

## Instructions For Schedule A (Tier 6)

Schedule A must be completed and filed as part of the Form 312N for each year of the project through the expiration of all tax incentives.

## Instructions for Boxes in the Heading

Project Number. Enter the project number stated in the heading of the project agreement.
Date of Application. Enter the date of the application shown in paragraph 1(a) of the project agreement.
Nebraska ID Number. Enter the Nebraska ID number assigned by the Department or the individual's Social Security number.
Tax Year End. Enter the last day of the year for the tax return which includes this Form 312N.
Required Rate of Pay. Enter the required annual rate of pay stated in paragraph 5(a) of the project agreement.
Salaried and Hourly. Payroll Frequency and Number of Pay Periods.

1. Enter the payroll frequency, such as weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, or monthly.
2. Enter the total number of pay dates in the year being reported. Count every pay date even if a payment was not issued on that date.

The following factors may affect the number of pay dates:

- If employees are paid on the same day of the week, it may result in an extra pay date in the year;
- If the taxpayer or a predecessor was in existence prior to hiring the first employee; or
- If the taxpayer or a predecessor had a short tax year.

Weeks Paid in the Base Year. Enter the number of weeks paid in the base year.
Weeks Paid in the Current Year. Enter the number of weeks paid in the year reported.

## General Instructions Schedule A

Schedule A is used to calculate the employment growth at the project, the compensation credit earned, and the income tax withholding ratio used for retention or refund of Nebraska income tax withholding.

The employment growth equals the lesser of the overall project employment growth (Method 1), or the growth in new employees hired after the base year and earning the required rate of pay (Method 2). Method 1 and Method 2 utilize a full time equivalent (FTE) calculation based on an increase in hours paid at the project.

- Hours included in the FTE employee calculation are hours paid in the year for time worked and for leave time used instead of work (for example, regular, overtime at straight time, vacation, holiday, jury, funeral, and sick leave).
- Hours recorded in the payroll system to generate additional compensation cannot be included in the FTE employee calculation (for example, vacation pay upon termination, hours recorded to generate a bonus or severance payment, or to generate overtime pay differential, and short term disability reimbursed by a third party).
- Hours included in the calculation of Schedule A are limited to hours paid to employees of an entity within the project. All independent contractors and leased employees are excluded, unless the employment situation meets the requirements of a qualified employee leasing company.
- A salaried employee who receives a predetermined amount of compensation each pay period is considered to have worked the number of hours that the employer has established as the regular work week for a full-time hourly employee.
- If an employee other than a teleworker is paid solely on commission and is eligible for all employee benefits, include hours for this employee as if the employee is a salaried employee. If a teleworker is paid solely on commission or on a per-item basis, exclude all hours for this employee.


## Section A - Base-Year Employees

## General Instructions

Section A calculates the number of equivalent base-year employees.
Base-year employees include individuals who were employed in Nebraska and subject to the Nebraska income tax on compensation received from:

- The taxpayer or a predecessors during the base year for work at the project;
- An acquired business during the 366 days preceding the date of acquisition, if the acquisition occurred after the date of application; and
- The taxpayer or a predecessor during the 366 days prior to the date of application for a move of business activities to the project.

The number of base-year employees will not decrease. However, employees will not be considered base-year employees for more than one project of the taxpayer with the same base year. In this situation, these employees should be counted in the base year of the taxpayer's project at which they were last employed.
Section A must be updated each year for adjustments to the previously calculated base-year employees, through the expiration of all tax incentives.
The FTE column is computed by dividing the Hours Paid column by the product of 40 , multiplied by the number of weeks paid in the base year. Count every pay date even if a payment was not issued on that date. The number of weeks paid in a year may vary due to the pay date and payroll frequency of the applicant, or if the taxpayer or a predecessor had a short tax year.

## Examples:

- If the payroll frequency is weekly and there are 53 pay dates in the year, the number of weeks paid in the year is 53 , even though some of the hours were worked in the prior year.
- If the payroll frequency is monthly and the year has 365 days, the number of weeks paid in the year is 52.14 ( 365 days divided by 7 days in a week).
- If there is a short tax year with three pay dates for biweekly pay periods, the number of weeks paid in the year is six.

If the number of weeks paid is not the same for the time periods used to compute lines $1,2,3$, and 4 , calculate the FTE column for each line and add the resulting FTE employee numbers.
If the salaried and the hourly employees are not paid on the same payroll frequency, calculate Section A for the salaried employees and the hourly employees separately, and add the resulting FTE employee numbers.

Compute the FTE employees to 3 decimals and round to 2 decimals. For example, 687.565 rounds to 687.57 and 687.564 rounds to 687.56 .

## Specific Line Instructions

Line 1. Enter the adjusted base-year employee hours reported on Schedule A, line 5, of the prior tax year. There is no adjustment for an individual who was terminated.
For the Application Year. Enter the total hours paid in the base year to employees who worked at the project at some time during the base year. If some employees only worked at the project for a portion of the base year, include ALL hours paid to those employees for work in Nebraska.
Line 2. If any employees worked for the taxpayer at a non-project location in Nebraska in the base year and then worked at the project at any time after the base year, enter the hours paid to those employees in the base year. These hours remain in the base year calculation for all years, even if the employees' employment at the project ended. (See Line 2 Example)

Line 3. If the taxpayer operated a business in Nebraska in the 366 days prior to the application date and the business was moved to the project during the current year, enter the hours paid at the original business location in the 366 days prior to the date of application. Include hours paid to all individuals employed at the original business location during this time period even though some individuals did not move to the project. Form 312N, Schedule III, lines 12 and 13, must be completed and filed as a part of the Form 312N for the year the business was moved.
Line 4. If the taxpayer acquired a Nebraska business whose business activity was added to the project, and the business operated in Nebraska in the 366 days prior to the acquisition date, there is an addition to the previously calculated base year hours. Form 312N, Schedule III, lines 3 through 5, or lines 6 through 8, must also be completed and filed as a part of the Form 312N for the year the business was acquired. (See Line 4 Example)

- If the date of acquisition is after the application date, enter the hours paid to all employees of the newly-added business in the 366 days prior to the date of acquisition.
- If the date of acquisition occurred prior to the application date, but after the base year, include all hours paid at the acquired business during the base year.
- If the acquisition occurred during the base year, include all hours paid at the acquired business during the entire base year by the taxpayer and the predecessor.

Line 5. In the Hours Paid column, add lines 1, 2, 3, and 4 to compute the adjusted number of base-year employee hours.
In the FTE column, calculate the adjusted number of base-year employees: 1) multiply 40 times the number of weeks paid in the base year; and 2) divide the Hours Paid column amount by this number.

## General Instructions

Section B categorizes the compensation (subject to Medicare tax) and hours paid at the project, as defined in the agreement. The compensation and hours paid during the current are segregated based on whether the employees were base-year employees or new employees whose work eligibility status was timely verified using E-verify, and on their rate of pay. After determining the appropriate line of Section B to report an employee's hours, report the compensation subject to Medicare tax in the Compensation Subject to Medicare tax column for this line. Report all hours paid in the year in the Hours Paid column, even though some of the hours were worked in the prior year.
Base-year employees are those individuals with hours included in the calculation of Section A in any year of the project. New employees are those individuals who are not base year employees.
The compensation paid to a new employee is compared to the required annual rate of pay to determine how to categorize his or her compensation and hours paid. An annualized rate of pay is calculated for: an employee with compensation less than the required rate of pay who worked part time or worked only a portion of the year; and an employee who was paid for more than 52 weeks in the year. The annualized rate of pay is only used to determine whether or not the employee met the required annual rate of pay.
The required annual rate of pay varies by the calendar year of application. The minimum required rate of pay, as an annual amount, is stated in paragraph 5 of the project agreement.
If the project is located in more than one county, the highest county average weekly wage for the year of application is used to determine the required rate of pay. For the required annual rate of pay for each county, see the Department's website.
The FTE column is calculated by: 1) multiplying 40 times the number of weeks paid in the current year; and 2) dividing the Hours Paid column amount by this number. Count every pay date even if a payment was not issued on that date. The number of weeks paid in a year may vary due to the pay date and payroll frequency of the applicant, or if the taxpayer or a predecessor had a short tax year.

- If the payroll frequency was weekly and there were 53 pay dates in the year, the number of weeks paid in the year is 53 .
- If the payroll frequency was monthly and the year had 365 days, the number of weeks paid in the tax year is 52.14 ( 365 days divided by 7 days in a week).
- If the taxpayer or a predecessor had a a short tax year that had three pay dates for biweekly pay periods, the number of weeks paid in the year is six.
If salaried and hourly employees were not paid on the same payroll frequency, calculate Section B for the salaried employees and the hourly employees separately, and add the resulting FTE numbers.
E-Verify, the federal electronic verification program or a successor program, must be used to evaluate the work eligibility of all newly-hired employees hired on or after the date of application. The hours worked and compensation paid to an employee who was not eligible to work in Nebraska according to E-Verify, or an employee whose work eligibility status was not timely verified using E-Verify, must be excluded from lines 6 b and 7 a for the life of the project. See Revenue Ruling 29-13-3.
Compute the FTE employees to 3 decimals and round to 2 decimals. For example, 687.565 becomes 687.57 and 687.564 becomes 687.56.


## Specific Line Instructions

Line 6a. Enter the compensation and the number of hours paid in the current year to individuals who have hours included in any year of the project in Section A, Base-Year Employees. Include hours of employees at the project in the current year who worked for the taxpayer at a non-project site in Nebraska in the base year, employees who worked in Nebraska for a business which moved to the project, and employees added to the project by acquisition. Refer to Section A, General Instructions, for a more detailed description of base-year employees. (See Line 6a Example)

LINE 6b. For all employees whose work eligibility status was timely verified using E-Verify, who were not base-year employees and were not paid the required rate of pay for the year, enter the current year compensation and number of hours paid.
LINE 7a. For all employees whose work eligibility status was timely verified using E-Verify, who were not base-year employees and were paid the required rate of pay for the year, enter the current year compensation and number of hours paid. (See Line 7a Example)
Line 7b. Enter the compensation for each new employee included in line 7 a that is in excess of $\$ 1$ million.
Line 7c. In the Compensation Subject to Medicare Tax column, subtract line 7b from 7a. In the FTE column, calculate the current year FTE by: 1) multiplying 40 times the number of weeks paid in the current year; and 2) dividing the Hours Paid column amount by this number.

Line 8. Add lines 6 c and 7 c of the Compensation column and the Hours Paid column. The Compensation column total should equal the project wages subject to Medicare tax for all employees (reported in Box 5 of the employees' Wage and Tax Statements, Forms W-2) whose work eligibility status was timely verified using E-verify, minus the amount on line 7b.
In the FTE column, calculate the current year FTE by: 1) multiplying 40 times the number of weeks paid in the current year; and 2) dividing the Hours Paid column amount by this number.

## Section C - Number of Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)

The FTE growth for the project is the lesser of the overall project employment growth (Method 1), or the new employees earning the required rate of pay (Method 2). The project must attain the minimum required level of employment without any benefit from mathematical rounding or truncation.
Line 9, Method 1. Enter the number of new FTE employees at the project (line 8 FTE column minus line 5 FTE column).
Line 10, Method 2. Enter the number of new FTE employees earning the required rate of pay (line 7c FTE column)
Line 11. Enter the lesser of lines 9 or 10. Enter this number here and on Form 312N, Page 2, line 7.
Section D - Compensation Credit
Line 12. Compute the average compensation of new employees earning the required rate of pay by dividing the line 7c Compensation column by the line 7c FTE column. Enter here and on Form 312N, Page 2, line 5.
Line 13. Enter compensation subject to Medicare tax paid to ALL employees whose work eligibility status was timely verified using E-verify, other than base-year employees, excluding any compensation in excess of $\$ 1$ million dollars paid to any one employee. Include the compensation subject to Medicare tax paid to employees who did not earn the required rate of pay (line 6 b Compensation column plus line 7 c Compensation column).
Line 15. If the project has met or exceeded the minimum required levels of investment (Schedule B, line 9) and employment (Schedule A, line 11), and the current year is in the entitlement period, multiply line 13 by line 14 and enter the compensation credit for the tax year here and on Form 312N, Page 2, line 16. Round this amount to a whole number.

## Section E - Income Tax Withholding Ratio

Section E calculates the portion of the Nebraska withholding payments for which the compensation credits can be used. The income tax withholding ratio calculated for a given year is used in the following year. If there are new entities or activities added to the income tax withholding return in the following year, the income tax withholding ratio should be re-calculated on an Incentive Withholding Worksheet. This worksheet must be calculated for the first three months that include the new entity or activity and filed with Form 941N.
Line 16a. Enter any non-project Nebraska compensation for activities included in the Nebraska income tax withholding filings for the year (for example, compensation for entities or locations excluded from the project).
Line 16b. Enter any Nebraska compensation for employees who were paid due to project employment, but who have no hours included in the calculation of Section B in the current year (for example, severance payments, hiring bonuses, and life insurance premiums).
Line 16c. Enter any compensation in excess of $\$ 1$ million from Compensation column, line 7 b .
Line 16d. Enter any Nebraska compensation for employees hired on or after the date of application who have compensation for work at the project but whose work eligibility status was not timely verified using E-Verify or who were not eligible to work in Nebraska according to E-Verify.
Line 17. Total Nebraska compensation must equal total wages subject to Medicare tax for ALL employees reported in the Nebraska payroll documents for the current year.
Line 18. Divide line 13 by line 17 and enter the withholding ratio. Enter here and on Form 312N, Page 2, line 6.
Calculate this number to 5 decimal places and round to 4 decimal places. For example, .11237 becomes .1124 , or $11.24 \%$ of the amount withheld).
Line 19. Enter the total payments subject to Nebraska income tax withholding for ALL activities included in the Nebraska income tax withholding returns filed for the current year.

