



Alaska Employer

Newsletter

Unemployment Insurance Tax



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Bill Walker, Governor

Heidi Drygas, Commissioner

Ed Flanagan, Director

December 2017

Questions about your rate, account or contributions?

CONTACTS

Juneau Central Office

P.O. Box 115509
Juneau, AK 99811-5509
Phone: (907) 465-2757
Toll free: (888) 448-3527
Fax: (907) 465-2374
Email: ESD.Tax@Alaska.Gov
Relay Alaska: (800) 770-8973

UI TAX OFFICES

Anchorage

P.O. Box 241767
Anchorage, AK 99524-1767
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Fairbanks

675 7th Ave., Station L
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Juneau

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Juneau, AK 99811-5509
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Kenai

145 Main Street Loop,
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Fax: (907) 283-5152

Mat-Su

515 East Dahlia Ave.
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone: (907) 707-1790
Fax: (907) 707-1793

UI Tax Representative

Toll free: (888) 448-2937

Reduce your FUTA Tax

Under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA), an employer may receive a 5.4 percent offset against the six percent FUTA tax imposed if all of the employer's quarterly reports and payments are filed timely.

Reports and payments received in our office by January 31 are considered timely for FUTA tax and an employer may receive a tax credit when filing FUTA Form 940. Be aware, the federal government does not allow a grace period for this requirement.

To ensure all of your Alaska Quarterly reports and payments are received timely, file electronically. Learn about filing online at **labor.alaska.gov/estax**, under "Online Employer Services."

Occupational code changes

Beginning first quarter of 2018, a revision of the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system will require a change for some employers when filing their quarterly contribution reports. SOC codes will be added to address new and evolving occupations, while others may be modified or removed.

Employers are required to include occupational codes with their quarterly reports. Please review the codes you use and update your reference materials when filing in 2018. For the most up to date information, please visit: **live.laborstats.alaska.gov/erg/codehelp.cfm**.

2018 Annual Rates

The 2018 Annual Rate Notices will be mailed in early December. The Tax notice will include your 2018 rate and the taxable wage base for the year. If you have questions regarding your rate notice, contact the Tax Central Office by emailing us at **esd.tax@alaska.gov**, or by phone: (907) 465-2757 or (888) 448-3527 (toll free).

Mandatory state posters

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development would like to remind employers that state and federal employment-related

posters are required to be posted at worksites and readily accessible to employees. These can be downloaded or ordered at no charge from the Division of Labor Standards and Safety.

Visit labor.alaska.gov/lss/posters.htm to see what is available. A poster packet may be picked up at the Anchorage Midtown Job Center Business Connection, 3301 Eagle St., Suite 103, during regular business hours. Phone **(907) 269-4777** with any questions regarding the required posters.

Are you a Sole Proprietor?

As a Sole Proprietor, your wages are NOT reportable for Unemployment Insurance (UI) Tax purposes. Do NOT report your wages on the Alaska Quarterly Contribution Report. Also, wages are not reportable for the following individuals on your Alaska Quarterly Contribution Report under a Sole Proprietorship:

- the owner's spouse
- the owner's parents
- the owner's children
 - under age 18 or
 - age 18-21 if a full-time student

If you choose to have UI coverage for any of the above family members, complete a Voluntary Election of Coverage form. You may find the Voluntary Election of Coverage and the Alaska Employer Handbook at labor.alaska.gov/estax under Forms/Publications.

If all of your workers are in an excluded categories, please contact us to cancel your account.

Rapid Response Program

The Alaska Rapid Response Team works with employers to develop a comprehensive approach to address business changes that may lead to layoffs by effectively preventing or minimizing the negative impacts.

Layoffs are hard, but our team of experts can help make the transition for employees to new employment much easier. The Rapid Response Team can help facilitate a pipeline of skilled workers from a business downsizing to an expanding business. For more information visit our website at jobs.alaska.gov/RR.

If you would like immediate assistance from the Rapid Response Team email dol.rrteam@alaska.gov, or contact Lisa Mielke, Statewide Rapid Response Coordinator, at **(907) 465-6275**.

**Quarterly reports and payments
are due by January 31.**