the file drawers) after two years, they may be stored in a safe location. The payroll journal shows the combined payroll information for all employees per pay period. This information comes from the pay record of each employee. The payroll journal comes in different forms, depending on the supplier. You can also make a payroll journal using a columnar pad. In any case, the information shown on the example below should be included. The example payroll journal sheet organizes the employee wage and tax information by departments. Separating payroll information by department makes it easy to figure which costs should be charged to each department.

Information from the payroll journal is used to fill out quarterly tax reports. (This activity is explained in the next chapter.) This information must be retained for four years.

				Р	AYRO	)LL J(	DURN	AL					
Journal No.			Р	ayroll Peri	od From:				To:				
DEPARTMENT /	RATE OF				EARNINGS			DEDUC				Date of	
NAME	PAY	Reg. Hrs	OT Hrs	Reg. Pay	OT Pay	Gross Pay	oss Pay Fed W/H	FIO Soc. Sec	CA Medicare	ESC	Net Pay	Chk. No.	Payment
ADMINISTRATION												1	
TOTAL ADMINISTRAT	TION												
	ION												
PUBLIC SAFETY							T	1					
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFET	ſΥ												
PUBLIC WORKS													
TOTALPUBLIC WORK	s												
TOTAL ALL		TMEN	TS										

### **Statement of Earnings and Deductions**

The statement of earnings and deductions is given to the employee with his or her paycheck. It shows the employee's earnings and deductions for the pay period. Often, the statement is simply a payroll check stub. Paychecks can be ordered with check stubs that serve as statements of earnings and deductions. Use information from the pay record or payroll journal to fill out the statement of earnings and deductions. A computerized payroll program, such as QuickBooks, will calculate the earnings and deductions information for you and enter it on the pay stub. In a manual system, you will need to calculate the information and enter it on the pay stub yourself.



The statement of earnings and deductions can also be a form separate from the check, as shown below.

Statement of earnings and deductions separate from the payroll check:

			EARNINGS AND DEDUCTIONS	i i
Employe	e's Name		Check Number: #1017	
Social S	ecurity Number		Pay From To	
	EARNINGS			
Regular	Pay	s		
Overtime	a Pay	\$		
			Gross Pay S	
	DEDUCTIONS	-	•	
Federal	Withholding Tax	s		
FICA	Social Security	s		
	Medicare Tax		1	
ESC Tax	(	s	-	
Other		s	Total Deductions \$	
			NET PAY \$	

City of Pacific P.O. Box 423			#1017
Pacific, Alaska 99909 Phone (907-567-8901			DATE
PAY TO THE ORDER OF			
			Dollars
FOR			AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE
# 0001 # #	123456789	C.	

# Chapter 2 Review Payroll and Personnel Records

1. True or False: A personnel file should be set up for each new employee.

### 2. Personnel files should contain at least:

- a. Employment application
- b. Social Security Number
- c. Hiring notice to employee
- d. Result of reference checks
- e. Copies of W-4 forms
- f. Copy of employee's income tax return from last year
- 3. True or False: A W-4 identifies how many allowances the employee claims.
- 4. True or False: Employees must return a completed W-4 within one week of being hired.
- 5. True or False: Personnel files are confidential and shouldn't be available to anyone <u>unless</u> the employee has given written permission.
- 6. True or False: Personnel files should include a pay rate history record.
- 7. **True or False:** Time sheets show the hours worked by an employee and should be kept for a few months in case a dispute over a paycheck comes up.
- 8. True or False: Time sheets are signed by the bookkeeper only.
- **9. True or False:** Pay records show earnings and deductions of an employee for each payroll.
- 10. True or False: Pay records are files that can be thrown away after two years.
- **11. True or False:** Pay records are used to record payroll information in the payroll journal for all employees.
- 12. True or False: Use the payroll journal to fill out quarterly tax reports.



## Chapter 2 Review Payroll and Personnel Records: Answer Sheet

- **1.** [*True*]
- 2. Personnel files should include at least:
  - *a*. Employment application
  - b. Social Security Number
  - c. Hiring notice to employee
  - d. Result of reference checks
  - e. Copies of W-4 forms
- **3.** [*True*]
- **4.** [*False*] W-4 must be completed before beginning work.
- **5.** [*False*] Personnel files are confidential. Only authorized individuals should have access, and employee permission isn't needed for those authorized individuals.
- **6.** [*True*]
- 7. [*False*] Keep time sheets a minimum of two years.
- 8. [*False*] Time sheets must be signed by both the employee and the supervisor.
- **9.** [*True*]
- **10.** [*False*]
- **11.** [*True*]
- **12.** [*True*]



# CHAPTER 3: PAYROLL CALCULATIONS AND REPORTING

### You need to be accurate when calculating payroll because:

- You want to pay employee, the IRS, and the state the correct amounts.
- Most employees don't know the withholding rules well enough to catch mistakes.
- Correcting mistakes in withholding deductions after payroll checks have been written is time consuming and difficult.

# How to Calculate Payroll and Pay Taxes

### Step 1. Get Federal and State Employer Identification Numbers

Every employer must have a Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS. If your organization has been an employer in the past, it probably already has an EIN. **Do not apply for more than one EIN. It is not necessary to get a separate EIN for a grant project!** An example of a completed application for a federal EIN is provided on the next page (Form SS-4).

If it is necessary to get an EIN and you indicate on the Form SS-4 application that you will have employees, you will be pre-enrolled in the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS). When you make employment tax payments to the federal government, you must use EFTPS. As of January 1, 2011, paper tax deposit coupons can no longer be used. You will receive information in your EIN Package about Express Enrollment. You will also receive an additional mailing containing your EFTPS personal identification number (PIN) and instructions for activating your PIN so that you can begin to use EFTPS.

Form SS-4 (Rev. January 2	(For use by employers, corporations, parine	rships, trusts, estates, churches,	EIN
Department of the	government agencies, Indian tribal entities,		
Internal Revenue		Keep a copy for your records.	§
1 Leg	al name of entity (or individual) for whom the EIN is being r	equested	
2 Tra	de name of business (if different from name on line 1)	3 Executor, administrator, truste	e, "care of" name
4a Mai	ling address (room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. box)	5a Street address (if different) (Do	o not enter a P.O. box.)
2     Train       4a     Main       4b     City       6     Court	r, state, and ZIP code (if foreign, see instructions)	5b City, state, and ZIP code (if fo	reign, see instructions)
ed 6 Cou	unty and state where principal business is located		
	ne of responsible party	7b SSN, ITIN, or EIN	
	pplication for a limited liability company (LLC) (or n equivalent)?	No 8b If 8a is "Yes," enter LLC members	the number of
8c If 8a is	"Yes," was the LLC organized in the United States? .		🗌 Yes 🗌 No
9a Type of	f entity (check only one box). Caution. If 8a is "Yes," see	the instructions for the correct box t	o check.
Scl	e proprietor (SSN)	Estate (SSN of decede	ent)
	tnership	Plan administrator (TIN	4)
_	poration (enter form number to be filed)		
	sonal service corporation	National Guard	State/local government
_	urch or church-controlled organization		Federal government/military
	er nonprofit organization (specify) ► er (specify) ►	Group Exemption Number	Indian tribal governments/enterprises (GEN) if any
9b If a cor	poration, name the state or foreign country State cable) where incorporated		gn country
10 Reason	n for applying (check only one box)		
Sta		hanged type of organization (specify	
		urchased going business	
🗌 Hire		0 0	
Cor	mpliance with IRS withholding regulations	reated a pension plan (specify type)	<u>&gt;                                    </u>
	er (specify) >		
11 Date bu	usiness started or acquired (month, day, year). See instruc	1000 20	22 Young 10
13 Highest	number of employees expected in the next 12 months (enter		employment tax liability to be \$1,000 endar year and want to file Form 944
•			Forms 941 quarterly, check here.
ii iio ai	nployees expected, skip line 14.		tax liability generally will be \$1,000
Agric	cultural Household Othe		ct to pay \$4,000 or less in total not check this box, you must file y quarter.
	te wages or annuities were paid (mcnth, day, year). <b>Note.</b> dent alien (month, day, year)	If applicant is a withholding agent, e	nter date income will first be paid to
16 Check c	one box that best describes the principal activity of your busin	ness.	nce UWholesale-agent/broker
	struction L Rertal & leasing L Transportation & wareh		vice 🗌 Wholesale-other 🗌 Retail
	al estate 🔄 Manufacturing 🔄 Finance & insurance	Other (specify)	
17 Indicate	e principal line of merchandise sold, specific construction	work done, products produced, or se	ervices provided.
	e applicant entity shown on line 1 ever applied for and rec " write previous EIN here ►	eived an EIN?  Yes No	
	Complete this section only if you want to authorize the named individual	to receive the entity's EIN and answer question	s about the completion of this form.
Third	Designee's name		Designee's telephone number (include area code
Party			( )
Designee	Address and ZIP code		Designee's fax number (include area code
Under negative of	parium I deplace that I have examined this employees and to the best of surface	uladan and haliaf it is true correct and complete	
	perjury, I declare that I have examined this application, and to the best of my kno (type or print clearly)	wieuge and belier, it is true, correct, and complete.	Applicant's telephone number (include area code
	Alba at built anomali, all		Applicant's fax number (include area code
Signature ►		Date ►	
	Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate		5N Form <b>SS-4</b> (Rev. 1-2010

You must also register with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (AKDOL), Employment Security Division to obtain a state employer tax account number. Contact the nearest Field Tax Office and ask for an Alaska Employer Registration Form. (See below.) You can also obtain this form online at: <u>http://www.labor.state.ak.us/estax/forms/AER.pdf</u>.

	Alaska Employer F	Registration Form	1	form TRE6 (Rev 2	7/12)	
Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Employment Security Tax PO Box 115509, Juneau, AK 998	New     Update     Field Auditor     Field Auditor	Bus. Type         NACS           Cont. Code         R1-HM # Mailings         Rate Code		Predecessor Rate Link Rate Type		edecessor æs? e Date
COMPLETE BOTH SIDES O		VE AREA IS FOR ST	TATE USE	ONLY		
I) Type of Business:  Sole Proprietor Nonprofit Organization Corporation: Date Incorporated Limited Liability Company (LLC): Numb	Partnership: General cognized Tribe  Other State Incorpo	Limited Date P	artnership Forme Desired Method o	d f Payment 🗖 Taxa orporation Number		mbursable
	Wre you ever assigned an Account Yes No If yes, listnu	Number by this Agency? 4 mber:	) Do you wish to Yes	Cover excluded emp No If yes	s, see Page	
<ol> <li>What is the date your business first paid was Month Day</li> </ol>			perform th	anticipate using Co e activities stated in Yes D No	n Item 13?	or to
7) Legal Business Name:		8) Doing Business As (DBA		10 0 10		
9) Mailing Address	Ci	ity State	Zip	10) Business Ph	one:	
<ol> <li>Physical Worksite Address in Alaska (lis</li> </ol>	t additional worksites on Page 4)			12) FaxNumber		
Your rate will be determined by completion of Items 1) & 14. See Page 2 for complete instructions	e (IN DETAIL) the major product sole	d or service you provide in Alask	a	14) % of Gross Alaska income derived from Iten 13:	empl	Number of oyees in a:
	n if you have changed your b				on.	
<ol> <li>Date changed or acquired:</li> </ol>	Marca	17) Date wages first paid un				
Month Day 18) Type of Change: □ Change in Entity						
19) Was business acquired through:	ration Stock Transfer  Corpyra Corpyra Lease Field Cother (Describe in detail on sipa	oreclosure 2		ge of the Alaska Op		sets
21) Prior Owner(s) Name(s), FEIN, and Busi		5 (S. 1977)		23) Number of E	mployees	Acquired:
Information and signature of business pr		and the second se				
CERTIFICATION: With m Printed Name & Social Security Number	Signature	Residence Address &	Telephone	Title and	%	Code
Third Harry Covia Secury Harris	Signature	Number		Effective Date	Owned	conc
Name:		Residence Address		Title		
SSN:		City Sute Residence Telephone:	Zip Code	Effective Date		
Name		Residence Address		Title		
Contract.		City Sute Residence Telephone:	Zip Code	Effective Date		
55/9:		1		Title		
Name:		Residence Address	ZinCole	Title		
Name: SSN:		Residence Address City Sute Residence Telephone:	Zip Code	Effective Date		
SSN:		City Sate Residence Telephone: Residence Address City Sate	Zip Code	Effective Date		
Name: SSN: Name:	Phone Number:	City Sate Residence Telephone: Sate		Effective Date		

Complete the Employer Registration Form, make a copy for filing, and mail the original to the address shown on the top of the form.

The AKDOL will assign an account number after it reviews your application. The account number links the employer with payments of State Unemployment Insurance tax (SUI), also known as Employment Security Contribution (ESC).

When AKDOL assigns an account number, it will send Employment Security tax forms and

instructions. Keep this paperwork handy; you'll need it to make tax deposits and file your reports. Only apply for an account number once. Before applying, make sure your community hasn't already been assigned a number.

Employer information is available on the Internet at <u>www.labor.state.ak.us/estax</u> You can also e-mail questions to <u>esd\_tax@labor.state.ak.us</u>

ai
loyment Security Tax
2 Kenai Spur Hwy., Suite 2
ai, AK 99611-9106
) 283-4478
) 283-5152 (Fax)
, (;,
e
loyment Security Tax 197
t Street, Room 319
Box 1589
e, AK 99762-1589
440.0007
) 443-3037
•

## Step 2. Get Employee Information

As discussed in Chapter 2, when an employee is hired, he or she must submit a W-4 form showing how many withholding allowances the employee is claiming. You will need this information to calculate how much federal income tax to withhold from that employee's pay.

		Separate here and g	give Form W-4 to your en	nployer. Keep th	ne top part for your	records			
Form	W-4	Employe	e's Withholding	g Allowan	ce Certifica	te	OMB No. 1545-0074		
Departm	Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service subject to review by the IRS. Your employer may be required to send a copy of this form to the IRS.								
1	Your first name	and middle initial	Last name			2 Your social	security number		
	Home address (	number and street or rural route	)	3 Single	Married Marr	ried, but withhold a	t higher Single rate.		
				Note. If married, b	ut legally separated, or spo	use is a nonresident a	lien, check the "Single" box.		
	City or town, sta	ate, and ZIP code		4 If your last na	ame differs from that :	shown on your so	cial security card,		
				check here.	You must call 1-800-7	772-1213 for a re	lacement card. 🕨 📋		
5	Total number	of allowances you are clai	ming (from line <b>H</b> above	or from the app	licable worksheet	on page 2)	5		
6	Additional an	nount, if any, you want with	neld from each paychec	k			6 \$		
7	I claim exemp	otion from withholding for 2	2014, and I certify that I n	neet <b>both</b> of the	e following conditio	ns for exemptio	n.		
	<ul> <li>Last year I I</li> </ul>	had a right to a refund of a	I federal income tax with	held because I	had no tax liability,	and			
	<ul> <li>This year I e</li> </ul>	expect a refund of all feder	al income tax withheld b	ecause I expect	t to have <b>no</b> tax liab	oility.			
	If you meet b	oth conditions, write "Exer	npt" here			7			
Under	penalties of per	jury, I declare that I have exa	emined this certificate and	, to the best of m	ny knowledge and be	elief, it is true, co	rrect, and complete.		
	oyee's signatur	e unless ycu sign it.) ►				Date ►			
8		ne and address (Employer: Comp	dete lines 8 and 10 only if sen	ding to the IRS.)	9 Office code (optional)	10 Employer id	entification number (EIN)		
For Pr	ivacy Act and I	Paperwork Reduction Act I	otice, see page 2.		Cat. No. 10220Q		Form <b>W-4</b> (2014)		

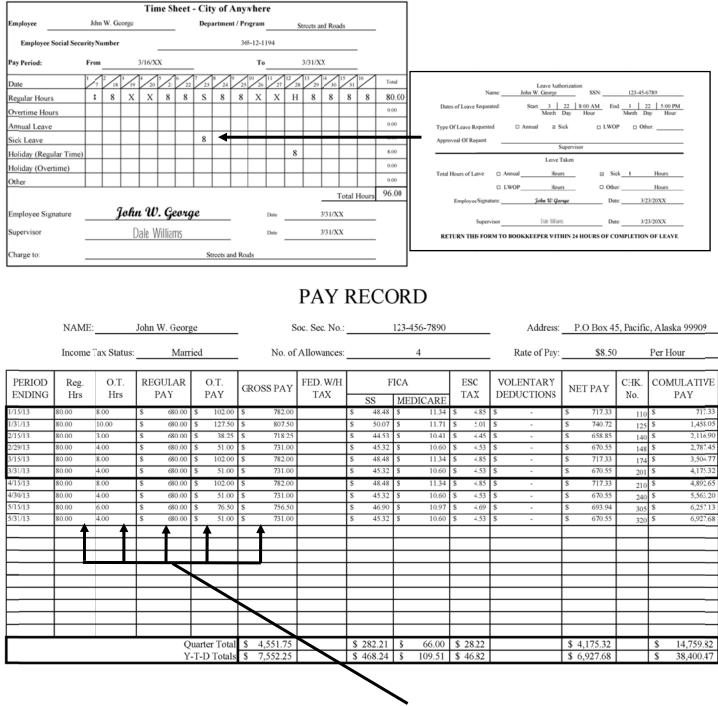
If you are using a manual payroll system, put the employee's Social Security number, number of allowances claimed, and current rate of pay on the pay record card for that employee. Setting up the card with the correct information will save time when you calculate payroll.

### PAY RECORD

	NAME:		John W. Geor	ge	s	oc. Sec. No.:		123-456-7890		Address:	P.0 Box 4	5, Pacific	c, Alaska 99909
	Income	Tax Status:	Мап	ried	No. of	Allowances:		4		Rate of Pay:	\$8.50	)	Per Hour
PERIOD ENDING	Reg. Hrs	O.T. Hrs	REGULAR PAY	O.T. PAY	GROSS PAY	FED. W/H TAX		ICA MEDICARE	ESC TAX	VOLENTARY DEDUCTIONS	NET PAY	CHK. No.	COMULATIVE PAY
1/15/13	80.)0	8.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 782.00		\$ 48.48		\$ 4.85	s -	\$ 717.33	110	\$ 717.33
1/31/13	80.00	10.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 127.50	\$ 807.50		\$ 50.07	\$ 11.71	\$ 5.01	s -	\$ 740.72	125	
2/15/13	80.00	3.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 38.25	\$ 718.25		\$ 44.53	\$ 10.41	\$ 4.45	s -	\$ 658.85	140	
2/29/13	80.)0	4.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 731.00		\$ 45.32	\$ 10.60	\$ 4.53	\$ -	\$ 670.55	148	
3/15/13	80.00	8.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 782.00		\$ 48.48	\$ 11.34	\$ 4.85	s -	\$ 717.33	174	
3/31/13	80.00	4.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 731.00		\$ 45.32	\$ 10.60	\$ 4.53	s -	\$ 670.55	201	
4/15/13	80.00	8.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 102.00	\$ 782.00		\$ 48.48	\$ 11.34	\$ 4.85	s -	\$ 717.33	210	\$ 4,892.65
4/30/13	80.00	4.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 731.00		\$ 45.32	\$ 10.60	\$ 4.53	s -	\$ 670.55	240	
5/15/13	80.00	6.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 76.50	\$ 756.50		\$ 46.90	\$ 10.97	\$ 4.69	s -	\$ 693.94	305	
5/31/13	80.00	4.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 51.00	\$ 731.00		\$ 45.32	\$ 10.60	\$ 4.53	ş -	\$ 670.55	320	\$ 6,927.68
	<u> </u>												
	$\square$												
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>							<u> </u>				
													ļ
	<u> </u>												
			Q	uarter Total	\$ 4,551.75				\$ 28.22		\$ 4,175.32		\$ 14,759.82
			Y	-T-D Totals	\$ 7,552.25		\$ 468.24	\$ 109.51	\$ 46.82		\$ 6,927.68		\$ 38,400.47

# Step 3. Calculate Payroll

Collect time sheets for each employee. Make sure the time sheets are signed by both the employee and the supervisor and that leave authorization forms (if needed) are attached and signed. Add the hours worked for each employee. Put this information on each employee's pay record.



Calculation of Gross Pay (80 hrs x \$8.50) + (4 hrs x 12.75) = \$731.00

On the pay record enter whether hours worked are regular or overtime hours. Remember, in most cases, for hourly employees any time exceeding forty hours per week or eight hours per day is overtime and paid at one and a half times the normal rate of pay. You will need this information to calculate gross pay.

Gross pay is different from net or "take home" pay. Before writing the employee's paycheck, you must withhold the amount each employee owes the federal and state governments for taxes, Social Security, Medicare and unemployment insurance, as well as any other deductions (employee benefit programs, child support payments, employee advances).

**Gross pay** is the amount of pay earned by an employee before any deductions. It is calculated by multiplying the number of hours (hours worked, hours of paid leave, etc.) by the rate of pay (regular rate, and overtime rate if applicable).

**Net pay** is the amount paid to an employee after all deductions. It is the amount the employee would "take home".

# **Calculate Federal Income Tax Withholding**

Once you've calculated the employee's gross pay, you can determine how much to deduct for federal income tax by using the IRS Publication 15: *Circular E, Employer's Tax Guide. Circular E.* The tax tables show how much federal taxes to withhold based on gross wages earned and deductions claimed on an employee's W-4. Contact the IRS if you don't have the current *Circular E, Employer's Tax Guide,* or get a current guide online at <u>http://www.irs.gov/</u> for *Pub 15.* 

It's easy to determine federal income tax withholdings for each employee using the correct table in *Circular E*.





Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Publication 15 Cat. No. 10000W

# (Circular E), Employer's Tax Guide

For use in **2014** 



Get forms and other Information faster and easier by Internet at IRS.gov

Dec 18, 2013

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# **Future Developments**

For the latest information about developments related to Publication 15 (Circular E), such as legislation enacled after it was published, go to <u>www.irs.gov/pub15</u>.

# What's New

**Social security and Medicare tax for 2014.** The social security tax rate is 6.2% each for the employee and employer, unchanged from 2013. The social security wage base limit is \$117,000.

The Medicare tax rate is 1.45% each for the employee and employer, unchanged from 2013. There is no wage base limit for Medicare tax.

# Calculate Social Security (FICA) Tax

As the bookkeeper for a city or borough, you must determine whether your municipality belongs to the Social Security system. If your community is unincorporated, it is in the Social Security system. If you are a tribe or tribally owned entity, you participate in the Social Security system and all employee wages are subject to both Social Security tax and Medicare tax.

Important Notice to Municipalities

Municipalities participate in the Social Security system or another approved retirement plan. A municipality not in an approved retirement plan should be in the Social Security system and pay the full FICA tax.

Whether or not a community participates in the Social Security system, the portion of FICA payments supporting Hospital Insurance (Medicare) must be withheld for any employee hired after March 31, 1986. This requirement is especially important for municipalities! Many municipalities are not aware of the FICA withholding requirement. If you participate in the Social Security system and pay the full FICA tax, the Medicare portion is already covered.

Determine whether an employee's wages are affected by any of the following:

- Full FICA taxes (Social Security and Medicare)
- Medicare portion only
- None of the FICA taxes (certain types of employees hired <u>before</u> March 31, 1986, and if the municipality was in another retirement plan as of July 1, 1991)

Next, calculate the FICA withholding by multiplying the gross wage by the current Social Security tax rate and the Medicare tax rate. Together these amounts represent the total FICA tax due. You must calculate and report Social Security and Medicare taxes separately.

In 1994, the wage base limit for Medicare was eliminated; thereafter, all wages are subject to Medicare tax. Social Security, however, has a wage base limit. Refer to *Circular E* for current yearly information.

# **Example: How to Calculate FICA** (Social Security and Medicare)

Gross wages earned this pay period equal \$680.

If the employer is in the Social Security system, calculate how much Social Security taxes are withheld from the employee's wages by multiplying the wages by the current Social Security tax rate. Once an employee's wages exceed the wage limit, do not withhold any more Social Security tax. Refer to IRS Publication 15: *(Circular E) Employer's Tax Guide* at the beginning of every year to determine the changes in yearly wage limits or tax rates.

Calculation of Social Security tax to withhold from the employee  $680 \times 6.2\% = 42.16$  $680 \times .062 = 42.16$ 

> Calculation of Social Security from the employer  $680 \times 6.2\% = 42.16$ or  $680 \times .062 = 42.16$

Next, calculate the Medicare tax portion of FICA. The current Medicare tax rate is 1.45% of gross wages.

Calculation of Medicare tax to withhold from the employee  $680 \times 1.45\% = 9.86$ or  $680 \times .0145 = 9.86$ 

ALL wages are subject to Medicare tax. There is no wage limit.

If the employer is not in the Social Security system but the employee was hired **after** March 31, 1986, withhold **only** the Medicare portion of the tax. Add the Social Security tax and Medicare tax. This sum equals the total employee FICA withholding.

# **Employers In, Out, and Opting Out of Social Security**

# Employers Participating in Social Security

Political subdivision employers who chose to provide retirement benefits to their employees signed Section 218 Agreements with the Social Security Administration so that their employees could use Social Security as a retirement benefit. Most of these Section 218 Agreements were signed in the 1960s and 1970s.

- Prior to April 1, 1983 employers could amend their 218 agreements and opt out of Social Security and Medicare.
- After July 1, 1991, this option was no longer available to employees who are not enrolled into a Section 218 Agreement and not enrolled in Social Security or qualified plan. The employers must report all employees to Social Security and Medicare. In qualified plans the employees cannot be enrolled in Social Security; but must participate in Medicare.

# An employer with a Section 218 Agreement cannot opt out of Social Security reporting.

Employers Not Participating in Social Security

Many political subdivision employers chose to drop their 218 Agreements when the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) was established in 1961. They opted out of their Social Security agreements by enacting amendments.

- Cities and boroughs are not required to participate in the Social Security portion of FICA if they were in an approved retirement program prior to July 1, 1991 and do not have and active Section 218 Agreement.
- Whether participating in Social Security or not, all employees hired after March 31, 1986, and their employers must pay the Medicare tax portion of FICA.

# Certain Employers May Opt Out of Social Security

Employers who are not in a retirement system (qualified plan) and were forced into Social Security in 1991 can now choose to join a qualified plan such as PERS, and drop Social Security reporting for employees eligible to participate in the qualified retirement plan.

- > Only full-time and part-time employees are eligible.
- Employees who are temporary, substitutes, or nonpermanent are not eligible. These employees must have Social Security withheld and reported for them.
- Whether participating in Social Security or not, all employees hired after March 31, 1986, and their employers must pay the Medicare tax portion of FICA.

Employers **cannot** opt out of Social Security if they were already in a retirement system prior to July 1, 1991, and were participating in Social Security. These employers have already established their relationship with the Social Security Administration and cannot change these presumed or written agreements.

For more information, contact the Division of Retirement and Benefits in Juneau at 907-465-5707 or 907-465-4469.

Or learn more at the Division of Retirements and Benefits website: <u>http://doa.alaska.gov/drb/</u>.



# Calculate Employment Security Withholding Tax

Alaska Unemployment Insurance (UI) program, also commonly referred to as the Employment Security (ES) tax program pays benefits to eligible unemployment workers. A person pays into this program while working, and may later receive some unemployment benefits when not working. To calculate the amount of (ES) tax to withhold from an employee's paycheck, multiply the gross wages by the employee ES tax rate. ES withholding tax is withheld only for a set maximum amount of wages. Any wages earned above this limit aren't taxed. For 2012, the employee ES tax rate is .62%; the taxable wage base is \$35,800.

Calculation of ES tax to withhold from employee

\$680 x .0062

62% = 4.216 = \$4.21

680 x .0062 = 4.216 = 4.21

To avoid any shortage in taxes for the employer, 4.216 is rounded down to 4.20.

Contact the nearest Field Tax Office in the Alaska DOL, Division of Employment Security, for information on current ES tax rates and the taxable wage base. Field Tax Offices are found in the beginning of this chapter or online on the Employment Security Tax FAQs page at: <u>http://www.labor.state.ak.us/estax/faq/w1.htm</u>

For most small communities, federal income, Social Security, Medicare, and ES taxes are the only withholdings from employee paychecks. However, additional deductions may be required if your community participates in retirement, health insurance, or other benefit programs.

Assuming there are no other deductions, complete the pay record for each employee based on the previous directions.

### Step 4. Make Out the Paychecks

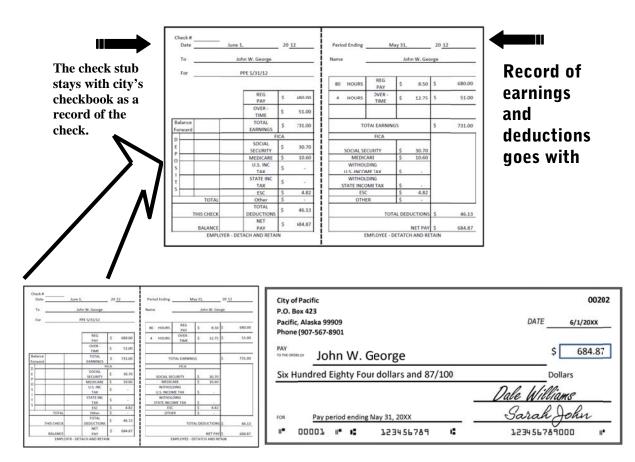
Payroll checks usually have two stubs: one remains in the checkbook and one is given to the employee with the paycheck. These stubs are the statements of earnings and deductions. The stubs show information taken from the pay record, including: hours worked, rate of pay, gross pay, amount of each deduction, and amount of net pay.

Fill out the stubs, and then complete the paycheck.

Check#	June1,	20 12	Perid Ending <u>Ma</u>	y 31, 20 <u>1</u> John W. George		City of Pacific 00202 P.O. Box 423
For	PPE 5/31/12		80 HOURS REG PAY	\$ 8.50 \$	680.00	Pacific, Alaska 99909 DATE6/1/20XX0/1/20XX0
	REG PAY	\$ 680.00	4 HOURS OVER - TIME	\$ 12.75 \$	51.00	
	OVER - TIME	\$ 51.00				PAY \$ 684.87
Balance Forward	TOTAL EARNINGS	\$ 731.00	TOTAL EARNINGS	5	731.00	To The object of John W. George \$ 684.87
D	F)	CA	FICA			
t l	SOCIAL	\$ 30,70	VOCIM VECURITY	5 80.70		Six Hundred Eighty Four dollars and 87/100 Dollars
P	MEDICARE	5 30.60	MEDICARE	\$ 10.60		
5	U.S. INC TAX	5 -	WITHOLDING U.S. INCOME TAX	\$ -		Dale Williams
	STATE INC	6 C	WITHOLDING	1. A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A		Duce Witchums
	TAX	*	STATE INCOME TAX	5 -		
-	ESC .	5 4.82	ESC	5 4.82		
TOTAL		5	OTHER	5 -		FOR Pay period ending May 31, 20XX Sarah John
THIS CHECK		5 46.13	TOTA		46.13	
BALANCE	NET	\$ 664.87		NET PAY 5	684.87	# 00001 # 123456789 123456789 123456789000 #
EMP;	OVER - DUTACH AND RETAIL	N	EMPLOYEE - DE	TATCH AND RETAIN		

If you make an error, write "VOID" across the check and on the stub. Tear out the voided check and file it with other voided checks in case an auditor wants to see it.

Check # Jun	te 1. 20 <u>12</u>	Period Ending <u>May 31.</u> 20 <u>12</u>	City of Pacific P.O. Box 423	00202
for	PPE 5/31/12	80 HOURS REG 5 680.00	Pacfic, Alaska 99909 DATE Phone (907-567-8901	6/1/20XX
Balance Forward D	PAA 5 01.00 VTT - 10 VTT	4 HOURS DATA     10 12 1120     11 200	PAY To The Deserver John W. George Six Hundred Eighty Four dollars and 17/10	\$ 684.87 Dollars
	1         ICABE         5         10.60           1         NC         5         -           1         TAX         5         -           STATE INC         5         -         -           7         TAX         5         -           6         5         4.82         -           0         0         5         -           10         0         -         -	MT         CARL         5         D A0           U.S.         F fax         5         -           VIL         F fax         5         -           STATE INCO 174X         5         -         -           STATE INCO 174X         5         -         -           OTHER         5         -         -	Pay period ending May 31, 20XX Sarah	lliams h John
THIS CREE BALACE MPLOYER -	DEDUCTIONS \$ 46.33 NET PAV DETACH AND RETAIN	TOTAL DEDUTIONS         \$ 46.13           NT PAY         \$ 684.87           EMPLOYEE - DETAJOH ND RETAIN	" 00001 " · 123456789 · 123456	789000



As you write each payroll check, remember to adjust the balance remaining in your checking account. Make sure you have enough money in the account to cover your payroll and taxes. "Bounced checks" create bad feelings and result in added expense for bank charges and time spent correcting the mistakes. The bank may eventually refuse your business if bounced checks happen regularly.

### Step 5. Complete Payroll Records

After you've made out the paychecks, your job isn't complete. Payroll records must be filled out and the taxes withheld must be paid along with the employer's share of taxes (Social Security, Medicare, ES, and possibly FUTA).

First, transfer the information from each employee's payroll record to the payroll journal. Here is a step-by-step example of how to transfer information from the payroll records to the payroll journal.

# Filling Out a Payroll Journal

- 1. Record the beginning and ending dates of the payroll period in the spaces marked "Payroll Period from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_." The last date should agree with the "period ending" date on the pay record.
- 2. Put the employee's name from the pay record under the proper department in the "name" column. For example, John George is under Public Works.
- 3. Record the employee's pay rate from the pay record.
- 4. Record the payroll information (hours, pay, deductions, and net pay) from the pay record.
- 5. Record the check number from the pay record to the payroll journal.
- 6. Add the payroll information (hours, pay, deductions, and net pay) for all the employees within each department to obtain the department totals.
- 7. Finally, add the taxes for the employees of all departments. This sum is a total of all employee taxes withheld. It is used to figure total taxes owed.

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIC IDO BOOKS IMA CLERK TOTAL ADMINISTI PUBLIC SAFETY	DN S	Z ATE OF PAY \$ 10.00 \$ 8.00	Reg. Hrs 48 80	CT Hrs		roll Peri Reg. Pay	EA	RNINGS		3/16/2				DEDUC			_	3/31			Chk. No.	Date of
ADMINISTRATIC IDO BOOKS IMA CLERK TOTAL ADMINISTI	DN S	PAY	48		_	Reg. Pay										NS	_				<i></i>	Date of
ADMINISTRATIC IDO BOOKS IMA CLERK TOTAL ADMINISTI	DN S	\$ 10.00	48		_	Reg. Pay								FIG	CA.		4		L (	Net Pay		4
IDO BOOKS IMA CLERK TOTAL ADMINISTI	S S			0		~ ~		OT Pay	(	Gross Pay	F	ed W/H	S	oc Sec		edicare		ESC		riot I ay	Ciac. 140.	Payment
IMA CLERK TOTAL ADMINIST	S			0	<u></u>		_															
TOTAL ADMINIST		\$ 8.00	80		\$	480.00	\$	-	\$	480.00	\$	9.00	\$	29.76	\$	6.96	\$	29.76	\$	404.52	198	4/15/20X
				20	\$	640.00	\$	240.00	\$	880.00	\$	68.00	\$	54.56	\$	12.76	\$	54.56	\$	690.12	199	4/15/20X
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			100		\$		\$	-	\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-		Ĺ
PUBLIC SAFETY	RATION		128	20	\$	1,120.00	\$	240.00	\$	1,360.00	\$	77.00	\$	84.32	\$	19.72	\$	84.32	\$	1,094.64		
					_												_					
JUDY KIRK	\$	\$ 8.50	96	0	- v		-	-	\$	816.00	\$	29.00	\$	50.59	-	11.83	\$	50.59	\$	673.98	200	4/15/202
					\$		\$		\$		\$	•	\$	•	\$	•	\$	•	\$			I
					s		\$	-	\$		s	-	\$		s		s	•	\$			<b> </b>
TOTAL PUBLIC SA	FETY		96	0	<u>s</u>		5	-	5	815.00	5	29.00	\$ \$	50.59	5	- 11.83	5	50.59	5	673.98		L
PUBLIC WORKS					÷						÷		÷		÷	11100			÷			
JOHN GEORGE	s	\$ 8.50	80	4	s	680.00	s	51.00	ŝ	731.00	s	-	\$	45.32	s	10.60	\$	45.32	s	629.76	201	4/15/203
					\$		\$	-	\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$		\$		\$	-		
					\$	-	\$	-	\$		\$	-	\$		\$		S		\$	-		
					\$		\$	-	\$		\$	-	\$		\$		\$		\$	-		
TOTALPUBLIC WO	ORKS		80	4		680		51		731		0		45.322		10.5995		45.322	\$	629.76		

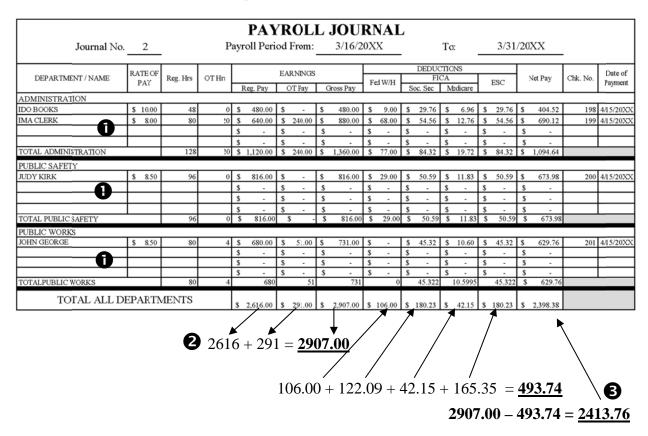


After all the information has been recorded in the payroll journal, the journal should be "closed." Below are instructions on how to close the journal.

## **Closing a Payroll Journal**

- 1. Total the amounts for each department if you haven't done so already. This sum shows how many hours were worked, how much pay was earned by the employees, how much was withheld, and how much was actually paid.
- 2. Add the totals of the regular and overtime earnings columns for all departments. This sum must equal the total of the gross pay column. This step is a test to make sure you have calculated gross pay correctly.
- 3. Subtract the totals of the deductions columns from the total of the gross pay column for all departments.

The result must equal the total of the net pay column. This test verifies that you have calculated net pay correctly.



## Step 6. Pay the Payroll Taxes: Make Deposits

The last step is to pay the taxes you owe and the employees' withheld taxes to the federal and state governments. The payroll journal is your basic source of information when figuring and paying federal and state taxes. Using the payroll journal, you can determine:

- The date the employee was paid, which determines the quarter in which the taxes are paid and reported to the federal and state governments;
- The amount of taxes withheld from employees' wages and paid to the IRS and the state;
- The date the employee was paid, which determines the quarter in which the taxes are paid and reported to the federal and state governments;
- The employer's contribution for Social Security, Medicare, and ES tax; and
- The municipal department(s) charged for payroll taxes.

# Federal Income Tax and EFTPS (Social Security and Medicare)

Federal income, Social Security, and Medicare taxes are paid to the federal government with the same check. Social Security and Medicare require equal payments from the employee and employer. To determine how much your community owes the federal government for withheld income tax, Social Security, and Medicare tax:

- > Total federal taxes withheld from employee wages
- Employee Social Security tax (Social security wages paid x 6.2%)
- Employer Social Security tax (Social security wages paid x 6.2%)
- Employee Medicare tax (Gross wages paid x 1.45%)
- Employer Medicare tax (Gross wages paid x 1.45%)

This sum is the amount you must pay the federal government. The IRS requires you to deposit the payments by using the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS). Make sure to check IRS Publication 15: Circular E at the beginning of each year to see if Social Security and Medicare rates and wage limits have changed). For information on how to use EFTPS, please use the information on the next page.

# Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS)

The EFTPS is a service from the U.S. Department of Treasury. This service is free and is a convenient way to make federal tax payments online or by telephone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Businesses can schedule payment through EFTPS up to 120 days in advance, once the payroll tax liability has been determined.

You will need to enroll, if your entity has not already done so, at <u>www.eftps.gov</u>. Here is a list of information that you will need to register on the EFTPS:

- Tax Payer Number : Employer Identification Number (EIN)
- Banking Information (Account Number and Routing Number)
- Name and Address as they appear on IRS tax documents

How to Enroll:

- 1. Go to <u>www.eftps.gov</u>
- 2. Click on the 'ENROLLMENT' tab
- 3. Follow all instructions and enter information where appropriate
- 4. Select either a Business, Individual, or Federal Agency
- 5. Submit
- 6. You will get a temporary password and a PIN will be sent to you via postal mail within seven business days.

You can also contact the EFTPS Customer Support for:

•	Business:	1-800-555-4477
•	Individual:	1-800-316-6541
•	Federal Agencies:	1-877-333-8292

There are other options such as: en Español, TDD, Batch providers, Financial Institution Employees, and a non-toll-free Number at the CONTACT US or at <u>https://www.eftps.gov/eftps/direct/ContactUs.page</u>

To make sure federal income and Social Security taxes are correct, use the *Federal Payroll Tax Liability Worksheet*.

Federal Payroll Tax Liability V Complete each time you issue pa		
for Pay Period Ending (PPE)		
Enter the total Social Security portion withheld from employees from your payroll journal: (4.2%)	¢ I	in a 1
Enter the total Social Security portion withheld from employers from ycur payroll journal: (6.2%)	=	ine 1
Enter the total Medicare Tax portion withheld from employees from your payroll journal:		ine 2 ine 3
Computation of Federal Tax Liability:	Ψ Ľ	
A. Total Social Security Tax: (Line 1 + Line 2)	\$ L	ine 4
B. Total Medicare Tax: Double the amount on Line 2 above.	\$ L	ine 5
<ul> <li>C. Enter the total federal income tax withheld from employees: (Use the total federal withholding taxes from your payroll journal for the pay <u>period.</u>)</li> </ul>	\$ L	ine 6
Total Federal payroll tax iability for this payroll: (Line 4 + Line 5 + Line 6 = Line 7)	\$ L	ine 7
EFTPS Receipt Date: Date	e EFPTS Paid:	
Note: When you make a deposit, be sure to write your EIN of payroll period involved	n the check (not the stub) and the	)
This takes care of your federal tax liability for this Pay Peri Federal Reserve <u>bank</u> via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT		r
Prepared by:	Date:	
Approved by:	Date:	

# Federal Payroll Tax Liability Worksheet Complete each time you issue payroll checks.

Enter the total Social Security portion of FICA withheld from employees from your payroll journal: (6.2%)	¢ 190.00	
Enter the total Social Security portion of FICA matching from employers from your payroll journal: (6.2%)	\$ <u>180.23</u> \$ 180.23	Line 1 Line 2
Enter the total Medicare Tax portion of FICA withheld from employees from your payroll journal:	\$ 42.15	Line 3
Computation of Federal Tax Liability:	φ	
<ul><li>A. Total Social Security Tax: (Line 1 + Line 2)</li></ul>	\$ <u> </u>	Line 4
B. Total Medicare Tax: Double the amount on Line 3 above.	\$ <u>84.30</u>	Line 5
C. Enter the total federal income tax withheld from employees: (Use the total federal withholding taxes from your payroll journal for the pay period.)	\$ <u>106.00</u>	Line 6
Total Federal payroll tax liability for this payroll: (Line 4 + Line 5 + Line 6 = Line 7)	\$550.77	Line 7
EFTPS Receipt Date: <u>3/1/XX</u> Date EFF	PTS Paid: <u>3/1/XX</u>	

Note: When you make a deposit, be sure to write your EIN on the check (not the stub) and the payroll period involved

This takes care of your federal tax liability for this Pay Period. Send the check to your Federal Reserve bank via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Prepared by: <u>Odo Books, Bookkeeper</u>
Approved by: James R. Williams, Mayor

Date: <u>3/1/XX</u>

Date: 3/1/XX

After you have determined what is owed for federal income tax and FICA, pay what you owe. Your payment schedule depends on the amount of undeposited payroll taxes due. The federal government requires an employer to deposit funds to a qualified bank once the taxes exceed a certain amount. Failure to do so results in fines and penalties. Determining when payroll taxes must be deposited can be complicated.

# DCCED recommends that you pay the payroll taxes each time you issue the paychecks.

# **Payroll Tax Deposit Schedules**

Two deposit schedules – monthly or semiweekly – are used for determining when you deposit federal employment and withholding taxes (other than FUTA taxes). The IRS will notify you each November whether you are a monthly or semiweekly depositor for the coming calendar year. The rules apply to Social Security and Medicare taxes and federal income tax withheld on wages, tips, and sick pay. Your deposit schedule for a calendar year is determined from the total taxes you reported on Form 941 in a four-quarter, look-back period: July 1 through June 30. If you reported \$50,000 or less of employment taxes for the look-back period, you are a monthly depositor; if you reported more than \$50,000, you are a semiweekly depositor.

- Under the monthly rule, employment and other taxes withheld on payments made during a calendar month must be deposited by the 15th day of the following month.
- Under the semiweekly rule, employment and other taxes withheld on payments made on Wednesday, Thursday, and/or Friday must be deposited

by the following Wednesday. Amounts accumulated on payments made on Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and/or Tuesday must be deposited by the following Friday.

Payroll Day	Deposit by Day
Wednesday, Thursday, or	Following
Friday	Wednesday
Saturday, Sunday, Monday,	Following
Tuesday	Friday

If you are a new employer during the first calendar year of your business, your tax liability for each quarter in the look-back period is considered to be zero. Therefore, you are a monthly depositor for the first year of business. Refer to *Circular E* for more information.

In this example, the City of Pacific chose to pay its federal payroll taxes with six checks during the quarter instead of one check at the end of the quarter. The six checks were as follows:

Pay Period	Wages	Fed. Payroll Tax	Check Mailed
01/01 - 01/15	2,868.00	555.82	2/1
01/16-01/31	3,327.00	650.04	2/16
02/01 - 02/15	2,936.00	552.24	3/1
02/16-02/28	2,732.00	506.99	3/16
03/1-03/15	2,936.00	552.24	4/1
03/16-03/31	2,856.00	542.96	4/16
Totals	\$17,655.00	\$3,360.29	

# Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return (Form 941)

Regardless of when deposits are made, an Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return, Form 941, is filled out at the end of every three months. Use Form 941 to report deposits made for federal income tax withheld and FICA taxes. If you deposited the taxes owed semimonthly, weekly, or after each pay period, Form 941 shows the amount of the total federal tax deposits made that quarter. This total is the sum of all the deposits you made after each payroll.

- ✓ DCCED recommends that you pay your taxes at the end of each pay period to avoid running short of cash.
- ✓ Paying taxes when you write payroll checks prevents you from making late tax deposits.
- ✓ If taxes are not paid on time, the IRS will levy interest and penalties.

The purpose of the Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return, Form 941, is to show the IRS how taxes were calculated. See example on the next page.

### Chapter 3

### Payroll Handbook

Form (Rev. Ja	941 for 2013: Employe	er's QUARTERL	Y Federal	Tax Return	<b>95013</b> OMB No. 1545-0029
Emplo	oyer identification number (EIN)				eport for this Quarter of 2013 neck one.)
Nam	e (noi your trade name)				1: January, February, March
Trad	e name (if any)				2: April, May, June 3: July, August, September
Addr	ess				4: October, November, December
	Number Street		Suite or room num	Inst	ructions and prior year forms are ilable at www.irs.gov/form941.
Read t	City the separate instructions before you com	State Solete Form 941. Type or	ZIP code print within the bo	oxes.	
Part	1: Answer these questions for this	quarter.			
1	Number of employees who received v including: <i>Mar. 12</i> (Quarter 1), <i>June 12</i>	• • • •			1
2	Wages, tips, and other compensation				2
3	Income tax withheld from wages, tips	and other compensat	ion		3
·					
4	If no wages, tips, and other compens		ial security or N		Check and go to line 6.
-		Column 1		Column 2	-
5a	Taxable social security wages	•	× .124 =	•	=
5b	Taxable social security tips	•	] × .124 =		
5c 5d	Taxable Medicare wages & tips Taxable wages & tips subject to	•	] × .029 =		
Ju	Additional Medicare Tax withholding	•	× .009 =		
5e	Add Column 2 from lines 5a, 5b, 5c, a	nd 5d		5	
5f	Section 3121(q) Notice and Demand-	Tax due on unreported	I tips (see instruc	tions) 5	if
6	Total taxes before adjustments (add I	nes 3, 5e, and 5f)		(	6
7	Current quarter's adjustment for frac	tions of cents		:	7
8	Current quarter's adjustment for sick	рау		4	B
9	Cuirent quarter's adjustments for tips	and group-term life ins	urance		9
10	Total taxes after adjustments. Combin	ne lines 6 through 9 .		1	•
11	Total deposits for this quarter, inclu overpayment applied from Form 941-	• • • • • •			1
12a	COBRA premium assistance paymen	ts (see instructions) .		1	2a
12b	Number of individuals provided COBI	RA premium assistance			
13	Add lines 11 and 12a			1	3
14	Balance due. If line 10 is more than line	13, enter the difference	and see instruction	ons 1	4
15	Overpayment. If line 13 is more than line	10, enter the difference		Check one	Apply to next return. Send a refund.
	ou NUST complete both pages of Form ivacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act		ne Payment Vouc	her. Cat. No.	. 17001Z Form <b>941</b> (Rev. 1-2013)

# Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA)

### Remember, cities and boroughs don't pay FUTA tax. Tribal Councils don't pay FUTA tax <u>if they are current with ESC</u>. This discussion is for unincorporated, non-tribal communities.

Some employers (see above) pay both a federal (FUTA) and state (ESC, SUI, or SUTA) unemployment tax. FUTA is a tax that supports unemployment benefits to workers. **It's paid by the employer only**. Before July 1, 2011, the tax rate was 6.2%. As of July 1, 2011 the FUTA tax rate will be decreased to 6.0%. The tax applies to the first \$7,000 you pay each employee for the year. This \$7,000 is the federal wage base. If you made timely payments of the state unemployment tax, you are given a credit of up to 5.4% on FUTA, and the federal rate is 0.8% of the gross wages after that credit.

To determine the amount of FUTA taxes:

- 1. Examine the pay record of each employee.
- 2. Look at the year-to-date gross amount earned at the <u>beginning</u> of each quarter for the employee. If this amount is greater than the wage limit (\$7,000), you don't need to pay FUTA taxes for the quarter on this employee.
- 3. If the year-to-date gross wages earned at the beginning of the quarter are less than the wage limit, but the amount at the end of the quarter is more than the limit, tax is paid only on the difference between the wage limit (\$7,000) and the total earnings for the tax year <u>at the beginning</u> of the quarter.
- 4. Multiply the amount of FUTA taxable earnings for the quarter by the tax rate and record the amount. The total FUTA tax for all employees is the amount owed by the employer to the IRS.

Form 8109, Federal Tax Deposit Coupon, is used to deposit FUTA taxes. When preparing the form, black out the 940 circle in the "type of tax" portion of the coupon to deposit FUTA taxes. FUTA deposits are made at the end of a quarter when the total FUTA tax liability is \$100 or more. Send FUTA deposits to a bank qualified to receive the payments, using Form 8109 or 8109-B. FUTA reports are made once a year. If you have paid all of your state ESC taxes for the year, you may use Form 940-EZ. If you haven't paid all of your state ESC taxes, you must use Form 940.

# Employment Security Contributions (ESC)

Like FUTA, ESC is unemployment insurance. However, ESC supports state unemployment benefits.

*Note:* The employee pay record and the payroll journal <u>don't</u> have columns for FUTA. FUTA is paid <u>only</u> by employers. Don't withhold any money from employees for FUTA taxes.

# All employers must pay ESC

Employers must report ESC taxes quarterly. ESC payments are made at least quarterly but may be paid more frequently. ESC payments include the ESC tax withheld from the employee's paychecks plus an employer's contribution. The rate for all Alaska employees is set each year.

The rate paid by an employer depends on the "experience rate," which is based on the "quarterly decline quotient" and takes the employer's quarterly payroll history into account. Check your **Contribution Rate Notice**. The Alaska DOLWD sends this notice each December to employers and notifies the employer of the rate the employer must pay. In the example shown on the experience rate used is. 0494 (or 4.94%). <u>Your experience rate may be different.</u>

As with FUTA and FICA, a limit applies to the amount of an employee's earnings taxed under ESC. The 2012 gross wage limit is \$37,400. To check current limits contact the Alaska DOLWD Employment Security Division or see their web site at <u>http://www.labor.state.ak.us/estax/faq/w1.htm</u>

Once gross wages exceed the limit, no more payments for ESC are required of the employee or employer. However, <u>the employer is still required to file a report each</u> <u>quarter.</u>

Contact the nearest Field Tax Office for information on exempt employees and casual labor.

Use the State Payroll Tax Liability Worksheet on the next page to make sure that your calculations are correct. For more information, you may refer to the Alaska Unemployment Insurance Tax Handbook online at <a href="http://www.labor.state.ak.us/estax/forms/taxbook.pdf">http://www.labor.state.ak.us/estax/forms/taxbook.pdf</a>

State ESC Tax Liabi	lity Worksheet	
Payroll Period:	Payroll Journal No.:	
Gross Wages of Employees:	_	
A. Total Employees ESC (Gross Wages times 0.66%)		
(x 0.066)		\$
<b>B.</b> Total Employees ESC (Gross Wages times Experience Rate Perce	ent)	
( x	)	\$
Total ESC Liability (A+B)		\$

In the example below, the experience rate is 4.94%. <u>*Your experience rate may be different.*</u>

State ESC Tax Liability	Worksheet
Payroll Period:5/31/XX	Payroll Journal No.: 2
Gross Wages of Employees: <u>\$2,856.00</u>	
C. Total Employees ESC (Gross Wages times 0.66%)	
( <u>\$3000.50</u> x 0.066)	\$198.03
<ul><li>D. Total Employees ESC (Gross Wages times Experience Rate Percent)</li></ul>	
( <u>\$3000.50</u> x <u>0.0494</u> )	\$148.23
Total ESC Liability (A + B)	\$346.23

The employer is responsible for completing and sending an Alaska Quarterly Contribution Report to the DOLWD, Employment Security Division. (The current version is found at (<u>http://labor.alaska.gov/estax/forms/toc\_forms.htm</u>). This quarterly report shows the amount of ESC taxes required from the employer and the employee.

The report is due on April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31 of each year. Payments are required no later than these dates for the preceding three months but may be made more frequently. Some communities have problems with cash flow and can't make quarterly payments. These communities should pay ESC taxes each time payroll is calculated to avoid not having sufficient money to pay the DOLWD at the end of each quarter.

# DCCED recommends you pay your ESC taxes each time you issue payroll checks if you have a cash flow problem.

A community that wants to make ESC tax payments for each payroll should contact the Fairbanks Field Tax Office of the DOL at 1-907-451-2876, to notify DOL that the community will be sending multiple payments for each quarter.

Write the community's Alaska Employer Identification Number (AEIN) on the check and send a letter with the check explaining the payment.

Send the payment to the Fairbanks or Juneau Field Tax Office. The Quarterly Report must be sent to Juneau or filed electronically at: <u>www.labor.state.ak.us/estax</u>.

	er ending:	HE 2014 TAXABLE WAGE B Due date:	ASE FOR EA		E IS \$37,4 mployer acc		:	
							none ente	r "0"
FEIN	:			th month, repor who worked d		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>rd</sup>	30
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			which incl	udes the 12th of	the month.			
			2. Total re	portable wages (	vaid this			
				(See Instructions		\$		
				ess wages over t	ne taxable			
			wage ba	6ē.		(\$		)
			4. Taxable	wages paid this o	uarter.	\$		
A	out must be filed ou	en if no wages are paid			Employer's rate	<u> </u>		_
	he quarter.	en in no wages are paid	5. Employe	r's contribution	%	\$		
					Empkyee's			
You	may now file your qu	uarterly contribution it our web site located	6. Employe	e's contribution	Rate	\$		
	rt online. Please visi ww.labor.state.ak.u				.62%	<b> </b>		
888.	448.3527. To amend	your quarterly Correction of Wage	7. Total contributions due		%	\$		
	," Form TADJ also a		8. Amount remitted					
Notic	ce to employers: Wan	einformation and other	6. Amount remitted			\$		
confi	dential UC information	may be requested and	9. Wages	reported to other	states' See			
	ed for other authorized ding, but not limited to	dgovernmental purposes,		ions explaining th		🗆 ۲	es	
1	10. Employee's	11. Employee's name - type		12. Reportabl		13. Full		14.
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**NOTE**: In the example below, the experience rate used is 4.94%. Your experience rate may be different. Check your **Rate Contribution Notice.** This notice is sent yearly to employers from the Alaska DOL.

### ESC Payment for Pay Period 1/1/XX through 1/15/XX

City of Pacific P.O. Box 423 Pacifica, AK 99909

June 1, 20XX

Department of Labor Fairbanks Field Tax Office 675 Seventh Ave. Station L Fairbanks, AK 99701-2876

RE: Employer Account No. 0008914465

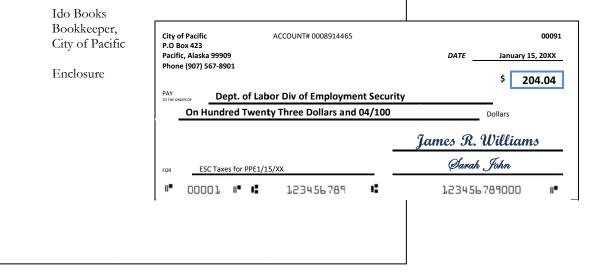
Dear: DOL

Enclosed is the City of Pacific' ESC tax payment for Pay Period Ending 05/31/XX.

Please credit out account for \$204.04 (check # 091). Thank You.

Sincerely,

Ido Books



Notes

**End of the Quarter:** Complete the Employer's Quarterly Report and include a check of \$155.37 for the final pay period (3/16/14 through 3/31/14).

The quarterly ESC report and payment would be mailed to the Juneau office on April 15, 2010. See the next page.

### **Example** of the Employer's Quarterly Report for 6/30/2012 – 07/30/2012. *Rates and figures will be different on you report.*

2 Due Date: 7	/30/12	CH EMPLOYEE I	IS \$ 35,800. oyer Account	No: 00	008914	1465	
			1		None ente	r "0"	
FEIN: 92-0100623			<ol> <li>For each month, report the number of workers who worked during or received pay for the payroll period.</li> </ol>			3 <sup>rd</sup> Month	
				4	4	4	
				\$ 1	17,655	.00	
AGENCY USE ONLY			3. Less excess wages over the taxable wage base.				
	4. Taxa	ible wages paid this o	luarter.	ș 1	17,655	.00	
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	5. Emp	loyer's Contribution	%	\$			
	6. Emp	loyee's Contribution	Employee's Rate	\$	116	.56	
<u>ww.labor.state.ak.us/estax</u> or call 888-448-3527. To amend your quarterly report, ease submit a "Correction of Wage Item", Form		7. Total Contributions Due Total Rate 5.6 %		\$ 995.75		.75	
[AD] also available on-line. Notice to Employers: Wage information and other			8. Amount Remitted			\$ 123.59	
ed governmental purposes, to, verification of an				C Yes	5		
		*See Are	a Map for Ge			Codes	
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Amount Remitted       \$ 123         9. Wages Reported to other states? See instructions of an on wage paid this quarter.       \$ Wages Reported to other states? See instructions of an on the states? See instructions of an on on on the states? See instructions of an on the states?	

Alaska Department of Labor & Workford Development, Employment Security Tax, PO Box 115506, Juneau, AK 99811-5506

TQ01C (11/11)

# \* Remember \*

Quarterly Reports are due each year on:

- *April 30*
- July 31
- October 31
- January 31

FOR	ESC Tax	es for PPE 5/3	1/XX		Qarah John	
					James R. U	Villiams
-	On Hund	red Twent	y Three Dollars and	59/100		Dollars
PAY TO THE ORDE	R OF DE	ept. of Lab	or Div of Employme	nt Secur	rity	
Phone	(907) 567-89	901				\$ 123.59
	, Alaska 999				DATE	June 1, 20XX
•	Pacific		ACCOUNT# 0008914465			0010

# Year-End Reports

By January 31, you must give or send each employee a wage and tax statement, called a W-2 form. By February 28, you must send originals of all the W-2s under the cover of a W-3 to the Social Security Administration. Each December, the W-2s and W-3s for the current year are available from the IRS, at 800-829-3676 or online: <u>http://www.ssa.gov/employer/pub.htm</u>.

All employers must report the following information to the employee and the Social Security Administration using the W-2:

- $\checkmark$  The gross salary;
- ✓ Total deductions for FICA (Social Security and Medicare), and
- $\checkmark$  Federal taxes withheld.

Information for completing the W-2 comes from each employee's pay record.

55555	a Employee's social security number 123-45-5789	OMB No. 1545-0008			
Employer Identification number	(EIN)	1 Wa	ages, tips, other compensation 55000.00	2 Federal Income tax withheld 7812.00	
Employer's name, address, and Nowhere Tribe			3 Social security wages 4 Social secur 50000.00		
123 Main Stre	eet	5 M	edicare wages and tips 50000.00	6 Medicare tax withheld 725.00	
Nowhere, Alas	ska 99999–9123	7 So	7 Social security tips 8 Allocated tips		
Control number		9		10 Dependent care benefits	
Employee's inst name and initia Sara A. Lee 321 North L Nowhere, Al	13 star 14 Ott Re		12c		
5 State Employer's state ID nur	mber 16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State income tax	18 Local wages, tips, etc.	19 Local income tax 20 Locality nam	

### **Payments from Retirement Plans to Retired Employees**

Pension, annuity, or retirement payments made to former employees by the employer are reported on Form W-2P. These payments do not have to be reported by small communities participating in Social Security as their only retirement program.

## Form W-3

Form W-3 transmits W-2 forms to the Social Security Administration. Send form W-3 and the W-2 forms on or before February 28 to:

Social Security Administration Data Operations Center Wilkes-Barre, PA 18769-0001

You need to be sure your figures are correct before filing the fourth quarter 941 (Quarterly Federal Tax Return) and sending the W-2s and W-3 to the Social Security Administration. When the Social Security Administration receives the W-2s and W-3, it will compare the figures on the 941s, W-2s, and W-3 for the year. Use the following form to reconcile the returns.

Reconciling Forms 941, W-2, and W-3						
	941 Line #	941 All 4 Qtrs.	W-2 and W-3 Box #	W-2 Total all forms	W-3	
Wages	Line 2		Box 1			
Fed Inc Tax	Line 3		Box 2			
SS Wages	Line 6a		Box 3			
SS Tips	Line 6c		Box 7			
SS Tax	Line 6b & 6d					
	Line 6b & 6d Divided by 2		Box 4			
Med Wages	Line 7		Box 5			
Med Tax	Line 7b					
	Line 7b Divided by 2		Box 6			

# This is an example of a W-3 form for the year 2014. Be sure to use the correct year's W-3 form.

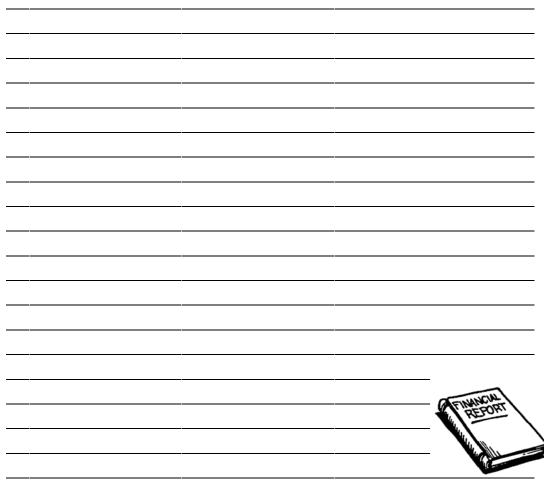
		a ferrar an		DO NOT ST			
33333	a Control num	nber	For Official Us OMB No. 1545				
b Kind of Payer (Check one) c Total rumber of	941 CT-1 Def Forme W-2	Military 943 Hshld. Medicare emp. govt.eng	).	Kind of Employer (Check one)	None apply	501c ron-govt.	Third-party sick pay (Check if applicable
C Total number o	DI FOITIIS W-2		Inder	Twages, ups, c	uner compensation	2 rederal income tax with	ineid
e Employer ident	tification number (	EIN)		3 Social securit	/ wages	4 Social security tax with	held
f Employer's nar	me			5 Medicare wag	es and tips	6 Medicare tax withheld	
				7 Social security	/ tips	8 Allocated tips	
				9		10 Dependent care benefits	S
e Employer's ad	dress and ZIP cod	le .		11 Nonqualified p	lans	12a Deferred compensation	n
h Other EIN used		-		13 For third-party	sick pay use only	12b	
15 State Em	nployer's state ID r	number		14 Income tax wi	hheld by payer of th	rd-party sck pay	
16 State wages, t	tips, etc.	17 State income ta	×	18 Local wages,	ips, etc.	19 Local income tax	
Employer's co	ntact person	I		Employer's te	ephone number	For Official Use Only	
Employer's fax	k number			Employer's en	ail address		
Under peralties of	f perjury, I declare	that I have examined	this return and a	accompanying doo	uments and, to the t	est of my knowledge and belief, they	are true, correct, and
complete. Signature ►				10000			
				Title 🕨		Date 🕨	
W-3	Transmi	ittal of Wa	e and Ta	Title >	ents C		rtment of the Treasury
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### What's Next?

Once you've calculated payroll costs and paid your taxes, enter the information in your bookkeeping system. The information in the payroll journal on employee wages, deductions, and employer taxes is reported in the cash disbursements journal. The payroll journal is also used for monthly financial reports and annual balance statements.

If your community doesn't have an adequate record keeping system to report payroll and tax information, contact your nearest regional office of the DCCED (provided in the front of this book).



# NOTES

# Chapter 3 Review Payroll Calculations and Reporting

- **1. True or False**: Municipalities in Alaska must pay hourly workers at least the federal minimum wage.
- **2. True or False**: Non-municipal employers in Alaska must pay hourly workers at least the Alaska minimum wage.
- **3. True or False**: An hourly worker who works over eight hours a day is entitled to 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> times the usual wage rate of pay. (Hint: Check FLSA)
- **4. True or False**: Non-municipal employers and employees pay both Social Security and Medicare taxes under FICA.
- 5. True or False: Employers must report ESC taxes monthly.
- **6.** The following taxes, at a minimum, must be calculated for hourly employees of: (Check all that apply)

### **Municipalities**

- □ ESC
- □ FICA
- □ FUTA
- □ Federal Income Tax
- □ Medicare

### **Other employers**

- □ ESC
- □ FICA
- □ FUTA
- □ Federal Income Tax
- □ Medicare

# NOTES


# Chapter 3 Review Payroll Calculations and Reporting: Answers

- **1.** [*True*]
- **2**. [*True*]
- 3. [True] In most cases
- **4**. [*True*]
- 5. [False] Quarterly reports are required
- **6**. The following taxes, at a minimum, must be calculated for hourly employees of: (Check all that apply)

### Municipalities

☑ ESC/EST

☑ FICA	Other than the Medicare portion, FICA is an option if the
	municipality is in a retirement program.

- □ FUTA Municipalities are exempt from FUTA. Tribes are exempt <u>if they are current</u> with ESC payments.
- ☑ Federal Income Tax
- ☑ Medicare If employee is hired after March 31, 1986.

Other employers

- ☑ ESC
- ☑ FICA
- ☑ FUTA (unless Tribal government and current with ESC)
- ☑ Federal Income Tax
- ☑ Medicare