

CALIFORNIA EMPLOYER

Second Quarter 2008

Recently Revised Personal Income Tax Withholding Schedules

The Franchise Tax Board has revised 15 pages of the Personal Income Tax (PIT) schedules for the Method A Single and Married Persons.

The 2008 PIT withholding schedules have been revised from the information contained in the official 2008 California Employers' Guide. Errors appeared in some withholding ranges provided by the Franchise Tax Board and amount to slight under-withholding for some employees.

The schedules have now been updated

and reflect the correct amount of PIT that should be withheld in each bracket of income at the time of the employee's payroll.

Employers should use these revised withholding schedules with their next payroll. This will minimize any potential tax liability employees may face next year when they file their 2008 state personal income tax return.

You can download the revised schedules at: www.edd.ca.gov/taxrep/08metharev2.pdf.

New Benefit to Paying Deposits by Credit Card!

Paying your Payroll Tax Deposit (DE 88) by credit card is now easier than ever.

EDD's credit card service program now offers employers the convenience of scheduling future payments.

This new automated feature enables the scheduling of payments, both on a one-time and recurring basis, up to 12 months



in advance. Once a payment is set up, no further action is required and your payments will be made on time, every time through our secure system. You can receive e-mail notification of upcoming payments and confirmation e-mails once each payment has been processed.

For more information about this new service please contact Official Payments Corporations (OPC) toll-free at 1-800-487-4567 or visit the OPC web site at www.officialpayments.com.

Seminars Offer Valuable Tax Help

We offer free seminars to help you understand and comply with California payroll tax laws. Our seminars are customized to benefit new employers, established businesses, bookkeepers, and payroll agents.

Some seminar dates and locations are shown below. To view a complete list or to register for a seminar, visit our Web site at www.edd.ca.gov/taxsem or call our Taxpayer Assistance Center at (888) 745-3886.

Employee or Independent Contractor Tax Seminars include the factors that determine whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor plus the basics of statutory employment.

- Daly City 7-09-08
- Fremont 7-16-08
- Oakland 7-02-08
- Oakland 9-24-08
- Sacramento 7-29-08
- Sacramento 8-21-08
- San Francisco 8-21-08
- Victorville 6-24-08

How to Manage Unemployment Insurance Costs Seminars cover how Unemployment Insurance (UI) rates are calculated, how to reply to UI notices, and what you can do as an employer to minimize your UI costs.

- Daly City 7-16-08
- Mountain View 9-11-08
- Oakland 7-23-08
- San Jose 7-10-08
- San Rafael 8-27-08
- Sunnyvale 8-12-08

State Payroll Tax Workshops provide information on how to calculate taxes and complete payroll tax forms.

- Los Angeles 6-26-08
- Oakland 7-16-08
- Redwood City 7-22-08
- Sacramento 6-18-08
- Sacramento 7-08-08
- Sacramento (Mather) 8-20-08
- Salinas 6-19-08
- Torrance 7-24-08

Employment Status Course Is Available on Internet, CD

Want to learn more about the basics of classifying workers as employees or independent contractors, but don't have time to attend a classroom seminar? Our Web-based classes are designed for you!

The Taxpayer Education and Assistance Program offers an e-Learning course on the subject of Employment Status.

The course, available in both English and Spanish, explains common and statutory law as it is applied by the Employment Development Department (EDD) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and discusses resources to assist employers in properly classifying

workers as either employees or independent contractors.

You can access the course on the Internet at <http://www.edd.ca.gov/taxrep/taxwebsem.htm>. The Web site indicates the computer system requirements to view the Web-based seminar.

The course takes about 1.5 hours to complete. However, you can view a portion of the seminar and return later to view other sections or to review information.

No Internet access? Order a free compact disc (CD) of the Employment Status seminar in English or Spanish by calling Diane Best at (916) 464-3518.

State Board of Equalization (BOE) Fees

Do you have 10 or more employees who were each employed 160 hours or more in the calendar year? Are you an employer in an industry category that has been identified as having potential for occupational lead poisoning? If so, you may have to register with the Board of Equalization (BOE) and file occupational lead poisoning prevention fee returns. See BOE publication 94, *Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee*, for additional information: www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub94.pdf.

Do you have 50 or more employees that were each employed more than 500 hours in the calendar year? If your answer is yes, then you may have to register with BOE and file environmental fee returns. For additional information, see BOE publication 90, *Environmental Fee*, online at www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub90.pdf

For more information, contact:
 Environmental Fees Division MIC:57
 State Board of Equalization
 PO Box 942879
 Sacramento, CA 94279-0057

Web Site Offers Child Support Information for Employers

Working in partnership with employers, the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) helps provide vital financial and medical support to almost two million children and their families. Nearly 65% of child support payments are collected by employers, through wage withholding.

Employers are required to submit all child support wage withholding payments to the California State Disbursement Unit (SDU). The SDU provides a single payment address, streamlined wage assignment processing, and rapid payment to child support recipients.

Employers are encouraged to visit the new Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) Employer Resource Center, a Web site devoted to employer/child support issues.

Go to <http://www.childsup.ca.gov/> and click on the Employer tab. At the Employer Resource Center, employers can:

- Open an electronic payment account.
- Make child support wage withholding payments by EFT/EDI or credit card.
- Combine multiple payments into a single transaction.
- Sign up for E-Update, to automatically receive news and tips.

Still have questions? Go to the DSS Web site Employer page and click "contact DCSS," or call 1-866-325-1010.

Help Getting Your Tax Problem Resolved

Are you unable to resolve a tax problem with the Internal Revenue Service or a California taxing agency? If you have tried working through the agency's normal resolution channels and you need help unraveling your tax problem, the agency's Taxpayer Advocate may be able to help you.

The taxpayer advocate can help when there is a breakdown in tax processing or communication. The advocate ensures your rights are protected and provides an independent, impartial, and confidential review of your unresolved tax problems. The contact information for the taxpayer advocate for each agency and general inquiry toll free numbers are listed below.

Tax	Contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sales and Use Taxes • Property Taxes • Special Taxes and Fees 	<p>Board of Equalization Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office P.O. Box 942879 MIC 70 Sacramento, CA 94279-0070 Web site: www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra.htm Advocate's Office: 888-324-2798 BOE Information Center: 800-400-7115</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Taxes • Unemployment Insurance • Employment Training Tax • State Disability Insurance • State Personal Income Tax Withholding 	<p>Employment Development Department Taxpayer Advocate Office P.O. Box 826880, MIC 93 Sacramento, CA 94280-0001 Web site: www.edd.ca.gov/taxrep/taxetpro.htm Advocate's Office: 866-594-4177 Taxpayer Assistance: 888-745-3886</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Income Taxes • Bank Tax • Franchise Tax • Corporation Income Tax 	<p>Franchise Tax Board Taxpayer Advocate Bureau P.O. Box 157 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-0157 Web site: www.ftb.ca.gov/aboutFTB/taxpayer_advocate/index.shtml Advocate's Office: 800-883-5910 Taxpayer Services: 800-852-5711</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Taxes • Employment Taxes • Corporate Tax • Partnership Tax • Estate Tax • Nonprofit and Charitable Organization Tax 	<p>Internal Revenue Service (IRS) To find the appropriate taxpayer advocate, see the IRS Web site or call: Web site: www.irs.gov/advocate Advocate's Office: 877-777-4778 IRS Business Tax help 800-829-4933</p>



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