



# Alaska Employer

Newsletter

## Unemployment Insurance Tax



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mike Dunleavy, Governor

Dr. Tamika L. Ledbetter, Commissioner

Patsy Westcott, Director

September 2021

**Questions about  
your rate, account  
or contributions?**

### CONTACTS

#### Juneau Central Office

P.O. Box 115509  
Juneau, AK 99811-5509  
Phone: (907) 465-2757  
Toll free: (888) 448-3527  
Fax: (907) 465-2374  
Email: ESD.Tax@Alaska.Gov  
Relay Alaska: (800) 770-8973

#### FIELD TAX OFFICES

##### Anchorage

P.O. Box 241767  
Anchorage, AK 99524-1767  
Phone: (907) 269-4850  
Fax: (907) 269-4845

##### Fairbanks

675 7th Ave., Station L  
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4595  
Phone: (907) 451-2876  
Fax: (907) 451-2883

##### Juneau

P.O. Box 115509  
Juneau, AK 99811-5509  
Phone: (907) 465-2787  
Fax: (907) 465-2374

##### Kenai

145 Main Street Loop,  
Suite 143, Kenai, AK 99611  
Phone: (907) 283-0350  
Fax: (907) 283-5152

##### Mat-Su

877 Commercial Drive  
Wasilla, AK 99654-6937  
Phone: (907) 352-2535  
Fax: (907) 352-2581

#### UI Tax Representative

Toll free: (888) 448-2937

## Take steps to reduce your 2022 UI tax rate now!

Employment Security Tax has begun the process of calculating contribution rates for the calendar year 2022. Per AS 23.20.280, employers who have delinquent reports or a balance due on the account can be assigned the penalty rate, which is the highest rate (5.40%). Factors that will result in receiving the penalty rate are:

- A balance due on your account;
- Missing reports for any quarter (even if there is a credit on the account); or
- A balance due or missing reports on your predecessor's (prior owner's) account.

In 2021, 253 employers received the penalty rate. An employer with the highest experience rate of 2.07% would pay a maximum of \$902.52 for an employee; whereas an employer with the 5.40% penalty rate would be liable for \$2,354.40. This is more than double the highest experience rate and more than five times the amount for the lowest experience rate of 1.00%!

Contact any of the offices listed in this newsletter to:

- Establish deferred payment contracts;
- Advise you of rate-lowering options that you may not have realized were available;
- Assist you in the completion of any of our forms; and
- Confirm contribution reports and payments are posted correctly to your account or to your predecessor's account.

### Tax Online System

Visit [labor.alaska.gov/estax](http://labor.alaska.gov/estax) and click on "Online Employer Services" to file your reports online, make payments using electronic fund transfer (EFT), update your account, and more!

*Alaska Economic Trends Magazine is a monthly publication that covers a broad range of economic issues. To view the electronic magazine, search articles and archives, and sign up for a FREE electronic subscription visit [labor.alaska.gov/trends](http://labor.alaska.gov/trends).*

## Why do I receive so many notices?

The short answer is we need a missing quarterly report and/or payment from you. Our agency makes an extraordinary effort to contact employers by email, phone, and mail to advise of any missing reports or payments. Please do not assume your report or payment has crossed in the mail, or if you use a third-party that they have provided the necessary report or payment. If our agency has notified you of a missing report or payment and you believe they have already been submitted, use the Tax Online System (TOS) to see the status of your report and balance, or contact any office listed on this newsletter to confirm the status of your account.

## Did you update your 2021 tax rate?

As some employers' rates have increased this year, we have seen underpayments for the contributions due. Please confirm your 2021 rate has been updated in your payroll system. If you are using a third-party payroll company or a staffing/leasing company, please assure you have provided them with your correct 2021 rate. Although you may be paying a staffing/leasing company or a third-party to your file reports or pay your contributions due, you are ultimately the one responsible for reports and proper payments.

## Are you a seasonal employer?

If you are a seasonal employer who typically files "zero" reports (no wages were paid) for the quarters your business is seasonally closed, you may submit these reports when you are closing for the season. Email, fax, or mail in your future "zero" reports when you submit your final report for the season, and we will apply them to the appropriate quarter. Currently TOS does not allow for future reporting. The Alaska Quarterly Contribution Report form is available on our website at [labor.alaska.gov/estax/forms/toc\\_forms.htm](https://labor.alaska.gov/estax/forms/toc_forms.htm).



**Third quarter reports and payments  
are due by Oct. 31, 2021.**

We are an equal opportunity employer/program.  
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.