

FORM
M-4

MASSACHUSETTS EMPLOYEE'S WITHHOLDING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

Rev. 1/08



Print full name
Print home address.....

Social Security no.
City..... State Zip

Employee:

File this form or Form W-4 with your employer. Otherwise, Massachusetts Income Taxes will be withheld from your wages without exemptions.

Employer:

Keep this certificate with your records. If the employee is believed to have claimed excessive exemptions, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue should be so advised.

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR WITHHOLDING EXEMPTIONS

1. Your personal exemption. Write the figure "1." If you are age 65 or over or will be before next year, write "2"
2. If married and if exemption for spouse is allowed, write the figure "4." If your spouse is age 65 or over or will be before next year and if otherwise qualified, write "5." See Instruction C.....
3. Write the number of your qualified dependents. See Instruction D.....
4. Add the number of exemptions which you have claimed above and write the total
5. Additional withholding per pay period under agreement with employer \$
 - A. Check if you will file as head of household on your tax return.
 - B. Check if you are blind.
 - C. Check if spouse is blind and not subject to withholding.
 - D. Check if you are a full-time student engaged in seasonal, part-time or temporary employment whose estimated annual income will not exceed \$8,000.

EMPLOYER: DO NOT withhold if Box D is checked.

I certify that the number of withholding exemptions claimed on this certificate does not exceed the number to which I am entitled.

Date..... Signed

THIS FORM MAY BE REPRODUCED

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

A. Number. If you claim **more** than the correct number of exemptions, civil and criminal penalties may be imposed. You may claim a smaller number of exemptions. If you do not file a certificate, your employer must withhold on the basis of no exemptions.

If you expect to owe more income tax than will be withheld, you may either claim a smaller number of exemptions or enter into an agreement with your employer to have additional amounts withheld.

You should claim the total number of exemptions to which you are entitled to prevent excessive overwithholding, unless you have a significant amount of other income.

If you work for more than one employer at the same time, you must not claim any exemptions with employers other than your principal employer.

If you are married and if your spouse is subject to withholding, each may claim a personal exemption.

B. Changes. You may file a new certificate at any time if the number of exemptions **increases**. You **must** file a new certificate within 10 days if the number of exemptions previously claimed by you **decreases**. For example, if during the year your dependent son's income indicates that you will not provide over half of his support for the year, you must file a new certificate.

C. Spouse. If your spouse is not working or if she or he is working but not claiming the personal exemption or the age 65 or over exemption, generally you may claim those exemptions in line 2. However, if you are planning to file separate annual tax returns, you should not claim withholding exemptions for your spouse or for any dependents that will not be claimed on your annual tax return.

If claiming a wife or husband, write "4" in line 2. Using "4" is the withholding system adjustment for the \$4,400 exemption for a spouse.

D. Dependent(s). You may claim an exemption in line 3 for each individual who qualifies as a dependent under the Federal Income Tax Law. In addition, if one or more of your dependents will be under age 12 at year end, add "1" to your dependents total for line 3.

You are not allowed to claim "federal withholding deductions and adjustments" under the Massachusetts withholding system.

If you have income not subject to withholding, you are urged to have additional amounts withheld to cover your tax liability on such income. See line 5.

IF YOU CLAIM THE SAME NUMBER OF EXEMPTIONS FOR MASSACHUSETTS AND U.S. INCOME TAXES, COMPLETE U.S. FORM W-4 ONLY.

Form W-4 (2008)

Purpose. Complete Form W-4 so that your employer can withhold the correct federal income tax from your pay. Consider completing a new Form W-4 each year and when your personal or financial situation changes.

Exemption from withholding. If you are exempt, complete **only** lines 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 and sign the form to validate it. Your exemption for 2008 expires February 16, 2009. See Pub. 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

Note. You cannot claim exemption from withholding if (a) your income exceeds \$900 and includes more than \$300 of unearned income (for example, interest and dividends) and (b) another person can claim you as a dependent on their tax return.

Basic instructions. If you are not exempt, complete the **Personal Allowances Worksheet** below. The worksheets on page 2 adjust your withholding allowances based on itemized deductions, certain credits,

adjustments to income, or two-earner/multiple job situations. Complete all worksheets that apply. However, you may claim fewer (or zero) allowances.

Head of household. Generally, you may claim head of household filing status on your tax return only if you are unmarried and pay more than 50% of the costs of keeping up a home for yourself and your dependent(s) or other qualifying individuals. See Pub. 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information, for information.

Tax credits. You can take projected tax credits into account in figuring your allowable number of withholding allowances. Credits for child or dependent care expenses and the child tax credit may be claimed using the **Personal Allowances Worksheet** below. See Pub. 919, How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding, for information on converting your other credits into withholding allowances.

Nonwage income. If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or dividends, consider making estimated tax

payments using Form 1040-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals. Otherwise, you may owe additional tax. If you have pension or annuity income, see Pub. 919 to find out if you should adjust your withholding on Form W-4 or W-4P.

Two earners or multiple jobs. If you have a working spouse or more than one job, figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim on all jobs using worksheets from only one Form W-4. Your withholding usually will be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the Form W-4 for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed on the others. See Pub. 919 for details.

Nonresident alien. If you are a nonresident alien, see the Instructions for Form 8233 before completing this Form W-4.

Check your withholding. After your Form W-4 takes effect, use Pub. 919 to see how the dollar amount you are having withheld compares to your projected total tax for 2008. See Pub. 919, especially if your earnings exceed \$130,000 (Single) or \$180,000 (Married).

Personal Allowances Worksheet (Keep for your records.)

A Enter "1" for **yourself** if no one else can claim you as a dependent **A** _____

B Enter "1" if:
 { • You are single and have only one job; or
 • You are married, have only one job, and your spouse does not work; or
 • Your wages from a second job or your spouse's wages (or the total of both) are \$1,500 or less. } **B** _____

C Enter "1" for your **spouse**. But, you may choose to enter "-0-" if you are married and have either a working spouse or more than one job. (Entering "-0-" may help you avoid having too little tax withheld.) **C** _____

D Enter number of **dependents** (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return **D** _____

E Enter "1" if you will file as **head of household** on your tax return (see conditions under **Head of household** above) **E** _____

F Enter "1" if you have at least \$1,500 of **child or dependent care expenses** for which you plan to claim a credit **F** _____

(**Note.** Do **not** include child support payments. See Pub. 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for details.)

G Child Tax Credit (including additional child tax credit). See Pub. 972, Child Tax Credit, for more information.
 • If your total income will be less than \$58,000 (\$86,000 if married), enter "2" for each eligible child.
 • If your total income will be between \$58,000 and \$84,000 (\$86,000 and \$119,000 if married), enter "1" for each eligible child plus "1" **additional** if you have 4 or more eligible children. **G** _____

H Add lines A through G and enter total here. (**Note.** This may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your tax return.) ► **H** _____

For accuracy, **complete all worksheets that apply.**
 { • If you plan to **itemize or claim adjustments to income** and want to reduce your withholding, see the **Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet** on page 2.
 • If you have **more than one job** or are **married and you and your spouse both work** and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$40,000 (\$25,000 if married), see the **Two-Earners/Multiple Jobs Worksheet** on page 2 to avoid having too little tax withheld.
 • If **neither** of the above situations applies, **stop here** and enter the number from line H on line 5 of Form W-4 below.

----- Cut here and give Form W-4 to your employer. Keep the top part for your records. -----

Form W-4		Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate		OMB No. 1545-0074
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service		► Whether you are entitled to claim a certain number of allowances or exemption from withholding is subject to review by the IRS. Your employer may be required to send a copy of this form to the IRS.		2008
1 Type or print your first name and middle initial.		Last name		2 Your social security number
Home address (number and street or rural route)		3 <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Married, but withhold at higher Single rate. Note. If married, but legally separated, or spouse is a nonresident alien, check the "Single" box.		
City or town, state, and ZIP code		4 If your last name differs from that shown on your social security card, check here. You must call 1-800-772-1213 for a replacement card. ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
5 Total number of allowances you are claiming (from line H above or from the applicable worksheet on page 2)			5	
6 Additional amount, if any, you want withheld from each paycheck			6	\$
7 I claim exemption from withholding for 2008, and I certify that I meet both of the following conditions for exemption. • Last year I had a right to a refund of all federal income tax withheld because I had no tax liability and • This year I expect a refund of all federal income tax withheld because I expect to have no tax liability. If you meet both conditions, write "Exempt" here ►				7
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this certificate and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.				
Employee's signature (Form is not valid unless you sign it.) ►				Date ►
8 Employer's name and address (Employer: Complete lines 8 and 10 only if sending to the IRS.)		9 Office code (optional)	10 Employer identification number (EIN)	