



**GUIDE FOR CONTROLLERS  
2014/2015**



WeiserMazars LLP is an independent member firm of Mazars Group.



A C C O U N T I N G | T A X | A D V I S O R Y

---

Controllers are presented with many tasks at the end of the calendar year. This guide provides guidance, reminders, and tips about certain responsibilities that will need your attention in the next few weeks, and includes an update of rates and limits for 2015. Items covered include:

**I. W-2s AND YEAR-END PAYROLL ADJUSTMENTS**

**II. INFORMATION RETURNS**

**III. WITHHOLDING ON NON-EMPLOYEE PAYMENTS**

**IV. THE NEW YEAR**

**V. STATE ISSUES**

**VI. OTHER**

The members of WeiserMazars LLP's Entrepreneurial Business Group are available to assist you in meeting your year-end compliance and reporting requirements.

# W-2S AND YEAR-END PAYROLL ADJUSTMENTS

W-2 forms must be distributed to your employees by February 2, 2015. Before processing W-2s, the following steps should be taken:

- Notify your payroll service in writing to keep your 2014 payroll file open for adjustments, including manual checks and voids, taxable fringe benefits, and third-party sick pay.
- Many payroll services can provide a W-2 draft report, which should be reviewed before the W-2s are finalized. This step will eliminate the need for incurring expenses for the revision of incorrect W-2s, and/or filing of amended W-2s.
- Report any manual payroll checks, voided checks, etc. to your payroll service before your last December payroll, or before the closing date for adjustments as agreed to by your service. Unreported adjustments will result in the need for W-2cs, extra charges from your payroll service, and, probably, penalties for late payment of taxes.
- Review your bank reconciliations and your general ledger net payroll account to make sure that all adjustments have been reported.
- If you have a 401(k) plan, premium only plan, or other plans administered by your payroll service, review the coding of your employees so that the appropriate testing can be performed by the service to avoid disqualification of the plan.
- Before distributing W-2 forms to employees, reconcile the totals to your general ledger and to the quarterly 941 returns that were filed for the year.

Paper W-2s must be filed with the Social Security Administration by March 2, 2015. W-2 forms can be filed electronically with the Social Security Administration online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/employer](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/employer). If you are filing 250 or more returns, they **must** be filed electronically using specialized software. The due date for electronically filed returns is March 31, 2015.

# COMMON PAYROLL ADJUSTMENTS

The following is a brief summary of some of the items that are taxable to employees in addition to wages and salaries.

## THIRD-PARTY SICK PAY

Sick pay or disability payments made to your employees by your insurance carrier are includible as compensation on the W-2. Such payments, particularly those made in the 4th quarter, will not be reported to you by the insurance carrier until sometime in January. You should determine if your disability insurance carrier is responsible for filing a separate W-2 for sick pay. If not, it is important that you inform your payroll service to keep 2014 open for adjustments.

## EMPLOYEE BUSINESS EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

If you have an accountable plan (where your employees must give an accounting to you and substantiate their expenses), do not report any reimbursement to your payroll service. However, if you make payments for expenses to your employees and they **do not** account to you or substantiate their expenses, then you **must** include those payments as wages, subject to all taxes.

## TAXABLE PREMIUMS ON EXCESS GROUP LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Each employee who is covered for more than \$50,000 of group term insurance must be taxed on the value of the excess coverage. Report the cost in boxes 1, 3, and 5 of form W-2, and in Box 12 with "Code C". This benefit is subject to FICA and Medicare tax, but not income tax withholding. The amount to be included is calculated based on the age of the employee, the amount of coverage, and the cost in accordance with this table published by the IRS:

Age	Cost per \$1,000 of Protection per Month
Under 25	\$0.05
25 to 29	\$0.06
30 to 34	\$0.08
35 to 39	\$0.09
40 to 44	\$0.10
45 to 49	\$0.15
50 to 54	\$0.23
55 to 59	\$0.43
60 to 64	\$0.66
65 to 69	\$1.27
70 and above	\$2.06

## YEAR-END BONUS PAYMENTS

Notify your payroll service if you want an additional bonus payroll set up. Advise your employees that taxes must be withheld. Several of our clients have had withholding tax audits, and one of the areas being audited is bonus payments. You could be subject to penalties and/or interest if the proper taxes are not withheld. This applies to State and City withholding as well as Federal.

For 2014, the optional flat rates for withholding on supplemental payments including bonuses are:

<b>Federal</b>	<b>25.00% (except amounts over \$1,000,000, which are subject to 39.6% withholding)</b>
<b>Connecticut</b>	No optional flat rate, use regular rate
<b>New York State</b>	9.62%
<b>New York City Resident</b>	4.25%
<b>Yonkers Resident</b>	1.84704%
<b>Yonkers Nonresident</b>	.5%
<b>New Jersey</b>	No optional flat rate, use regular rate
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	3.07%
<b>Illinois</b>	5%

## FUTA TAX RATE

The FUTA tax rate is 6.0%. This results in a net FUTA tax rate of 0.6%.

Some states take Federal unemployment trust fund loans from the federal government. The United States Department of Labor determines which states have not repaid money borrowed from the federal government to pay unemployment benefits. These states are considered “credit reduction states” and are required to pay additional Federal unemployment tax when filing an annual Form 940 return.

For 2014, the following states have been determined to be credit reduction states. The Form 940 Schedule A will list all the states subject to this additional tax which can vary from year to year.

State	2014 Credit Reduction
<b>California</b>	1.8%
<b>Connecticut</b>	2.3%
<b>Indiana</b>	2.1%
<b>Kentucky</b>	1.8%
<b>New York</b>	1.8%
<b>North Carolina</b>	1.8%
<b>Ohio</b>	1.8%
<b>Virgin Islands</b>	1.8%

## CHIPRA NOTICE

The Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 requires that employers must notify individuals of their rights to obtain premium assistance for coverage for children. A model notice is available at [www.dol.gov/ebsa/pdf/chipmodelnotice.pdf](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/pdf/chipmodelnotice.pdf).

## EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Employer-provided education assistance program payments up to \$5,250 are not subject to tax (IRS Code Sec 127). Amounts in excess of \$5,250 per year must be included as taxable wages, unless the expenses are considered to be working condition benefits, i.e. the employee would have been able to deduct the cost if he or she had paid for it. Payments for business training under an accountable plan are not required to be reported on Form W-2.

---

## TAXABLE FRINGE BENEFITS

Be sure to report to your payroll processor any includible amounts, such as the value of personal expenses advanced by the company such as personal auto usage, travel for family members, meals and entertainment, and professional fees. Employees who use company vehicles are required to keep records that substantiate their business usage of such vehicles. Expenses reimbursed under a non-accountable plan must be included in the employee's income.

## NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLANS

All amounts deferred under a nonqualified deferred compensation plan are currently includible in gross income unless certain requirements are satisfied (Code Section 409A). Such deferrals are reported on form W-2 in box 1 and in box 12 using Code Z (income amount). Code Y (deferral amount) is not required to be reported on Form W-2.

## OTHER REPORTABLE AMOUNTS

If you have any special situations, including adoption benefits, Medical Savings Accounts, moving expenses, outplacement benefits, or employee business expense reimbursements under a non-accountable plan, contact us to discuss proper treatments.

# INFORMATION RETURNS

Many payments made in the ordinary course of business must be reported to the IRS, generally on 1099 series forms. Not-for-profit organizations are also considered to be engaged in a trade or business, and are subject to reporting requirements. 1099 forms must be distributed to the recipients by February 2, 2015, but the due date for furnishing Form 1099-MISC (and certain other 1099 forms) is February 17, 2015 if you are reporting payments in Boxes 8 or 14. Forms must be filed with the IRS by March 2, 2015 (March 31, 2015 for electronically filed forms).

Failure to file correct information returns by the due date can result in penalties of up to \$100 per information return, with a maximum of up to \$1,500,000 (\$500,000 for small businesses with average annual gross receipts for the three most recent tax years of under \$5,000,000). In addition, in order to claim a safe harbor exemption regarding independent contractors, form 1099-MISC must have been

filed and in IRS audits, the agents typically ask to see 1099-MISC forms.

Payee identification numbers can be truncated on certain paper payee statements, but not on any forms filed with the IRS or state and local governments, or on any payee statement furnished electronically.

Recipients of rental income are required to report payments made for expenses deducted from rental income using the Form 1099-MISC reporting requirements.

**The following list of reporting items is not all-inclusive!**

### 1099-MISC

Payments of \$600 or more made to individuals, partnerships (including LLPs and LLCs), physicians, physicians' corporations, other suppliers of health and medical services, and all attorneys, are reportable. Payments for merchandise and payments to real estate agents for rents are not reportable, but payments of rent to landlords are reportable. Payments for royalties in excess of \$10 are reportable.

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

Payments made with a credit card which are reported on Form 1099-K by your charge card company that otherwise would be reportable on a Form 1099-MISC are not subject to reporting.

### ATTORNEYS

Payments made to attorneys must be reported, even if the attorney is a corporation. If a payment is made to an attorney and the portion that is a legal fee cannot be determined, the total amount paid to the attorney must be reported (Box 14). These rules apply even if the attorney is not the exclusive payee.

### SETTLEMENTS

Punitive damages, damages for non-physical injuries or sickness, and any other taxable damages must be reported on Form 1099-MISC. Certain damages are not required to be reported. Please call our office for further information regarding taxable and non-taxable damages.

### 1099-INT

Any interest payments of \$10 or more (or at least \$600 of interest paid in the course of a trade or business) to individuals, partnerships, and LLCs must be reported. If

---

interest has been imputed on a loan, this should be reported to avoid the below-market interest rules.

### 1099-OID

Original issue discount of \$10 or more on notes, including installment sale notes, must be reported on an accrual basis each year.

### 1099-R

Distributions to participants of \$10 or more from your pension plan, 401(k) etc., must be reported with the appropriate codes. Coordinate with your actuary or plan administrator to determine who will be responsible for filing 1099-Rs. Cost of current life insurance protection provided by a pension plan must also be reported on Form 1099-R.

### 1098

Mortgage interest of \$600 or more received by you from an individual must be reported, if you are engaged in a trade or business of lending.

### TIP REPORTING

All employees receiving \$20 or more a month in tips must report 100% of their tips to their employer. Form 8027 is due by March 2, 2015 or by March 31, 2015 if electronically filed. If you need further information on tip reporting, please contact us.

### OTHER

There are numerous other situations that require reporting, such as payments to fish vendors, Archer Medical Savings Account payments, health savings accounts, real estate transactions, barter transactions and cancellation of debt. Contact us for further information on these types of reporting.

## WITHHOLDING ON NON-EMPLOYEE PAYMENTS

Form 945 to report other withholding tax must be filed by February 2, 2015. Taxes reported on Form 945 must be deposited separately from other withheld taxes.

Form 1042 is used to report tax withheld from foreign persons or entities. Form 1042 must be filed and furnished to recipients by March 17, 2015.

### WITHHOLDING TAX ON PENSION DISTRIBUTIONS

All lump-sum retirement plan distributions paid directly to employees (as distinguished from rollovers) are subject to an automatic 20% Federal withholding tax. This applies whether the distribution is due to changing jobs, retirement, termination, or early withdrawals. Minimum distributions (for beneficiaries over 70 ½) are subject to 10% withholding only if the beneficiary so desires.

If the lump-sum distribution is paid directly to a trustee of a rollover account, the 20% withholding tax will not apply. However, the distribution must be paid directly to the rollover IRA, and must not be payable to the employee. Tax withheld on pension distributions is reportable on Form 945.

### BACKUP WITHHOLDING

Payments that are subject to 1099 reporting are subject to backup withholding at a rate of 28% for payments made if you do not have an accurate taxpayer identification number from the recipient. The IRS enforces the collection of such withholding where a Form 1099 reports a missing taxpayer identification number or an incorrect number. You will be liable for uncollected tax, penalties and interest on such payments. Therefore, it is more important than ever that payments which are subject to 1099 reporting should not be made until the payee's taxpayer identification number is obtained. Form W-9 (or one of the Form W-8 series for foreign persons) should be used for obtaining taxpayer identification numbers.

---

If you receive a notice from the IRS that a number is incorrect, you will have to start to withhold taxes from future payments for that payee. Backup withholding is reportable on Form 945.

The IRS provides validation of tax identification numbers and names through its website. Please contact our office if you need further information on this service.

## FOREIGN PARTNERS OR PAYEES

Partnerships with foreign partners must withhold tax on the allocated income and remit it quarterly on Form 8813. Form 8804 and Form 8805 to report income and tax withheld must be filed annually by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 4<sup>th</sup> month following the close of the partnership's year (April 15<sup>th</sup> for calendar year partnerships). Certain payments to foreign payees for services performed in the United States require tax to be withheld and remitted on Form 1042 by March 16, 2015.

# THE NEW YEAR

## EMPLOYEE ELECTIONS

Have your employees complete all appropriate election forms for 401(k) deferrals, flex plan contributions, etc., for 2015 in writing, in accordance with each plan's provisions before January 1, 2015.

## HEALTH CARE BENEFIT REPORTING

The reporting of the cost of employer-sponsored group health coverage is mandatory for the year 2015 for employers filing 250 or more Forms W-2. It is reported on the Form W-2 in Box 12 using Code DD.

The future requirement to report the cost of coverage will not apply to employers filing fewer than 250 Forms W-2 during the previous calendar year. This transition relief will apply for future calendar years until the IRS publishes guidance giving at least six months advance notice of any changes.

## NEW W-4 FORMS FOR 2015

If you have any employees who are claiming exemption from taxes, you must get a new W-4 form signed by them by February 17, 2015 to continue exemption from withholding for 2015. IRS regulations require employers to notify their employees to file a new W-4 form for any changes to their withholding status. It is also advisable to verify that you have a valid W-4 form for each employee, and that your payroll service is withholding based on the proper exemptions.

The Social Security Administration will continue to send letters when employee social security numbers of W-2 forms do not match its records. Employers can verify social security numbers of employees at [www.ssa.gov/bsa](http://www.ssa.gov/bsa).

## I-9 FORMS

Employers are required to verify eligibility for employment for all employees hired after 1986. Form I-9 is used for this purpose. Review your personnel files to determine that you have I-9 forms for all required employees. The March 8, 2014 version (expires March 31, 2016) of Form I-9 must be used for new hires. You should continue to use the expired version until a new one is available. This form can be obtained at [www.uscis.gov/i-9](http://www.uscis.gov/i-9) or by calling 1-800-870-3676. Penalties for non-compliance range from \$110 to \$1,100 for each

violation. The U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) continue to conduct inspections of the Form I-9 for compliance and will hold employers accountable for failure to comply.

Employers should take care not to use an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) that may have been assigned to certain nonresident and resident aliens. Only a Social Security number can be used for employment purposes.

## ELECTRONIC DEPOSIT OF TAXES [EFTPS]

All Federal tax payments must be made through the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System. To enroll in EFTPS, go to [www.EFTPS.gov](http://www.EFTPS.gov) or call 800-555-4477.

## STATUTORY INSURANCE

Confirm that your state disability and workers' compensation policies are in force. States impose high daily penalties if policies have not been purchased or have lapsed.

On routine audits of workers' compensation policies, the carrier will ask for certificates of coverage for independent contractors. If none can be produced, payments made to independent contractors will be included in your premium base. Make it a practice to obtain certificates of coverage before independent contractors are hired and retain them on file.

## 2015 SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE TAX BASE

The 2015 rates and the taxable wage base for FICA are shown below. There is no limit on the amount of wages subject to the Medicare tax:

	Wage Base	Tax Rate	Maximum Tax
<b>Social Security</b>	\$118,500	6.20%	\$7,347
<b>Medicare</b>	All – No Limit	1.45%	No Limit

Employers are required to withhold the 0.9% additional Medicare Tax on an individual's wages and compensation paid in excess of \$200,000 in a calendar year. The actual additional Medicare Tax liability is determined when you file your individual tax return depending on your filing status and applicable threshold amount. Based on this, any over withholding or shortage will be adjusted on the individual tax



---

return. There is no employer match for the additional Medicare Tax.

### 401K MAXIMUM DEFERRAL

For 2015, the maximum deferral amount remains at \$18,000 for those 49 years of age and younger or \$24,000 for those 50 years of age and older. In order for those 50 and older to make the catch-up contribution, the Plan Sponsor must amend the plan (if not previously amended) to permit the catch-up contributions, notify the plan participants that they can make catch-up contributions, and revise the plan election forms. In addition, since the catch-up contribution is not included in nondiscrimination testing, it has to be accounted for separately from other 401(k) contributions.

### SIMPLE IRA & SIMPLE 401K

For 2015, the maximum remains at \$12,500 for those 49 years of age and younger or \$15,500 for those 50 years of age and older.

### AUTO MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION FRINGE BENEFITS

The 2015 auto mileage rate is 57.5 cents per mile. The 2014, auto mileage rate is 56 cents per mile for business miles. In 2015, the monthly limit on the value of qualified transportation benefits exclusion for qualified parking provided by an employer to an employee remains at \$250, and the qualified transportation benefits exclusion for transportation in a commuter highway vehicle and transit pass provided by an employer to employees remains at \$130.

### PER DIEM RATES FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL

The per diem rate for travel can now be found at the U.S. General Services Administration Website [www.GSA.gov](http://www.GSA.gov) The rates are set effective October 1st of each year.

### VOLUNTARY CLASSIFICATION SETTLEMENT PROGRAM (VCSP)

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has a new program that will enable many employers to resolve past worker classification issues by voluntarily reclassifying their workers as employees for employment tax purposes for future tax periods. It will allow employers the opportunity to be in compliance by making a minimal payment covering past payroll tax obligations rather than waiting for an IRS audit.

This provides an eligible employer with substantial relief from federal payroll taxes that they may have owed in the past, if they prospectively treat workers as employees to participate in this new voluntary program the taxpayer must meet certain eligibility requirements, apply to participate in the VCSP and enter into a closing agreement with the IRS.

### REPORT OF FOREIGN ACCOUNTS

FinCEN Report 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts for the year 2014 is due on or before June 30, 2015. The type of accounts and filing requirements have been expanded to include certain types of investments as well as bank accounts and those who are authorized to initiate transactions and can sign on foreign accounts. There are significant penalties for failure to file. Please contact us for further information regarding your filing obligations.

You may also be required to file Form 8938 along with your individual tax return to report the ownership of specified foreign assets if the total exceeds an applicable threshold amount.

### PAYMENT CARD REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Information reporting for charge card payments and third party network transactions are to be reported on a Form 1099-K by February 2, 2015 to businesses for the gross amount of transactions they process.

You should make sure that you provide your credit card processors with the correct Federal identification number and a description of your business so that they properly classify you into the applicable merchant category code.

# STATE ISSUES

## WITHHOLDING FROM EMPLOYEES

Many states permit employers to rely on the exemptions claimed on federal form W-4. However, some states do require that a separate withholding form be submitted if an employee is claiming excessive allowances. For example, New York State requires the submission of Form IT-2104 if more than 14 exemptions are claimed. Please contact our office for specific requirements for other states.

## MINIMUM WAGE

The minimum wage increases In New York State on December 31, 2014 to \$8.75 per hour, in New Jersey on January 1, 2015 to \$8.38 per hour, and in Connecticut on January 1, 2015 to \$9.15 per hour. It remains the same in Pennsylvania at \$7.25 per hour and in Illinois at \$8.25 per hour (applicable to employers of four or more employees).

Tipped employees in the food service industry must receive cash wages per hour of no less than \$5.00 in New York, \$2.13 in New Jersey, \$5.69 in Connecticut (\$7.46 for bartenders in Connecticut.), \$2.83 in Pennsylvania, and \$4.95 in Illinois. Total cash wages plus tips must total at least the minimum wage rate for each particular state (New York \$8.75; New Jersey \$8.38; Connecticut \$9.15; Pennsylvania \$7.25 and Illinois \$8.25).

## NEW HIRE NOTIFICATION

You must continue to provide information about newly hired employees within 20 calendar days from the hiring date or rehire date. Employers in New York State that report electronically must do it using two monthly transmissions (if needed) not less than twelve or more than sixteen days apart. The State of New Jersey requires employers that submit electronically to report every 15 days. Contact information is:

New York State	
Fax	518-320-1080
Internet	<a href="http://www.nynewhire.com">www.nynewhire.com</a>

New Jersey	
Fax	800-304-4901
Internet	<a href="http://www.nj-newhire.com">www.nj-newhire.com</a>

Connecticut	
Fax	800-816-1108
Internet	<a href="http://www.ctnewhires.com">www.ctnewhires.com</a>

Pennsylvania	
Fax	717-657-4473
Internet	<a href="http://www.panewhires.com">www.panewhires.com</a>

Illinois	
Fax	217-557-1947
Internet	<a href="http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?items=53">www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?items=53</a>

You can obtain a link to new hire reporting for all states at [www.sba.gov/content/new-hire-reporting-your-state](http://www.sba.gov/content/new-hire-reporting-your-state). Multi-state employers can designate one state in which any employee works and transmit all new hire information to that state alone. You must notify the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services in writing if this option is selected. A multistate employer notification form is available on [www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov).

Your payroll processing company may or may not report new hires as part of its service, so you should contact your provider to determine whether or not this is being handled for you.

## NOTIFICATION TO NEWLY HIRED EMPLOYEES

New York State requires that newly hired employees be notified in writing at the time of hiring as to their rate of pay, their overtime rate of pay (if eligible for overtime) and the employer's regular pay day. The employer must obtain and retain a written acknowledgement from the employee of the receipt of the written notices. The bill that was signed on December 29, 2014 eliminates the annual notice requirement as of 2015. There are significant civil penalties for failure to comply - \$1,000 for the first violation, \$2,000 for the second violation and \$3,000 for each subsequent violation. Under the new bill the maximum penalty for damages in civil lawsuits filed by workers increases to \$5,000. The

---

notification must be made using the official form published by the New York State Department of Labor. Form LS 54 is available at [www.labor.ny.gov](http://www.labor.ny.gov).

## WITHHOLDING REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-RESIDENT PARTNERS

Many states require partnerships and limited liability companies to withhold estimated taxes from non-resident partners, but there are situations where certain partners may be exempted. Contact us for further information.

## NEW JERSEY UNEMPLOYMENT AND DISABILITY MAXIMUM EARNINGS

New Jersey Unemployment and Disability Maximum Earnings have increased to \$32,000 per year. The total withholding rate for employees is .00765. The maximum employee deduction for 2015 is \$244.80.

## NEW YORK STATE LIMITED LIABILITY ANNUAL REPORTS

Form IT-204-LL is required for each Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) and Limited Liability Company (LLC) organized and/or doing business in New York State, including disregarded entities. Also, every regular partnership that is required to file a New York State partnership return doing business in New York State which has New York source gross income for the preceding year of at least \$1 million is required to file. Returns and payments must be filed and paid electronically, and no extensions are permitted. The Form IT-204-LL is due within 60 days after the last day of the tax year of the partnership, LLC, LLP, or single-member LLC that is a disregarded entity. Therefore, a calendar year end tax payer must file and make payments by March 2, 2015.

## NEW YORK STATE METROPOLITAN COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY TAX (MCTMT)

The New York State appellate court ruled the MCTMT payroll tax to be constitutional.

The MCTMT payroll tax requires quarterly payments based on .34% of covered wages for employees and self-employed individuals. For the quarter ending December 31, 2014, payment is due by February 2, 2015. For 2015, due dates are April 30, 2015, July 31, 2015, November 2, 2015 and February 1, 2016. There is also an annual return for self-employed individuals due by April 30, 2015.

Effective April 1, 2013, employers are subject to MCTMT if the payroll expense for all covered employees exceeds \$312,500 for the quarter. New lower rates are applicable to payroll expense over \$312,500 to \$375,000 at .11% and over \$375,000 to \$437,500 at .23%. The original tax rate of .34% still applies when any quarterly payroll exceeds \$437,500.

## SALES AND USE TAX ISSUES

States are increasing their audits relating to sales tax. They are including many businesses which do not typically collect sales tax, such as medical practices and law firms, and often assess tax, penalties and interest for non-payment of compensating use tax. Since there is no statute of limitations when returns have not been filed, these audits often cover periods of six years. Review your procedures in terms of reporting such use tax, and evaluate whether your business should register and file use tax returns. Please call our office if you have any questions in this area.

## PENNSYLVANIA ACT 32

Act 32 simplifies and restructures the collection of local earned income taxes in the State of Pennsylvania. It requires all employers to withhold earned income taxes on behalf of all employees. The applicable tax rate is the greater of the nonresident tax rate where the employee is employed or the resident tax rate in effect where the employee lives. The Act applies to all Pennsylvania counties except Philadelphia, which is exempt from Act 32. Philadelphia city withholding supersedes the provisions of Act 32. Act 32 was mandatory for employers beginning on January 1, 2013.

All employers are required to register with the appropriate Certified Tax Collector in the area they are located. You can determine the applicable tax collector for your place of business by going to [www.munstatspa.dced.state.pa.us.com](http://www.munstatspa.dced.state.pa.us.com) and entering your county or municipality.

All employees need to fill out a local earned income tax residency certification form which should be given to their employer in order for them to properly withhold the correct amount of earned income tax. This form and withholding rates by address can be obtained online at [www.NewPA.com](http://www.NewPA.com).

---

# OTHER

## CHANGES IN FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (FDIC) COVERAGE

The current standard maximum deposit amount remains at \$250,000. The FDIC insurance coverage limit applies per depositor, per insured depository institution for each account ownership category.

This guide is intended to be informational and to advise you of some highlights. It is not all-inclusive.

Please contact your Engagement Partner, WeiserMazars LLP's Entrepreneurial Business Group [EBG@WeiserMazars.com](mailto:EBG@WeiserMazars.com), or David Schwartz, at 516.620.8559 [david.schwartz@weisermazars.com](mailto:david.schwartz@weisermazars.com), if you have any questions on these year-end procedures or any other reporting requirements.

---

# ABOUT WEISERMAZARS LLP'S ENTREPRENEURIAL BUSINESS GROUP

Entrepreneurial businesses have been a core service area of WeiserMazars' business since 1921. WeiserMazars' trusted professionals understand the unique issues facing entrepreneurial businesses and are committed to providing a comprehensive and objective approach to position your business venture for success. Our Entrepreneurial Business professionals provide multi-disciplinary services to a wide range of clients. Our practice leaders in the Entrepreneurial Business Group will be happy to assist you.

Name	Office	Phone	Email
Gerard Bobal, CPA	New Jersey	732-205-2028	<a href="mailto:jerry.bobal@weisermazars.com">jerry.bobal@weisermazars.com</a>
Andrew M. Cohen, CPA	Long Island	516-620-8444	<a href="mailto:andrew.cohen@weisermazars.com">andrew.cohen@weisermazars.com</a>
Howard P. Dorman, CPA	New Jersey	732-205-2040	<a href="mailto:howard.dorman@weisermazars.com">howard.dorman@weisermazars.com</a>
Terry Friedman, CPA	New Jersey	732-205-2044	<a href="mailto:terry.friedman@weisermazars.com">terry.friedman@weisermazars.com</a>
Neal Guber, CPA	Long Island	516-620-8435	<a href="mailto:neal.guber@weisermazars.com">neal.guber@weisermazars.com</a>
Justine DeVito Tenney, CPA/PFS CFP	Long Island	516-620-8431	<a href="mailto:justine.tenney@weisermazars.com">justine.tenney@weisermazars.com</a>
Jeffrey Katz, CPA	New York	212-375-6816	<a href="mailto:jeffrey.katz@weisermazars.com">jeffrey.katz@weisermazars.com</a>
David B. Schwartz, CPA	Long Island	516-620-8559	<a href="mailto:david.schwartz@weisermazars.com">david.schwartz@weisermazars.com</a>
Philip Steinberg, CPA	Pennsylvania	215-259-4326	<a href="mailto:philip.steinberg@weisermazars.com">philip.steinberg@weisermazars.com</a>
Andre Tulet	New York	212-375-6919	<a href="mailto:andre.tulet@weisermazars.com">andre.tulet@weisermazars.com</a>
John J. Witkowski, CPA	New Jersey	732-475-2114	<a href="mailto:john.witkowski@weisermazars.com">john.witkowski@weisermazars.com</a>

© 2014 WeiserMazars LLP All Rights Reserved

---

WeiserMazars LLP is the independent U.S. member firm of Mazars Group.

**CONTACT**

**David B. Schwartz, CPA**  
**Partner**

Tel. 516.620.8559  
Email. [David.Schwartz@WeiserMazars.com](mailto:David.Schwartz@WeiserMazars.com)

Visit us at: [www.weisermazars.com](http://www.weisermazars.com)

Follow us on:

