



EMPLOYEE'S WITHHOLDING ALLOWANCE CERTIFICATE

Form with fields for Name, Social Security Number, Home Address, City/State/ZIP, and Filing Status (SINGLE, MARRIED, HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD).

Form with calculation fields for allowances and a certification statement with a checkbox.

Under the penalties of perjury, I certify that the number of withholding allowances claimed on this certificate does not exceed the number to which I am entitled or, if claiming exemption from withholding, that I am entitled to claim the exempt status.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Form with fields for Employer's Name and Address, and California Employer Payroll Tax Account Number.

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Give the top portion of this page to your employer and keep the remainder for your records.

YOUR CALIFORNIA PERSONAL INCOME TAX MAY BE UNDERWITHHELD IF YOU DO NOT FILE THIS DE 4 FORM.

IF YOU RELY ON THE FEDERAL FORM W-4 FOR YOUR CALIFORNIA WITHHOLDING ALLOWANCES, YOUR CALIFORNIA STATE PERSONAL INCOME TAX MAY BE UNDERWITHHELD AND YOU MAY OWE MONEY AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

PURPOSE: This certificate, DE 4, is for California Personal Income Tax (PIT) withholding purposes only.

You should complete this form if either:

- (1) You claim a different marital status, number of regular allowances, or different additional dollar amount to be withheld for California PIT withholding than you claim for federal income tax withholding or,
(2) You claim additional allowances for estimated deductions.

THIS FORM WILL NOT CHANGE YOUR FEDERAL WITHHOLDING ALLOWANCES.

The federal Form W-4 is applicable for California withholding purposes if you wish to claim the same marital status, number of regular allowances, and/or the same additional dollar amount to be withheld for state and federal purposes.

certificate for your state income tax withholding, you may be significantly underwithheld. This is particularly true if your household income is derived from more than one source.

CHECK YOUR WITHHOLDING: After your Form W-4 and/or DE 4 takes effect, compare the state income tax withheld with your estimated total annual tax.

EXEMPTION FROM WITHHOLDING: If you wish to claim exempt, complete the federal Form W-4. You may claim exempt from withholding California income tax if you did not owe any federal income tax last year and you do not expect to owe any federal income tax this year.

**EXEMPTION FROM WITHHOLDING** (continued): Under the Service Member Civil Relief Act, as amended by the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act, you may be exempt from California income tax on your wages if (i) your spouse is a member of the armed forces present in California in compliance with military orders; (ii) you are present in California solely to be with your spouse; and (iii) you maintain your domicile in another state. If you claim exemption under this act, check the box on Line 3. You may be required to provide proof of exemption upon request.

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**IF YOU NEED MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, SEE THE INSTRUCTIONS THAT CAME WITH YOUR LAST CALIFORNIA RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN OR CALL THE FRANCHISE TAX BOARD (FTB).**

IF YOU ARE CALLING FROM WITHIN THE UNITED STATES 1-800-852-5711 (voice)  
1-800-822-6268 (TTY)

IF YOU ARE CALLING FROM OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES (Not Toll Free) 1-916-845-6500

The *California Employer's Guide*, DE 44, provides the income tax withholding tables. This publication may be found on the Employment Development Department (EDD) website at [www.edd.ca.gov/Payroll\\_Taxes/Forms\\_and\\_Publications.htm](http://www.edd.ca.gov/Payroll_Taxes/Forms_and_Publications.htm). To assist you in calculating your tax liability, please visit the FTB website at [www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/index.shtml](http://www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/index.shtml).

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**NOTIFICATION:** If the IRS instructs your employer to withhold federal income tax based on a certain withholding status, your employer is required to use the same withholding status for state income tax withholding.

The burden of proof rests with the employee to show the correct California Income Tax Withholding. Pursuant to section 4340-1(e) of Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR), the FTB or the EDD may, by special direction in writing, require an employer to submit a Form W-4 or DE 4 when such forms are necessary for the administration of the withholding tax programs.

**PENALTY:** You may be fined \$500 if you file, with no reasonable basis, a DE 4 that results in less tax being withheld than is properly allowable. In addition, criminal penalties apply for willfully supplying false or fraudulent information or failing to supply information requiring an increase in withholding. This is provided by section 13101 of the California Unemployment Insurance Code and section 19176 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

**INSTRUCTIONS — 1 — ALLOWANCES\***

When determining your withholding allowances, you must consider your personal situation:

- Do you claim allowances for dependents or blindness?
- Will you itemize your deductions?
- Do you have more than one income coming into the household?

**TWO-EARNERS/MULTIPLE INCOMES:** When earnings are derived from more than one source, underwithholding may occur. If you have a working spouse or more than one job, it is best to check the box "SINGLE or MARRIED (with two or more incomes)." Figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim on all jobs using only one DE 4 form. Claim allowances with **one** employer. Do **not** claim the same allowances with more than one employer. Your withholding will usually be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the DE 4 or Form W-4 filed for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed for the others.

**MARRIED BUT NOT LIVING WITH YOUR SPOUSE:** You may check the "Head of Household" marital status box if you meet all of the following tests:

- (1) Your spouse will not live with you **at any time** during the year;
- (2) You will furnish over half of the cost of maintaining a home for the entire year for yourself and your child or stepchild who qualifies as your dependent; **and**
- (3) You will file a separate return for the year.

**HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD:** To qualify, you must be unmarried or legally separated from your spouse and pay more than 50% of the costs of maintaining a home for the **entire** year for yourself and your dependent(s) or other qualifying individuals. Cost of maintaining the home includes such items as rent, property insurance, property taxes, mortgage interest, repairs, utilities, and cost of food. It does not include the individual's personal expenses or any amount which represents value of services performed by a member of the household of the taxpayer.

**WORKSHEET A**

**REGULAR WITHHOLDING ALLOWANCES**

(A) Allowance for yourself — enter 1 . . . . .	(A)	
(B) Allowance for your spouse (if not separately claimed by your spouse) — enter 1 . . . . .	(B)	
(C) Allowance for blindness — yourself — enter 1 . . . . .	(C)	
(D) Allowance for blindness — your spouse (if not separately claimed by your spouse) — enter 1 . . . . .	(D)	
(E) Allowance(s) for dependent(s) — do not include yourself or your spouse . . . . .	(E)	
(F) Total — add lines (A) through (E) above . . . . .	(F)	<b>0</b>

**INSTRUCTIONS — 2 — ADDITIONAL WITHHOLDING ALLOWANCES**

If you expect to itemize deductions on your California income tax return, you can claim additional withholding allowances. Use Worksheet B to determine whether your expected estimated deductions may entitle you to claim one or more additional withholding allowances. Use last year's FTB Form 540 as a model to calculate this year's withholding amounts.

Do not include deferred compensation, qualified pension payments, or flexible benefits, etc., that are deducted from your gross pay but are not taxed on this worksheet.

You may reduce the amount of tax withheld from your wages by claiming one additional withholding allowance for each \$1,000, or fraction of \$1,000, by which you expect your estimated deductions for the year to exceed your allowable standard deduction.

**WORKSHEET B**

**ESTIMATED DEDUCTIONS**

1. Enter an estimate of your itemized deductions for California taxes for this tax year as listed in the schedules in the FTB Form 540 . . . . .		1.	
2. Enter \$8,802 if married filing joint with two or more allowances, unmarried head of household, or qualifying widow(er) with dependent(s) or \$4,401 if single or married filing separately, dual income married, or married with multiple employers . . . . .	-	2.	
3. Subtract line 2 from line 1, enter difference . . . . .	=	3.	<b>0</b>
4. Enter an estimate of your adjustments to income (alimony payments, IRA deposits) . . . . .	+	4.	
5. Add line 4 to line 3, enter sum . . . . .	=	5.	<b>0</b>
6. Enter an estimate of your nonwage income (dividends, interest income, alimony receipts) . . . . .	-	6.	
7. If line 5 is greater than line 6 (if less, see below); Subtract line 6 from line 5, enter difference . . . . .	=	7.	<b>0</b>
8. Divide the amount on line 7 by \$1,000, round any fraction to the nearest whole number . . . . . Enter this number on line 1 of the DE 4. Complete Worksheet C, if needed.		8.	<b>0</b>
9. If line 6 is greater than line 5; Enter amount from line 6 (nonwage income) . . . . .		9.	
10. Enter amount from line 5 (deductions) . . . . .		10.	<b>0</b>
11. Subtract line 10 from line 9, enter difference . . . . . <b>Complete Worksheet C</b>		11.	<b>0</b>

\*Wages paid to registered domestic partners will be treated the same for state income tax purposes as wages paid to spouses for California PIT withholding and PIT wages. This law does not impact federal income tax law. A registered domestic partner means an individual partner in a domestic partner relationship within the meaning of section 297 of the Family Code. For more information, please call our Taxpayer Assistance Center at 1-888-745-3886.

1. Enter estimate of total wages for tax year 2019 . . . . . 1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Enter estimate of nonwage income (line 6 of Worksheet B) . . . . . 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Add line 1 and line 2. Enter sum . . . . . 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
4. Enter itemized deductions or standard deduction (line 1 or 2 of Worksheet B, whichever is largest) . . . . . 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Enter adjustments to income (line 4 of Worksheet B) . . . . . 5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Add line 4 and line 5. Enter sum . . . . . 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
7. Subtract line 6 from line 3. Enter difference . . . . . 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
8. Figure your tax liability for the amount on line 7 by using the 2019 tax rate schedules below . . . . . 8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Enter personal exemptions (line F of Worksheet A x \$129.80) . . . . . 9. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
10. Subtract line 9 from line 8. Enter difference . . . . . 10. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
11. Enter any tax credits. (See FTB Form 540) . . . . . 11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Subtract line 11 from line 10. Enter difference. This is your total tax liability . . . . . 12. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
13. Calculate the tax withheld and estimated to be withheld during 2019. Contact your employer to request the amount that will be withheld on your wages based on the marital status and number of withholding allowances you will claim for 2019. Multiply the estimated amount to be withheld by the number of pay periods left in the year. Add the total to the amount already withheld for 2019 . . . . . 13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Subtract line 13 from line 12. Enter difference. If this is less than zero, you do not need to have additional taxes withheld . . . . . 14. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
15. Divide line 14 by the number of pay periods remaining in the year. Enter this figure on line 2 of the DE 4 . . . . . 15. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Your employer is not required to withhold the additional amount requested on line 2 of your DE 4. If your employer does not agree to withhold the additional amount, you may increase your withholdings as much as possible by using the “single” status with “zero” allowances. If the amount withheld still results in an underpayment of state income taxes, you may need to file quarterly estimates on Form 540-ES with the FTB to avoid a penalty.

THESE TABLES ARE FOR CALCULATING WORKSHEET C AND FOR 2019 ONLY

SINGLE PERSONS, DUAL INCOME MARRIED WITH MULTIPLE EMPLOYERS				
IF THE TAXABLE INCOME IS		COMPUTED TAX IS		
OVER	BUT NOT OVER	OF AMOUNT OVER . . .	PLUS	
\$0	\$8,544 ...	1.100%	\$0	\$0.00
\$8,544	\$20,255 ...	2.200%	\$8,544	\$93.98
\$20,255	\$31,969 ...	4.400%	\$20,255	\$351.62
\$31,969	\$44,377 ...	6.600%	\$31,969	\$867.04
\$44,377	\$56,085 ...	8.800%	\$44,377	\$1,685.97
\$56,085	\$286,492 ...	10.230%	\$56,085	\$2,716.27
\$286,492	\$343,788 ...	11.330%	\$286,492	\$26,286.91
\$343,788	\$572,980 ...	12.430%	\$343,788	\$32,778.55
\$572,980	\$1,000,000 ...	13.530%	\$572,980	\$61,267.12
\$1,000,000	and over...	14.630%	\$1,000,000	\$119,042.93

MARRIED FILING JOINT OR QUALIFYING WIDOW(ER) TAXPAYERS				
IF THE TAXABLE INCOME IS		COMPUTED TAX IS		
OVER	BUT NOT OVER	OF AMOUNT OVER . . .	PLUS	
\$0	\$17,088 ...	1.100%	\$0	\$0.00
\$17,088	\$40,510 ...	2.200%	\$17,088	\$187.97
\$40,510	\$63,938 ...	4.400%	\$40,510	\$703.25
\$63,938	\$88,754 ...	6.600%	\$63,938	\$1,734.08
\$88,754	\$112,170 ...	8.800%	\$88,754	\$3,371.94
\$112,170	\$572,984 ...	10.230%	\$112,170	\$5,432.55
\$572,984	\$687,576 ...	11.330%	\$572,984	\$52,573.82
\$687,576	\$1,000,000 ...	12.430%	\$687,576	\$65,557.09
\$1,000,000	\$1,145,961 ...	13.530%	\$1,000,000	\$104,391.39
\$1,145,961	and over	14.630%	\$1,145,961	\$124,139.90

UNMARRIED HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD				
IF THE TAXABLE INCOME IS		COMPUTED TAX IS		
OVER	BUT NOT OVER	OF AMOUNT OVER . . .	PLUS	
\$0	\$17,099 ...	1.100%	\$0	\$0.00
\$17,099	\$40,512 ...	2.200%	\$17,099	\$188.09
\$40,512	\$52,224 ...	4.400%	\$40,512	\$703.18
\$52,224	\$64,632 ...	6.600%	\$52,224	\$1,218.51
\$64,632	\$76,343 ...	8.800%	\$64,632	\$2,037.44
\$76,343	\$389,627 ...	10.230%	\$76,343	\$3,068.01
\$389,627	\$467,553 ...	11.330%	\$389,627	\$35,116.96
\$467,553	\$779,253 ...	12.430%	\$467,553	\$43,945.98
\$779,253	\$1,000,000 ...	13.530%	\$779,253	\$82,690.29
\$1,000,000	and over	14.630%	\$1,000,000	\$112,557.36

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The DE 4 information is collected for purposes of administering the PIT law and under the authority of Title 22, CCR, section 4340-1, and the California Revenue and Taxation Code, including section 18624. The Information Practices Act of 1977 requires that individuals be notified of how information they provide may be used. Further information is contained in the instructions that came with your last California resident income tax return.