

**871—23.4(96) Wages—back pay.** A payment in the form of or in lieu of back pay to an individual (exclusive of legal fees and other litigation expenses) shall be reported by the employer as total and taxable wages paid to the individual in the quarter in which the employer actually made the payment in the form of or in lieu of back pay. A payment for back pay shall be taxable and recoverable if it meets the definition of wages contained in rule 23.3(96). Punitive or liquidated damages for other than lost wages, and job search expenses, are not taxable, recoverable or deductible as a back pay award.

**23.4(1)** Where the back pay wages, award or a judgment is paid as remuneration for employment by an employer into an account for an individual, the wages, award or judgment shall be considered as wages paid in the quarter in which the employer actually pays the wages, award or judgment to an account for the individual.

**23.4(2)** If an individual receives benefits for a period of unemployment and subsequently receives a payment in the form of or in lieu of back pay for the same period, and if the benefits are recovered by the department under an agreement between the employer and the individual allowing the employer to deduct and remit to the unemployment compensation fund the amount of benefits received by the individual from the payment in the form of or in lieu of back pay, the employer shall be required to report this amount to the department as total and taxable wages paid to the individual in the calendar quarter in which the amount is actually paid.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 96.7(3) and 96.8(5).