



Employees' Retirement System
of the State of Hawaii

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-4R
Withholding Certificate for Nonperiodic Payments and Eligible Rollover Distributions
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The IRS released Form W-4R (*Withholding Certificate for Nonperiodic Payments and Eligible Rollover Distributions*) which is a new form used to assign a withholding rate for nonperiodic and eligible rollover payments, used by the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) as of January 1, 2025.

Form W-4R includes instructions from the IRS on how to complete the form. The ERS does not offer tax advice nor is the ERS responsible for information entered on Form W-4R. Consult a tax professional to discuss the impact of tax withholdings on your benefit payment. For more information, visit the IRS website: [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

1. Why did I receive the Form W-4R?

Form W-4R is required to be sent by the ERS for any nonperiodic payment or eligible rollover distributions. Do not use Form W-4R for monthly payments or for payments to nonresident aliens and foreign estates. See IRS Publication 515 *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities* and Publication 519 *U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens* for more information.

2. Is my payment nonperiodic or an eligible rollover distribution?

The ERS will be informing you whether your payment is nonperiodic or rollover eligible.

Generally, if you are sent a form with an option to elect a full or partial rollover, then a part, or all, of your disbursement is eligible to be rolled over. Please see the [ERS Notice 402\(f\) Special Tax Notice Regarding Rollover Options](#) for more information on rollover eligible payments and taxes.

Certain corrective payments, payments to a successor, and required minimum distributions are not rollover eligible and are considered nonperiodic payments.

Form W-4R should not be used to designate withholdings for monthly annuity payments. Instead, please use Form W-4P Withholding Certificate for Periodic Pension or Annuity Payments available from the [ERS](#).

3. Is Form W-4R required?

No, Form W-4R should not be submitted for the default withholding to be applied. A Form W-4R should only be submitted if you are electing to have a withholding amount different than the default for your payment.

4. What is the default withholding amount for my payment?

For rollover eligible distributions, the mandatory minimum withholding is 20% of the taxable gross of the amount that is not directly rolled over to another qualified plan. You should only be submitting Form W-4R if you want more than the mandatory minimum 20% default to be withheld from your payment, and not less.

For nonresident aliens, 30% must be withheld for federal income taxes, unless you can claim an exception. Do not use Form W-4R to claim an exception. Instead, use IRS Form W-8BEN which may be obtained with instructions from the IRS website: [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

For nonperiodic payments, the default withholding is 10%. If submitting Form W-4R, you should input a withholding rate that is different from the 10% default by entering a withholding from 0% to 100% in line 2.

5. What amount should I have withheld from my payment?

The IRS provides default withholding rates depending on your payment type, which the ERS will inform you of. Beyond this, the ERS does not offer tax advice. Please refer to the instructions on Form W-4R or consult a tax professional to discuss the impact of tax withholdings on your benefit payment.

6. Can I mail, email, or fax copies of my Form W-4R to the ERS?

No, emailed, faxed, or paper reproductions of the Form W-4R are not valid. The ERS will only process a non-default withholding from your rollover eligible payment when a valid Form W-4R containing an original signature is received in our offices.

7. What steps are required to be completed if submitting Form W-4R?

The required steps are Step One (a & b) for personal information, Step 2 to designate a withholding, and a signature. The IRS does not allow electronic signatures on Form W-4R. You should input the actual total withholding percentage you want deducted on line 2 (which should be an amount different than the default). Submissions for non-default withholdings to be applied require a valid and signed original Form W-4R.

8. Am I required to provide my full Social Security Number (SSN)?

Yes, the IRS requires a full and correct SSN for Form W-4R to be considered valid.

9. What happens if I do not provide a valid tax withholding preference?

The ERS is required to withhold taxes according to the default for the payment type.

10. How will I know how much was withheld from my payment?

You will receive a mailed statement from the ERS reflecting the gross, net, and withholding amounts for any new direct deposit payments.

Form W-4R Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Withholding Certificate for Nonperiodic Payments and Eligible Rollover Distributions Give Form W-4R to the payer of your retirement payments.	OMB No. 1545-0074 2026
1a First name and middle initial		1b Social security number
Address		
City or town, state, and ZIP code		

Your withholding rate is determined by the type of payment you will receive.

- For nonperiodic payments, the default withholding rate is 10%. You can choose to have a different rate by entering a rate between 0% and 100% on line 2. Generally, you can't choose less than 10% for payments to be delivered outside the United States and its territories.
- For an eligible rollover distribution, the default withholding rate is 20%. You can choose a rate greater than 20% by entering the rate on line 2. You may not choose a rate less than 20%.

See page 2 for more information.

2	Complete this line if you would like a rate of withholding that is different from the default withholding rate. See the instructions on page 2 and the Marginal Rate Tables below for additional information. Enter the rate as a whole number (no decimals)	2	%
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Sign Here	Your signature (This form is not valid unless you sign it.)	Date
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about any future developments related to Form W-4R, such as legislation enacted after it was published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW4R.

Purpose of form. Complete Form W-4R to have payers withhold the correct amount of federal income tax from your nonperiodic payment or eligible rollover distribution from an employer retirement plan, annuity (including a commercial annuity), or individual retirement arrangement (IRA). See page 2 for the rules and options that are available for each type of payment. Don't use Form W-4R for periodic

payments (payments made in installments at regular intervals over a period of more than 1 year) from these plans or arrangements. Instead, use Form W-4P, Withholding Certificate for Periodic Pension or Annuity Payments. For more information on withholding, see Pub. 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

Caution: If you have too little tax withheld, you will generally owe tax when you file your tax return and may owe a penalty unless you make timely payments of estimated tax. If too much tax is withheld, you will generally be due a refund when you file your tax return. Your withholding choice (or an election not to have withholding on a nonperiodic payment) will generally apply to any future payment from the same plan or IRA. Submit a new Form W-4R if you want to change your election.

2026 Marginal Rate Tables

You may use these tables to help you select the appropriate withholding rate for this payment or distribution. Add your income from all sources and use the column that matches your filing status to find the corresponding rate of withholding. See page 2 for more information on how to use this table.

Single or Married filing separately		Married filing jointly or Qualifying surviving spouse		Head of household	
Total income over—	Tax rate for every dollar more	Total income over—	Tax rate for every dollar more	Total income over—	Tax rate for every dollar more
\$0	0%	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
16,100	10%	32,200	10%	24,150	10%
28,500	12%	57,000	12%	41,850	12%
66,500	22%	133,000	22%	91,600	22%
121,800	24%	243,600	24%	129,850	24%
217,875	32%	435,750	32%	225,900	32%
272,325	35%	544,650	35%	280,350	35%
656,700*	37%	800,900	37%	664,750	37%

* If married filing separately, use \$400,450 instead for this 37% rate.

General Instructions (*continued*)

Nonperiodic payments—10% withholding. Your payer must withhold at a default 10% rate from the taxable amount of nonperiodic payments **unless** you enter a different rate on line 2. Distributions from an IRA that are payable on demand are treated as nonperiodic payments. Note that the default rate of withholding may not be appropriate for your tax situation. You may choose to have no federal income tax withheld by entering “-0-” on line 2. See the specific instructions below for more information. Generally, you are not permitted to elect to have federal income tax withheld at a rate of less than 10% (including “-0-”) on any payments to be delivered outside the United States and its territories.

Note: If you don’t give Form W-4R to your payer, you don’t provide an SSN, or the IRS notifies the payer that you gave an incorrect SSN, then the payer must withhold 10% of the payment for federal income tax and can’t honor requests to have a lower (or no) amount withheld. Generally, for payments that began before 2026, your current withholding election (or your default rate) remains in effect unless you submit a Form W-4R.

Eligible rollover distributions—20% withholding. Distributions you receive from qualified retirement plans (for example, 401(k) plans and section 457(b) plans maintained by a governmental employer) or tax-sheltered annuities that are eligible to be rolled over to an IRA or qualified plan are subject to a 20% default rate of withholding on the taxable amount of the distribution. You can’t choose withholding at a rate of less than 20% (including “-0-”). Note that the default rate of withholding may be too low for your tax situation. You may choose to enter a rate higher than 20% on line 2. Don’t give Form W-4R to your payer unless you want more than 20% withheld.

Note that the following payments are **not** eligible rollover distributions for purposes of these withholding rules:

- Qualifying “hardship” distributions;
- Distributions required by federal law, such as required minimum distributions;
- Distributions from a pension-linked emergency savings account;
- Eligible distributions to a domestic abuse victim;
- Qualified disaster recovery distributions;
- Qualified birth or adoption distributions;
- Qualified long-term care distributions; and
- Emergency personal expense distributions.

See Pub. 505 for details. See also *Nonperiodic payments—10% withholding* above.

Payments to nonresident aliens and foreign estates. Do not use Form W-4R. See Pub. 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities, and Pub. 519, U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens, for more information.

Tax relief for victims of terrorist attacks. If your disability payments for injuries incurred as a direct result of a terrorist attack are not taxable, enter “-0-” on line 2. See Pub. 3920, Tax Relief for Victims of Terrorist Attacks, for more details.

Specific Instructions

Line 1b

For an estate, enter the estate’s employer identification number (EIN) in the area reserved for “Social security number.”

Line 2

More withholding. If you want more than the default rate withheld from your payment, you may enter a higher rate on line 2.

Less withholding (nonperiodic payments only). If permitted, you may enter a lower rate on line 2 (including “-0-”) if you want less than the 10% default rate withheld from your payment. If you have already paid, or plan to pay, your tax on this payment through other withholding or estimated tax payments, you may want to enter “-0-”.

Suggestion for determining withholding. Consider using the Marginal Rate Tables on page 1 to help you select the appropriate withholding rate for this payment or distribution. The tables are most accurate if the appropriate amount of tax on all other sources of income, deductions, and credits has been paid through other withholding or estimated tax payments. If the appropriate amount of tax on those sources of income has not been paid through other withholding or estimated tax payments, you can pay that tax through withholding on this payment by entering a rate that is greater than the rate in the Marginal Rate Tables.

The marginal tax rate is the rate of tax on each additional dollar of income you receive above a particular amount of income. You can use the table for your filing status as a guide to find a rate of withholding for amounts above the total income level in the table.

To determine the appropriate rate of withholding from the table, do the following. Step 1: Find the rate that corresponds with your total income not including the payment. Step 2: Add your total income and the taxable amount of the payment and find the corresponding rate.

If these two rates are the same, enter that rate on line 2. (See *Example 1* below.)

If the two rates differ, multiply (a) the amount in the lower rate bracket by the rate for that bracket, and (b) the amount in the higher rate bracket by the rate for that bracket. Add these two numbers; this is the expected tax for this payment. To get the rate to have withheld, divide this amount by the taxable amount of the payment. Round up to the next whole number and enter that rate on line 2. (See *Example 2* below.)

If you prefer a simpler approach (but one that may lead to overwithholding), find the rate that corresponds to your total income including the payment and enter that rate on line 2.

Examples. Assume the following facts for *Examples 1* and *2*. Your filing status is single. You expect the taxable amount of your payment to be \$20,000. Appropriate amounts have been withheld for all other sources of income and any deductions or credits.

Example 1. You expect your total income to be \$70,000 without the payment. Step 1: Because your total income without the payment, \$70,000, is greater than \$66,500 but less than \$121,800, the corresponding rate is 22%. Step 2: Because your total income with the payment, \$90,000, is greater than \$66,500 but less than \$121,800, the corresponding rate is 22%. Because these two rates are the same, enter “22” on line 2.

Example 2. You expect your total income to be \$60,000 without the payment. Step 1: Because your total income without the payment, \$60,000, is greater than \$28,500 but less than \$66,500, the corresponding rate is 12%. Step 2: Because your total income with the payment, \$80,000, is greater than \$66,500 but less than \$121,800, the

corresponding rate is 22%. The two rates differ. \$6,500 of the \$20,000 payment is in the lower bracket (\$66,500 less your total income of \$60,000 without the payment), and \$13,500 is in the higher bracket (\$20,000 less the \$6,500 that is in the lower bracket). Multiply \$6,500 by 12% to get \$780. Multiply \$13,500 by 22% to get \$2,970. The sum of these two amounts is \$3,750. This is the estimated tax on your payment. This amount corresponds to 19% of the \$20,000 payment (\$3,750 divided by \$20,000). Enter "19" on line 2.

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to provide this information only if you want to (a) request additional federal income tax withholding from your nonperiodic payment(s) or eligible rollover distribution(s); (b) choose not to have federal income tax withheld from your nonperiodic payment(s), when permitted; or (c) change a previous Form W-4R (or a previous Form W-4P that you completed with respect to your nonperiodic payments or eligible rollover distributions). To do any of the aforementioned, you are required by sections 3405(e) and 6109 and their regulations to provide the information requested on this form. Failure to provide this information may result in inaccurate withholding on your payment(s).

Failure to provide a properly completed form will result in your payment(s) being subject to the default rate; providing fraudulent information may subject you to penalties.

Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation, and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and territories for use in administering their tax laws. We may also disclose this information to other countries under a tax treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce federal nontax criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The average time and expenses required to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. For estimated averages, see the instructions for your income tax return.

If you have suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for your income tax return.