

**701—46.4 (422) Withholding on nonresidents.**

**46.4(1)** *General rules.* Payers of Iowa income to nonresidents are required to withhold Iowa income tax and to remit the tax to the department on all payments of Iowa income to nonresidents except payments of wages to nonresidents engaged in film production or television production described in subrule 46.4(5); income payments for agricultural commodities or products described in subrule 46.4(6); deferred compensation payments, pension, and annuity payments attributable to personal services in Iowa by nonresidents described in subrule 46.4(7); and partnership distributions from certain publicly traded partnerships described in subrule 46.4(8). Withholding agents should use the following methods and rates in withholding for nonresidents:

*a. Wages or salaries.* Use the same withholding procedures, tables, formulas, and rates as are used for residents. See rule 701—46.2(422). Subrule 46.4(5) is an exception to the general rule. In addition, in accordance with the reciprocal tax agreement between Iowa and Illinois described in 701—subrule 38.13(1), Iowa withholding tax is not withheld on wages of Illinois residents who perform personal services in Iowa.

*b. Payments other than wages, salaries, and other compensation for personal services.* In lieu of using withholding tables or computer formulas to determine the amount of Iowa income tax to be withheld from payments made to nonresidents other than for salaries, wages, or other compensation for personal services, or income payments to nonresidents for agricultural commodities or products, Iowa income tax should be withheld at a rate of 5 percent of the amount of the payment. Subrule 46.4(6) describes the optional exemption from withholding of income payments made to nonresidents for the sale of agricultural commodities or products.

Nonresidents who prefer to make Iowa estimate payments instead of having Iowa income tax withheld from income payments from Iowa sources should refer to subrule 46.4(3) and rule 701—49.3(422).

**46.4(2)** *Income of nonresidents subject to withholding.* Listed below are various types of income paid to nonresidents which are subject to withholding tax. The list is for illustrative purposes only and is not deemed to be all-inclusive.

1. Personal service, including salaries, wages, commissions and fees for personal service wholly performed within this state and such portions of similar income of nonresident traveling salespersons or agents as may be derived from services rendered in this state.
2. Rents and royalties from real or personal property located within this state.
3. Interest or dividends derived from securities or investments within this state, when such interests or dividends constitute income of any business, trade, profession or occupation carried on within this state and subject to taxation.
4. Income derived from any business of a temporary nature carried on within this state by a nonresident, such as contracts for construction and similar contracts.
5. The distributive share of a nonresident beneficiary of an estate or trust, limited, however, to the portion thereof subject to Iowa income tax in the hands of the nonresident.
6. Income derived from sources within this state by attorneys, physicians, engineers, accountants, and similar sources as compensation for services rendered to clients in this state.
7. Compensation received by nonresident actors, singers, performers, entertainers, and wrestlers for performances in this state. See subrule 46.4(5) for an exception to this rule.
8. Income received by a nonresident partner or shareholder of a partnership or S corporation doing business in Iowa. See subrule 46.4(8) for the exemption from withholding for partnership distributions from certain publicly traded partnerships.
9. The Iowa gross income of a nonresident who is employed and receiving compensation for services shall include compensation for personal services which are rendered within this state. Compensation for personal services rendered by a nonresident wholly without the state is excluded from gross income of the nonresident even though the payment of such compensation may be made by a resident individual, partnership or corporation.

10. The gross income from commissions earned by a nonresident traveling salesperson, agent or other employee for services performed or sales made whose compensation depends directly on volume of business transacted by the nonresident, includes that proportion of the total compensation received which the volume of business or sales by the employee within this state bears to the total volume of business or sales within and without the state.

11. Payments made to landlords by agents, including elevator operators, for grain or other commodities which have been received by the landlord as rent constitute taxable income of the landlord when sold by the landlord. See subrule 46.4(6) for the exemption from withholding on incomes paid to nonresidents for the sale of agricultural commodities or products.

12. Wages paid to nonresidents of Iowa who earn the compensation from regularly assigned duties in Iowa and one or more other states for a railway company or for a motor carrier are not taxable to Iowa. Pursuant to the Amtrak Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 1990, the nonresidents in this situation are subject only to the income tax laws of their states of residence. Thus, when an Iowa resident performs regularly assigned duties in two or more states for a railroad or a motor carrier, the only state income tax that should be withheld from the wages paid for these duties is Iowa income tax.

13. Wages paid to nonresidents of Iowa who earn compensation from regularly assigned duties in Iowa and one or more states for an airline company. In accordance with Public Law 103-272 enacted by Congress, airline employees who are nonresidents of Iowa are subject only to the income tax laws of their states of residence or the state in which they perform 50 percent or more of their duties.

14. Wages paid to nonresidents of Iowa who earn compensation from regularly assigned duties in Iowa for a merchant marine company. In accordance with Public Law 106-489 enacted by Congress, interstate waterway workers who are nonresidents of Iowa are subject only to the income tax laws of their states of residence.

**46.4(3) Nonresident certificate of release.** Where a nonresident payee makes the option to pay estimated Iowa income tax, a certificate of release from withholding will be issued by the Iowa department of revenue to the designated payers. The certificate of release will be forwarded to the specified withholding agent(s) and payer(s), and will state the amount of income covered by the estimated tax payment. Any income paid in excess of the amount so stated will be subject to withholding tax at the current rate. See 701—Chapter 49 for information on making estimate payments.

**46.4(4) Recovering excess tax withheld.** A nonresident payee may recover any excess Iowa income tax withheld from income of the payee by filing an Iowa income tax return after the close of the tax year and reporting income from Iowa sources in accordance with the income tax return instructions.

**46.4(5) Exemption from withholding of nonresidents engaged in film production or television production in this state.** Nonresidents engaged in film production or television production in this state are not subject to state withholding on wages earned from this activity if the nonresidents' employer has applied to the department for exemption from withholding of state income tax and the employer's application includes the following information about the nonresident employees:

- a. The employees' names.
- b. The employees' permanent mailing addresses.
- c. The employees' social security numbers.
- d. The estimated amounts the employees are to be paid for services provided by the employees in this state.

The employer's application for exemption from withholding for the nonresident employees will not be approved by the department if the employer fails to provide all the required information.

Only those nonresident employees described in the application for exemption from withholding will be covered when the application is approved by the department. If additional nonresident employees are hired after the initial application for exemption is filed, those employees should be described in an amendment to the application for exemption which must be filed with the department of revenue.

Applications for exemption from withholding for nonresident employees engaged in film production or television production should be directed to the Iowa Department of Revenue, Compliance Division, Examination Section, Hoover State Office Building, P.O. Box 10456, Des Moines, Iowa 50306.

**46.4(6) Exemption from withholding for the sale of agricultural commodities or products.** Withholding agents are not required to withhold state income tax from income payments made to nonresidents or representatives of the nonresidents for the sales of agricultural commodities or products, if the withholding agents provide certain information to the department of revenue about the sales. The following paragraphs describe the agricultural commodities and products that are included in the exemption from withholding, specify the information needed on the sales and clarify other issues related to the exemption from withholding. 701—subrule 49.3(4) describes an election for withholding agents to make estimate payments on behalf of nonresident taxpayers for net incomes of the nonresidents from agricultural commodities or products.

a. Agricultural commodities or products included in the exemption from withholding. Withholding agents are not required to withhold state income tax from income payments they make to nonresidents or representatives of the nonresidents for the sale of commodity credit certificates, grain (corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, etc.), livestock (cattle, hogs, sheep, horses, etc.), domestic fowl (chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, etc.), or any other agricultural commodities or products, if the withholding agents provide the department of revenue with the information specified in paragraph "b" of this subrule.

b. Information to be provided to the department by withholding agents claiming exemption from withholding on income payments made to nonresidents for the sales of agricultural items. The following information is to be provided on a listing to the department of revenue by withholding agents electing exemption from withholding of state income tax on income payments made in the calendar year to nonresidents or representatives of the nonresidents on the sales of agricultural commodities or products made in the year:

- (1) Name of the nonresident (last name, first name and middle initial).
- (2) Home address of the nonresident.
- (3) Social security number of the nonresident.
- (4) Aggregate payments made in the calendar year for the nonresident (includes payments made to a representative of the nonresident on behalf of the nonresident).
- (5) Two-digit Iowa county code number of the first one of the following that applies to the nonresident:
  1. County in which the nonresident owns real property or personal property.
  2. County in which the nonresident leases real property or personal property.
  3. County in which the nonresident has agricultural products stored or in which livestock is located.
  4. County where the nonresident has performed custom farming activities in the year.
  5. County where the nonresident has other business activities in Iowa other than merely sales activities.

If a nonresident does not own or lease property in Iowa or have other connection with Iowa as described in subparagraph 46.4(6)"b"(5), items "3," "4," and "5," the nonresident is not subject to Iowa income tax on the income payments for agricultural commodities or products and the nonresident's income payments should not be included on the listing.

In a situation where a withholding agent is unable to get all the information that is to be provided to the department on income payments on sales of agricultural items, the agent is relieved of the requirement to withhold if the agent can provide written evidence showing an attempt was made to acquire all the information.

The listing of aggregate income payments to nonresidents with an Iowa connection for sales of agricultural commodities and products in the calendar year should be sent to the department by the withholding agent on or before April 1 of the year following the year in which the income payments were made. In lieu of the listing, the withholding agent may compile the information on aggregate income payments to nonresidents on a magnetic tape, diskette or other electronic reporting, provided the submission meets departmental guidelines described in 701—paragraph 8.3(1)"e."

The listing, magnetic tape or other electronic submission should be sent to the following address: Iowa Department of Revenue, Compliance Division, Examination Section, Hoover State Office Building, P.O. Box 10456, Des Moines, Iowa 50306; [idr@iowa.gov](mailto:idr@iowa.gov).

A withholding agent is not exempt from withholding of state income tax on income payments to nonresidents on sales of agricultural commodities or products if the withholding agent does not provide the department of revenue with information on income payments made during the year by April 1 of the subsequent year.

c. Rescinded IAB 3/2/05, effective 4/6/05.

**46.4(7) Exemption from withholding of payments made to nonresidents for deferred compensation, pensions, and annuities.** Iowa income tax withholding is not required from payments of deferred compensation, pensions, and annuities made to nonresidents which are attributable to personal services of the nonresidents in Iowa since these payments are not subject to Iowa income tax. See rule 701—40.45(422) for the exclusion from Iowa income tax for these payments received by nonresidents.

**46.4(8) Exemption from withholding of partnership distributions made to nonresidents of certain publicly traded partnerships.** For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, a nonresident who is a partner in a publicly traded partnership as defined in Section 7704(b) of the Internal Revenue Code is not subject to state withholding tax on the partner's pro rata share, provided that the publicly traded partnership submits the following information to the department for each partner whose Iowa income from the partnership exceeded \$500:

- a. Partner's name.
- b. Partner's address.
- c. Partner's taxpayer identification number.
- d. Partner's pro rata share of Iowa income from the partnership for the tax year.

A partnership is a publicly traded partnership if the interests in the partnership are traded on an established securities market or the interests in the partnership are readily traded on a secondary market or its substantial equivalent.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.15, Iowa Code section 422.16 as amended by 2007 Iowa Acts, House File 923, section 3, and Iowa Code sections 422.17 and 422.73.

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