

# Employer Obligation to Maintain and Report Records

## Regarding Wages, Benefits, Taxes and Other Contributions and Assessments Pursuant to State Wage, Benefit and Tax Laws

### Wage Payment Law (N.J.S.A. 34:11-4.1 et seq.) and Wage and Hour Law (N.J.S.A. 34:11-56a et seq.)

Each employer must keep a record of each employee which contains the following information:

- The name of the employee;
- The address of the employee;
- The birth date of the employee if the employee is under the age of 18;
- The total hours worked by the employee each day and each workweek\*;
- The earnings of each employee, including the regular hourly wage, gross to net amounts with itemized deductions, and the basis on which wages are paid;
- Regarding each employee who receives gratuities, the total gratuities received by the employee during the payroll week;
- Regarding each employee who receives gratuities, daily or weekly reports completed by the employee containing the following information:
  - the employee's name,
  - the employee's address,
  - the employee's social security number,
  - the name and address of the employer,
  - the calendar day or week covered by the report, and
  - the total amount of gratuities received; and
- Regarding each employee for whom the employer claims credit for food or lodging as a cash substitute for the employee who receives food or lodging supplied by the employer, information substantiating the cost of furnishing such food or lodgings, including but not limited to the nature and amount of any expenditures entering into the computation of the fair value of the food or lodging and the date required to compute the amount of the depreciated investment in any assets allocable to the furnishing of the lodgings, including the date of acquisition or construction, the original cost, the rate of depreciation and the total amount of accumulated depreciation on such assets.

The employer may use any system of time keeping provided that it is a complete, true and accurate record.

The employer must keep the wage and hour records described above for a period of six years.

The employer must keep the wage and hour records described above at the place of employment or in a central office in New Jersey.

### Prevailing Wage Act (N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25 et seq.)

The Prevailing Wage Act applies to employers only under certain circumstances.

Specifically, it applies only when an employer enters into a contract in excess of the prevailing wage contract threshold amount for any public work (as the term "public work" is defined at N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.26) to which any public body is a party or for public work to be done on a property or premises owned by a public body or leased or to be leased by a public body.

Each public works contractor must submit to the public body or lessor which contracted for the public works project a certified payroll record containing the following employee information:

- Name;
- Address;
- Social security number;
- Craft or trade;
- Actual hourly rate of pay;
- Actual daily, overtime and weekly hours worked in each craft or trade;
- Gross pay;
- Itemized deductions;
- Net pay paid to the employee;
- Any fringe benefits paid to approved plans, funds or programs on behalf of the employee; and
- Fringe benefits paid in cash to the employee.

Each public works contractor must, within 10 days of payment of wages, submit the certified payroll record to the public body or the lessor which contracted for the public works project.

Each public works contractor which employs one or more apprentices on a public works project must maintain with its records written evidence that the apprentice or apprentices are registered in an approved apprenticeship program while performing work on the project.

### Unemployment Compensation Law (N.J.S.A. 43:21-1 et seq.), Temporary Disability Benefits Law (N.J.S.A. 43:21-25 et seq.) and Family Leave Insurance Benefits Law, P.L. 2008, c. 17.

**Payroll records:** Each employing unit must maintain a record for each worker engaged in employment, which record must contain the following information about the worker:

- Full name, address and social security number;
- Total remuneration paid in each pay period showing separately cash, including commissions and bonuses; the cash value of all compensation in any medium other than cash; gratuities received regularly in the course of employment if reported by the employee, or if not so reported, the minimum wage rate prescribed under applicable laws of this State or of the United States, or the amount of remuneration actually received by the employee, whichever is higher, and service charges collected by the employer and distributed to workers in lieu of gratuities and tips;
- An entry under the heading "special payments" of the amount of any special payments, such as bonuses and gifts, which have been paid during the pay period but which relate to employment in a prior period. The following shall be shown separately under this heading: cash payments, cash value of other remuneration, the nature of such payments, the period during which the services were performed for which special payments were payable;

This notice must be conspicuously posted. Not later than December 7, 2011, each employer must also be provided a written copy of the notice or, for employees hired after November 7, 2011, a written copy of the notice must be provided at the time of the employee's hiring. See N.J.A.C. 12:2-1.3 for alternate methods of posting and distribution by electronic means.

\*This requirement does not apply with regard to those employees who are covered by the exceptions set forth at N.J.S.A. 34:11-4.6e. and 34:11-56a20, which includes but is not limited to individuals employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, professional or outside sales capacity.

- The date hired, rehired and returned to work after temporary layoff;
- The date separated from employment and the reason for separation;
- Such information as may be necessary to determine remuneration on a calendar week basis; and
- The number of base weeks (as the term "base week" is defined in N.J.S.A. 43:21-19(t)) and wages.

All records referred to in 1. through 7. above must be kept safe and readily accessible at the New Jersey place of business of the employing unit.

All records referred to in 1. through 7. above must be retained for the current calendar year and for the four preceding calendar years.

Once an employer becomes inactive, the employer must keep all records referred to in 1. through 7. above for the subsequent six quarters.

**Wage reporting:** Each employer (other than employers of domestic service workers) must electronically file an WR-30, "Employer Report of Wages Paid," with the Division of Revenue, within the Department of the Treasury, within 30 days after the end of each quarter. The WR-30 lists the name, social security number and wages paid to each employee and the number of base weeks worked by the employee during the calendar quarter.

Each employer of domestic service workers (as the term "domestic service worker" is defined at N.J.A.C. 12:16-13.7(b)) must file an annual, rather than quarterly, WR-30 with the Division of Revenue, within the Department of the Treasury.

**Contribution reporting:** Each employer (other than employers of domestic service workers) must electronically file an NJ-927, "Employer's Quarterly Report," with the Division of Revenue, within the Department of the Treasury, and remit the corresponding unemployment insurance, supplemental workforce fund, workforce development partnership fund, temporary disability insurance and family leave insurance contribution payments, within 30 days after the end of each quarter. The NJ-927 lists the total of all wages paid, the wages paid in excess of the taxable maximum, the taxable wages on which contributions are due, the number of workers employed during the pay period, the number of workers insured under a "private plan" for temporary disability insurance and the number of workers insured under a "private plan" for family leave insurance.

Each employer of domestic service workers (as the term "domestic service worker" is defined in N.J.A.C. 12:16-13.11(c)) must file an annual, rather than quarterly, NJ-927H, "Domestic Employer's Annual Report," with the Division of Revenue, within the Department of the Treasury.

**Temporary Disability Insurance and Family Leave Insurance information:** Each employer must retain all records pertaining to any election to discontinue a private plan for temporary disability insurance and/or family leave insurance benefits and must make such records available for inspection by the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance for a one-year period from the date that the private plan is terminated.

Each employer having a private plan for temporary disability insurance and/or family leave insurance must, within 10 days after the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance has mailed the employer a request for information with respect to a period of disability, furnish the Division with any information requested or known to the employer which may bear upon the eligibility of the claimant.

Each employer having two or more approved private plans in effect during a calendar half-year or any portion thereof must, on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the close of the calendar half-year, file a report showing the amount of taxable wages paid during such calendar half-year to employees while covered under each such private plan.

Each employer who provides temporary disability insurance to its employees through a self-insured private plan must, for the six-month periods ending June 30 and December 31 of each calendar year during which the self-insured private plan is in effect, file a statement with the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance, on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the end of the respective six-month period showing:

- The number of claims received during the six-month period,
- The number of claims accepted during the six-month period,
- The amount of benefits paid during the six-month period, and
- Such other information as the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance may require with respect to the financial ability of the self-insurer to meet the self-insured's obligations under the plan.

On or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the close of each calendar year during which a self-insured private plan for temporary disability insurance is in effect, the employer must file a report with the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance showing:

- The amount of funds available at the beginning of that year for payment of disability benefits,
- The amount contributed by workers during that year,
- The amount contributed by the employer during that year,
- The amount of disability benefits paid during that year,
- Direct cost of administration of the plan during that year, and
- The number of employees covered by the plan as of December 31.

Each employer who provides family leave insurance to its employees through a self-insured private plan must for the one-year period ending December 31 of each calendar year during which a self-insured private plan is in effect file a statement with the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance, on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the end of the one-year period showing the following information with regard to each of the following types of claims: care of a sick child, care of a sick spouse, care of a sick domestic partner, care of a sick civil union partner, care of a sick parent, bonding by biological parent with a newborn child, bonding by domestic partner or civil union partner of biological parent with a newborn child, bonding by individual with newly adopted child:

For possible failure to meet the record keeping or reporting requirements of the ...

	Phone	E-mail	Mail
Wage Payment Law Wage & Hour Law Prevailing Wage Act	609-292-2305	wagehour@dol.state.nj.us	New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Wage and Hour Compliance P.O. Box 389 Trenton, NJ 08625-0389
Unemployment Compensation Law Temporary Disability Benefits Law Family Leave Insurance Benefits	609-292-2810	emplaccts@dol.state.nj.us	New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Employer Accounts P.O. Box 947 Trenton, NJ 08625-0947
Workers' Compensation Law	609-292-2515	dwc@dol.state.nj.us	New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Workers' Compensation P.O. Box 381 Trenton, NJ 08625-0381
Gross Income Tax Act	609-292-6400	nj.taxation@treas.state.nj.us	New Jersey Department of the Treasury Division of Taxation Information and Publications Branch P.O. Box 281 Trenton, NJ 08625-0281

- The number of claims for family leave insurance benefits received during the one-year period,
- The number of claims for family leave insurance benefits accepted during the one-year period,
- The number of workers who received family leave insurance benefits during the one-year period,
- The amount of family leave insurance benefits paid during the one-year period,
- The average weekly family leave insurance benefit during the one-year period,
- The amount of sick leave, vacation leave or other fully paid time, which resulted in reduced benefit duration during the one-year period,
- With regard solely to family leave insurance benefit claims to care for sick family members, the amount of intermittent family leave insurance benefits paid during the one-year period, and
- The average duration of family leave insurance benefits, in days, during the one-year period.

The information reported in 1. through 8. above must be broken down by sex and by age group, beginning at 25 years and under and increasing in increments of 10.

On or before the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the close of each calendar year during which a self-insured private plan for family leave insurance is in effect, the employer must file a report with the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance showing:

- The amount of funds available at the beginning of that year for payment of family leave insurance benefits,
- The amount contributed by workers during that year,
- The direct cost of administration of the plan during that year,
- The number of employees covered by the plan as of December 31, and
- Such other information as the Division of Temporary Disability Insurance may require with respect to the financial ability of the self-insurer to meet the self-insured's obligation under the plan.

### Workers' Compensation Law (N.J.S.A. 34:15-1 et seq.)

Upon the happening of an accident or the occurrence of any occupational disease, an employer who has insurance coverage or utilizes a third-party administrator shall promptly furnish the insurance carrier or the third-party administrator with accident or occupational disease information.

Within three weeks after an accident or upon knowledge of the occurrence of an occupational disease, every insurance carrier, third-party administrator, statutory non-insured employer, including the State, counties, municipalities and school districts, and duly authorized self-insured employer not utilizing a third-party administrator must file a report designated as "first notice of accident" in electronic data interchange media with the Division of Workers' Compensation through the Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau in a format prescribed by the Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau. When filed by an insurance carrier or third-party administrator, the report must also be sent to the employer. If the employer disagrees with the report, the employer may prepare and sign an amended report and file the amended report with the insurance carrier or third-party administrator. The amended report must then be filed electronically with the Division through the Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau.

Every insurance carrier providing workers' compensation insurance and every workers' compensation self-insured employer shall designate a contact person who is responsible for responding to issues concerning medical and temporary disability benefits where no claim petition has been filed or where a claim petition has not been answered. The full name, telephone number, mailing address, email address and fax number of the contact person must be submitted to the Division of Workers' Compensation utilizing the Division's contact person form in the manner instructed on the form.

Each employer, when directed to do so by the Division of Workers' Compensation, must submit to the Division of Workers' Compensation copies of such medical certificates and reports as it may have on file.

### Gross Income Tax Act (N.J.S.A. 54A:1-1 et seq.)

**Employer's Quarterly Report:** The Employer's Quarterly Report, NJ-927, reports New Jersey Gross Income Tax withheld, unemployment insurance, supplemental workforce fund, workforce development partnership fund, family leave insurance and temporary disability insurance wage and withholding information.

Each employer is required to electronically file an Employer's Quarterly Report, NJ-927, for each calendar quarter, regardless of the amount of tax actually due for a particular quarter. Quarterly reports are due on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the end of each quarter.

Employers of "domestic service workers" may report and pay New Jersey Gross Income Tax withheld on an annual, rather than quarterly, basis on an NJ-927H.

**Records to be kept:** Every employer is required to keep all pertinent records available for inspection by authorized representatives of the New Jersey Division of Taxation. Such records must include the following:

- The amounts and dates of all wage payments subject to New Jersey Gross Income Tax;
- The names, addresses and occupations of employees receiving such payments;
- The periods of their employment;
- Their social security numbers;
- Their withholding exemption certificates;
- The employer's New Jersey Taxpayer Identification Number;
- Record of weekly, monthly, quarterly remittances and/or returns and annual returns filed;
- The dates and amounts of payments made; and
- Days worked inside and outside of New Jersey for all nonresident employees.