



Withholding Tax Formula Method

Louisiana Administrative Code 61:I.1501 provides the income tax withholding tables and formulas required by [R.S. 47:112](#) to enable employers to deduct and withhold the proper amount of income tax from their employee's wages.

The income tax withholding formulas provided in Subsection D of the regulation are based on the deductions claimed on the employee's Form R-1300, *Withholding Exemption Certificate* (L-4). The correct withholding formula depends upon the standard deduction claimed and annual wages. Any taxpayer may use 1 or 2 as the standard deduction; however, those taxpayers claiming "2" on Form R-1300 (L-4) must use the Married-Joint, Qualifying Surviving Spouse, or Head of Household withholding formulas.

Once it has been determined which formula to use, the withholding tax per pay period can be determined based on the employee's salary per pay period and number of deductions. In calculating the withholding tax, if any of the variables in the formula are negative, the variable should be considered zero.

Effective on or after January 1, 2026:

Formula Variables

1. **W** is the withholding tax per pay period.
2. **S** is employee's salary for the pay period.
3. **N** is the number of pay periods.

2026 Standard Deduction:

1. Single Individual and Married Separate \$12,875
2. Married-Joint Return, Qualified Surviving Spouse, or Head of Household \$25,750

A. Withholding Formula for Taxpayers Not Claiming a Standard Deduction:

$$W = S * .0309$$

B. Withholding Formula for Single or Married-Separate Taxpayers Claiming the Standard Deduction:

$$W = (S - (12,875 / N)) * .0309$$

C. Withholding Formula for Married-Joint Return, Qualified Surviving Spouse, or Head of Household Taxpayers Claiming the Standard Deduction:

$$W = (S - (25,750 / N)) * .0309$$