



# EXPEDITED RULE MAKING

**CR-105 (June 2004)**  
(Implements RCW 34.05.353)  
**EXPEDITED RULE MAKING ONLY**

**Agency:** Department of Revenue

**Title of rule and other identifying information:**

WAC 458-20-267 (Rule 267) *Annual Reports for certain adjustments.*

WAC 458-20-268 (Rule 268) *Annual Surveys for certain tax adjustments.*

In order to take certain tax exemptions, credits, and rates ("tax adjustments"), taxpayers must file either an annual report or annual survey depending on the tax adjustments being taken. The annual report or survey must be filed with the Department of Revenue detailing employment, wages, and employer-provided health and retirement benefits. These rules explain who is required to and how to file an annual report or annual survey, and what information must be included.

### NOTICE

**THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO**

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**AND RECEIVED BY:** October 18, 2010

**Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:**

The Department proposes to amend these rules to recognize:

- ESSHB 1597 (chapter 106, Laws of 2010). This legislation establishes that only applications that have been approved are not confidential and subject to public disclosure.
- SB 6206 (chapter 137, Laws of 2010). This legislation provided two extensions for filing an annual report or survey. The two extensions are (1) a 30 day extension based on circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer and (2) a onetime 90 day extension.
- SHB 3066 (chapter 114, Laws of 2010). This legislation provides consistency regarding the information required when filing an annual report and annual survey and now requiring all taxpayers who take a tax adjustment to file either a report or survey. The legislation also amended the due date of the reports and surveys to April 30<sup>th</sup> following any calendar year in which the person becomes eligible to claim the tax adjustment for reports or surveys due 2011 or later.

Copies of draft rules are available for viewing and printing on our website at:

<http://dor.wa.gov/content/FindALawOrRule/RuleMaking/agenda.aspx>

**Reasons supporting proposal:** To recognize 2010 legislation affecting annual surveys and annual reports.

**Statutory authority for adoption:**

RCW 82.32.300 and 82.01.060(2)

**Statute being implemented:** Chapter 82.32 as it applies

to annual report and annual survey requirements

**Is rule necessary because of a:**

- |                         |                              |                                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Federal Law?            | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Federal Court Decision? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| State Court Decision?   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

If yes, CITATION:

**Date** August 16, 2010

**Name** Alan R. Lynn

**Signature**

**Title** Rules Coordinator

**CODE REVISER USE ONLY**

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

**DATE:** August 16, 2010

**TIME:** 1:48 PM

**WSR 10-17-086**

**Name of proponent:** (person or organization) Department of Revenue

- Private
- Public
- Governmental

**Name of agency personnel responsible for:**

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**Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:** None.

This rule draft is being proposed under an expedited rule-making process that does not require the agency to hold public hearings. Under no circumstances is this proposed rule to be used as a basis for determining tax liability or eligibility for a tax deduction, exemption, or credit.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-10-037, filed 4/27/10, effective 5/28/10)

**WAC 458-20-267 Annual reports for certain tax adjustments.**

(1) **Introduction.** In order to take certain tax exemptions, credits, and rates ("tax adjustments"), taxpayers must file an annual report with the department of revenue (the "department") detailing employment, wages, and employer-provided health and retirement benefits. This section explains the reporting requirements for tax adjustments provided to computer data centers, the aerospace manufacturing, aluminum manufacturing, electrolytic processing, (~~and~~) solar electric manufacturing, semiconductor manufacturing, and newspaper industries. This section explains who is required to file annual reports, how to file reports, and what information must be included in the reports.

This section contains a number of examples. These examples identify a number of facts and then state a conclusion. These examples should be used only as a general guide. The results of other situations must be determined after a review of all of the facts and circumstances.

(2) **Who is required to file the report?** A recipient of the benefit of the following tax adjustments must complete and file an annual report with the department:

(a) **Tax adjustments for the aerospace manufacturing industry:**

(i) The business and occupation ("B&O") tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(11) for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes, component parts, and tooling specially designed for use in manufacturing commercial airplanes or components of such airplanes;

(ii) The B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4461 for qualified development aerospace product expenditures;

(iii) The B&O tax rate for FAR 145 Part certified repair stations under RCW 82.04.250(3);

(iv) The retail sales and use tax exemption provided by RCW 82.08.980 and 82.12.980 for constructing new buildings used for manufacturing superefficient airplanes;

(v) The leasehold excise tax exemption provided by RCW 82.29A.137 for facilities used for manufacturing superefficient airplanes;

(vi) The property tax exemption provided by RCW 84.36.655

for property used for manufacturing superefficient airplanes; and

(vii) The B&O tax credit for property taxes and leasehold excise taxes paid on property used for manufacturing of commercial airplanes as provided by RCW 82.04.4463.

(viii) An annual report must be filed with the department for any person who takes any of the above tax adjustments of this subsection for employment positions in Washington; however, persons engaged in manufacturing commercial airplanes or components of such airplanes may report per manufacturing job site.

**(b) Tax adjustments for the aluminum smelter industry:**

(i) The B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2909 for aluminum smelters;

(ii) The B&O tax credit for property taxes provided by RCW 82.04.4481 for aluminum smelter property;

(iii) The retail sales and use tax exemption provided by RCW 82.08.805 and 82.12.805 for property used at aluminum smelters; and

(iv) The use tax exemption provided by RCW 82.12.022(5) for the use of natural or manufactured gas;

**(c) Tax adjustment for the electrolytic processing industry.** The public utility tax exemption provided by RCW 82.16.0421 for sales of electricity to electrolytic processing businesses.

**(d) Tax adjustment for the solar electric manufacturing industry.** The B&O tax rate for manufacturers of solar energy systems using photovoltaic modules, or silicon components of such systems provided by RCW 82.04.294.

**(e) Tax adjustments for the semiconductor manufacturing and processing industry.**

(i) The B&O tax rate for manufacturers or processors for hire of semiconductor materials provided by RCW 82.04.2404.

(ii) The sales and use tax exemptions for sales of gases and chemicals used by a manufacturer or processor for hire in the production of semiconductor materials provided by RCW 82.08.9651, 82.12.9651, and 82.12.970.

**(f) Tax adjustments for various industries.**

(i) The B&O tax rate for printing a newspaper, publishing a newspaper, or both provided by RCW 82.04.260(14).

(ii) The sales tax exemption for sales of eligible server equipment to be installed without intervening use in an eligible computer data center as provided by chapters 1 and 23, Laws of 2010 sp. sess.

**(3) How to file annual reports.**

**(a) Required form.** The department has developed a report form that must be used to complete the annual report unless a person obtains prior written approval from the department to file the annual report in an alternative format.

(b) **Electronic filing.** Reports must be filed electronically unless the department waives this requirement upon a showing of good cause. A report is filed electronically when the department receives the report in an electronic format. ((The department may waive the electronic filing requirement for good cause shown. Any person not statutorily required to electronically file the report has the option of filing the annual report electronically. Persons that claim the following tax adjustments must file the report electronically with the department: Tax adjustments for the aerospace manufacturing industry under RCW 82.04.260(11), 82.04.4461, 82.04.250(3), 82.04.290, 82.08.980, 82.12.980, 82.29A.137, 84.36.655, and 82.04.4463 (subsection (2)(a) of this section).))

(c) **How to obtain the form.** ((The form may be filed electronically on-line or obtained by downloading it)) Persons who have received a waiver of the electronic filing requirement from the department or who otherwise would like a paper copy of the report may obtain the report from the department's web site (www.dor.wa.gov). It may also be obtained from the department's district offices, by telephoning the telephone information center (800-647-7706), or by contacting the department's special programs division at:

Department of Revenue  
Special Programs Division  
Post Office Box 47477  
Olympia, WA 98504-7477  
Fax: 360-586-2163

(d) ((**First report.** The first report filed under this subsection must also include employment, wage, and benefit information for the twelve-month period immediately before first use of a tax adjustment, unless a report covering this twelve-month period as filed as required by a statute repealed by chapter 81, Laws of 2008. In order to meet this requirement, a person must complete a report for the calendar year immediately preceding the first use of a tax adjustment.)) **Special requirement for persons who did not file an annual report during the previous calendar year.** If a person is a first-time filer or otherwise did not file an annual report with the department during the previous calendar year, the report must include information on employment, wages, and employer-provided health and retirement benefits for the two calendar years immediately preceding the due date of the report.

(e) **Due date.** ((The report must be filed by March 31st following any calendar year in which any tax adjustment is taken against taxes due.))

(i) **For reports due 2011 or later.** For persons claiming any B&O tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate listed under

subsection (2) of this section, the report must be filed or postmarked by April 30th following any calendar year in which the person becomes eligible to claim the tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate.

(ii) For reports due prior to 2010 or earlier. For persons claiming any B&O tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate listed under subsection (2) of this section, with the exception of the tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2404, the report must be filed or postmarked by March 31st following any calendar year in which the tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate is claimed. For persons claiming the tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2404 the report must be filed or postmarked by April 30th following any calendar year in which the tax rate is claimed.

(iii) Due date extensions. The department may extend the due date for timely filing annual reports as provided in subsection (18) of this section.

**(f) Examples.**

(i) An aerospace firm begins taking the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((11))~~) (10) for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts on October 1, (~~(2005)~~) 2010. By (~~(March 31, 2006)~~) April 30, 2011, the aerospace firm must provide (~~(two)~~) an annual report(~~(s, one)~~) covering calendar years (~~(2004)~~) 2009 and (~~(another covering calendar year 2005)~~) 2010. If the aerospace firm continues to take the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((11))~~) (10) during calendar year (~~(2006)~~) 2011, a single annual report is due on (~~(March 31, 2007)~~) April 30, 2012, covering calendar year (~~(2006)~~) 2011.

(ii) An aluminum smelter begins taking the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2909 for aluminum smelters on July (~~(1, 2004)~~) 31, 2010. By (~~(March 31, 2005)~~) April 30, 2011, the aluminum smelter must provide (~~(two)~~) an annual report(~~(s, one)~~) covering calendar years (~~(2003)~~) 2009 and (~~(another covering calendar year 2004)~~) 2010. If the aluminum smelter continues to take the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2909 during calendar year (~~(2005)~~) 2011, a single annual report is due on (~~(March 31, 2006)~~) April 30, 2012, covering calendar year (~~(2005)~~) 2011.

**(4) What (~~(manufacturing site(s))~~) employment positions are included in the annual report?**

(a) (~~(There must be a separate annual report filed for each manufacturing site at which activities are conducted that qualifies for a tax adjustments in the aluminum smelter industry per RCW 82.04.2909, electrolytic processing industry per RCW 82.16.0421, and the solar electric manufacturing industry per RCW 82.04.294.)~~) **General rule.** Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the report must include information detailing employment positions in the state of Washington.

(b) (~~(For tax adjustments involving the aerospace manufacturing industry, an annual report must be filed for~~

~~employment positions in Washington; however, the annual report may be filed per job at the manufacturing site for persons engaged in manufacturing commercial airplanes or their components as described in this section.))~~ **Alternative method.** Persons engaged in manufacturing commercial airplanes or their components may report employment positions per job at the manufacturing site.

~~((+e))~~ **(i) What is a "manufacturing site"?** For purposes of the annual report, a "manufacturing site" is one or more immediately adjacent parcels of real property located in Washington state on which manufacturing occurs that support activities qualifying for a tax adjustment. Adjacent parcels of real property separated only by a public road comprise a single site. A manufacturing site may include real property that supports nonqualifying activities such as administration offices, test facilities, warehouses, design facilities, and shipping and receiving facilities.

~~((+i))~~ **(ii)(A) If the person files per job at the manufacturing site, which manufacturing site is included in the annual report for the aerospace manufacturing industry tax adjustments?** The location(s) where a person is manufacturing commercial airplanes or components of such airplanes within this state is the manufacturing site(s) included in the annual report. A "commercial airplane" has its ordinary meaning, which is an airplane certified by the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") for transporting persons or property, and any military derivative of such an airplane. A "component" means a part or system certified by the FAA for installation or assembly into a commercial airplane.

~~((+ii))~~ **Which manufacturing site is included in the annual report for the aluminum industry tax adjustments?** The location(s) where a person who is an aluminum smelter engaging in the business of manufacturing aluminum within this state is the manufacturing site(s) included in the annual report. An "aluminum smelter" means the manufacturing facility of any direct service industrial customer that processes alumina into aluminum. A "direct service industrial customer" means a person who is an industrial customer that contracts for the purchase of power from the Bonneville Power Administration for direct consumption as of May 8, 2001. "Direct service industrial customer" includes a person who is a subsidiary that is more than 50% owned by a direct service industrial customer and who receives power from the Bonneville Power Administration pursuant to the parent's contract for power.

~~((+iii))~~ **Which manufacturing site is included in the annual report for the electrolytic processing industry tax adjustments?** The location(s) where a person is engaged in a chlor-alkali electrolytic processing business or a sodium chlorate electrolytic processing business for the electrolytic process

~~within this state is the manufacturing site(s) included in the annual report. A "chlor alkali electrolytic processing business" means a person who is engaged in a business that uses more than ten average megawatts of electricity per month in a chlor alkali electrolytic process to split the electrochemical bonds of sodium chloride and water to make chlorine and sodium hydroxide. A "sodium chlorate electrolytic processing business" means a person who is engaged in a business that uses more than ten average megawatts of electricity per month in a sodium chlorate electrolytic process to split the electrochemical bonds of sodium chloride and water to make sodium chlorate and hydrogen. A "chlor-alkali electrolytic processing business" and "sodium chlorate electrolytic processing business" do not include direct service industrial customers or their subsidiaries that contract for the purchase of power from the Bonneville Power Administration as of June 10, 2004.~~

~~(iv) **Which manufacturing site is included in the annual report for the solar electric manufacturing industry tax adjustments?** The location(s) where a person who is manufacturing solar energy systems using photovoltaic modules, or silicon components of such systems, within this state is the manufacturing site(s) included in the annual report. A "solar energy system" means any device or combination of devices or elements that rely upon direct sunlight as an energy source for use in the generation of electricity. A "photovoltaic cell" means a device that converts light directly into electricity without moving parts. A "module" means the smallest nondivisible self-contained physical structure housing interconnected photovoltaic cells and providing a single direct current electrical output. A "silicon component" is an ingredient or component part comprised of fifty percent or more solar grade silicon that is used in a solar energy system using photovoltaic modules.~~

~~(d)) (B) **Are there alternative methods for reporting separately for each manufacturing site?** For purposes of completing the annual report, the department may agree to allow a person whose manufacturing sites are within close geographic proximity to consolidate its manufacturing sites onto a single annual report provided that the jobs located at the manufacturing sites have equivalent employment positions, wages, and employer-provided health and retirement benefits. A person may request written approval to consolidate manufacturing sites by contacting the department's special programs division at:~~

Department of Revenue  
Special Programs Division  
Post Office Box 47477  
Olympia, WA 98504-7477  
Fax: 360-586-2163

~~((e))~~ (c) **Examples.**

(i) ABC Airplanes, a company manufacturing FAA certified airplane landing gear, conducts activities at three locations in Washington state. ABC Airplanes is reporting tax under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((+11))~~) (10) for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. In Seattle, WA, ABC Airplanes maintains its corporate headquarters and administrative offices. In Spokane, WA, ABC Airplanes manufactures the brake systems for the landing gear. In Vancouver, WA, ABC Airplanes assembles the landing gear using the components manufactured in Spokane, WA. If filing per manufacturing site, ABC Airplanes must file separate annual reports for employment positions at its manufacturing sites in Spokane and Vancouver because these are the Washington state locations in which manufacturing occurs that supports activities qualifying for a tax adjustment.

(ii) Acme Engines, a company manufacturing engine parts, conducts manufacturing in five locations in Washington state. Acme Engines is reporting tax under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((+11))~~) (10) for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. It manufactures FAA certified engine parts at its Puyallup, WA location. Acme Engines' four other locations manufacture non-FAA certified engine parts. ~~((When))~~ If filing per manufacturing site, Acme Engines must file an annual report for employment positions at its manufacturing site in Puyallup because it is the only location in Washington state in which manufacturing occurs that supports activities qualifying for a tax adjustment.

(iii) Tacoma Rivets, located in Tacoma, WA, manufactures rivets used in manufacturing airplanes. Half of the rivets Tacoma Rivets manufactures are FAA certified to be used on commercial airplanes. The remaining rivets Tacoma Rivets manufactures are not FAA certified and are used on military airplanes. Tacoma Rivets is reporting tax on its sales of FAA certified rivets under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((+11))~~) (10) for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. If filing per manufacturing site, Tacoma Rivets must file an annual report for employment positions at its manufacturing site in Tacoma because it is the location in Washington state in which manufacturing occurs that supports activities qualifying for a tax adjustment.

(iv) Dynamic Aerospace Composites is a company that only manufactures FAA certified airplane fuselage materials. Dynamic Aerospace Composites conducts activities at three separate locations within Kent, WA. Dynamic Aerospace Composites is reporting tax under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((+11))~~) (10) for manufacturers and processors for hire

of commercial airplanes and component parts. If filing per manufacturing site, Dynamic Aerospace Composites must file separate annual reports for each of its three manufacturing sites.

(v) Worldwide Aerospace, an aerospace company, manufactures wing systems for commercial airplanes in twenty locations around the world, but none located in Washington state. Worldwide Aerospace manufactures wing surfaces in San Diego, CA. Worldwide Aerospace sells the wing systems to an airplane manufacturer located in Moses Lake, WA and is reporting tax on these sales under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((+11))~~) (10) for sales, at retail or wholesale, of commercial airplanes, or components of such airplanes, manufactured by that person. Worldwide Aerospace is required to complete the annual report for any employment positions in Washington that are directly related to the qualifying activity.

**(5) What jobs are included in the annual report?**

(a) The annual report covers all full-time, part-time, and temporary jobs in this state or, for persons filing as provided in subsection (4)(b) of this section, at the manufacturing site as of December 31st of the calendar year for which an applicable tax adjustment is claimed. Jobs that support nonqualifying activities or support both nonqualifying and qualifying activities for a tax adjustment are included in the report if the job is located in the state of Washington or, for persons filing as provided in subsection (4)(b) of this section, at the manufacturing site(~~(, or in the case of tax adjustment for the aerospace industry, in the state of Washington)~~).

**(b) Examples.**

(i) XYZ Aluminum, an aluminum smelter company, manufactures aluminum in Tacoma, WA. The company is reporting tax under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.2909 for aluminum smelters. (~~(Its management and human resources divisions are located in an administrative office across the street from its Tacoma, WA aluminum smelter.)~~) XYZ Aluminum's annual report for its Tacoma, WA location will include (~~(the)~~) all of its employment positions in (~~(its administrative offices because those jobs are located at the Tacoma, WA manufacturing site)~~) this state, including its nonmanufacturing employment positions.

(ii) AAA Tire Company manufactures tires at one manufacturing site located in Centralia, WA. The company is reporting tax under the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~((+11))~~) (10) for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. FAA certified tires comprise only 20% of the products it manufactures and are manufactured in a separate building at the manufacturing site. If filing under the method described in subsection (4)(b) of this section, AAA Tire Company must report all jobs at the manufacturing site, including the jobs engaged in the

nonqualifying activities of manufacturing non-FAA certified tires.

(6) **How is employment detailed in the annual report?** The annual report is organized by employee occupational groups, consistent with the United States Department of Labor's Standard Occupation Codes (SOC) System. The SOC System is a universal occupational classification system used by government agencies and private industries to produce comparable occupational data. The SOC classifies occupations at four levels of aggregation:

- (a) Major group;
- (b) Minor group;
- (c) Broad occupation; and
- (d) Detailed occupation.

All occupations are clustered into one of twenty-three major groups. The annual report uses the SOC major groups to detail the levels of employment, wages, and employer-provided health and retirement benefits at the manufacturing site. A detailed description of the SOC System is available by contacting the department's special programs division or by consulting the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics online at [www.bls.gov/soc](http://www.bls.gov/soc). The annual report does not require names of employees.

(7) **What is total employment (~~at the manufacturing site~~)?** The annual report must state the total number of employees for each SOC major group that are currently employed on December 31st of the calendar year for which an applicable tax adjustment is taken. Total employment includes employees who are on authorized leaves of absences such as sick leave, vacation, disability leave, jury duty, military leave, regardless of whether those employees are receiving wages. Leaves of absences do not include separations of employment such as layoffs or reductions in force. Vacant positions are not included in total employment.

(8) **What are full-time, part-time and temporary employment positions?** An employer must provide information on the number of employees, as a percentage of total employment in the SOC major group, that are employed in full-time, part-time or temporary employment positions on December 31st of the calendar year for which an applicable tax adjustment is claimed. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(a) **Full-time and part-time employment positions.** In order for a position to be treated as full time or part time, the employer must intend for the position to be filled for at least fifty-two consecutive weeks or twelve consecutive months. A full-time position is a position that satisfies any one of the following minimum thresholds:

(i) Works thirty-five hours per week for fifty-two consecutive weeks;

(ii) Works four hundred fifty-five hours, excluding overtime, each quarter for four consecutive quarters; or

(iii) Works one thousand eight hundred twenty hours, excluding overtime, during a period of twelve consecutive months.

A part-time position is a position in which the employee works less than the hours required for a full-time position. In some instances, an employee may not be required to work the hours required for full-time employment because of paid rest and meal breaks, health and safety laws, disability laws, shift differentials, or collective bargaining agreements, but receives wages equivalent to a full-time job. If, in the absence of these factors, the employee would be required to work the number of hours for a full-time position to receive full-time wages, the position should be reported as a full-time employment position.

(b) **Temporary positions.** A temporary position is a position that is intended to be filled for period of less than twelve consecutive months. Positions in seasonal employment are temporary positions. Temporary positions include workers furnished by staffing companies regardless of the duration of the placement with the person required to file the annual report.

(c) **Examples.** Assume these facts for the following examples. National Airplane Inc. manufactures FAA certified navigation systems at a manufacturing site located in Tacoma, WA. National Airplane Inc. is claiming all the tax adjustments available for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. National Airplane Inc. employs one hundred people. Seventy-five of the employees work directly in the manufacturing operation and are classified as SOC Production Occupations. Five employees work in the engineering and design division and are classified as SOC Architect and Engineering Occupations. Five employees are sales representatives and are classified as SOC Sales and Related Occupations. Five employees are service technicians and are classified as SOC Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations. Five employees are administrative assistants and are classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support. Five executives are classified as SOC Management Occupations.

(i) Through a college work-study program, National Airplane Inc. employs six interns from September through June in its engineering department. The interns work twenty hours a week. The six interns are reported as temporary employees, and not as part-time employees, because the intern positions are intended to be filled for a period of less than twelve consecutive months. Assuming the five employees classified as SOC Architect and Engineering Occupations are full-time employees, National Airplane Inc. will report a total of eleven employment positions

in SOC Architect and Engineering Occupations with 45% in full-time employment positions and 55% in temporary employment positions.

(ii) National Airplane Inc. manufactures navigation systems in two shifts of production. The first shift works eight hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The second shift works six hours from 6:00 p.m. to midnight Monday thru Friday. The second shift works fewer hours per week (thirty hours) than the first shift (forty hours) as a pay differential for working in the evening. If a second shift employee transferred to the first shift, the employee would be required to work forty hours with no overall increase in wages. The second shift employees should be reported as full-time employment positions, rather than part-time employment positions.

(iii) On December 1st, ten National Airplane Inc. full-time employees classified as SOC Production Occupations take family and medical leave for twelve weeks. National Airplane Inc. hires five people to perform the work of the employees on leave. Because the ten employees classified as SOC Production Occupations are on authorized leave, National Airplane Inc. will include those employees in the annual report as full-time employment positions. The five people hired to replace the absent employees classified as SOC Production Occupations will be included in the report as temporary employees. National Airplane Inc. will report a total of eighty employment positions in SOC Production Occupations with 93.8% in full-time employment positions and 6.2% in temporary employment positions.

(iv) On December 1st, one full-time employee classified as SOC Sales and Related Occupations resigns from her position. National Airplane Inc. contracts with Jane Smith d/b/a Creative Enterprises, Inc. to finish an advertising project assigned to the employee who resigned. Because Jane Smith is an independent contractor, National Airplane Inc. will not include her employment in the annual report. Because the resignation has resulted in a vacant position, the total number of employment positions National Airplane Inc. will report in SOC Sales and Related Occupations is reduced to four employment positions.

(v) All National Airplane Inc. employees classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations work forty hours a week, fifty-two weeks a year. On November 1st, one employee must limit the number of hours worked to thirty hours each week to accommodate a disability. The employee receives wages based on the actual hours worked each week. Because the employee works less than thirty-five hours a week and is not paid a wage equivalent to a full-time position, the employee's position is a part-time employment position. National Airplane Inc. will report a total of five employment positions in SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations with 80% in full-time

employment positions and 20% in part-time employment positions.

(9) **What are wages?** For the purposes of the annual report, "wages" means the base compensation paid to an individual for personal services rendered to an employer, whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, or otherwise. Compensation in the form of overtime, tips, bonuses, benefits (insurance, paid leave, meals, etc.), stock options, and severance pay are not "wages." For employees that earn an annual salary, hourly wages are determined by dividing annual salary by 2080. If an employee is paid by commission, hourly wages are determined by dividing the total amount of commissions paid during the calendar year by 2080.

(10) **How are wages detailed for the annual report?**

(a) An employer must provide information on the number of employees, as a percentage of the total employment in the SOC major group, paid a wage within the following five hourly wage bands:

- Up to \$10.00 an hour;
- \$10.01 an hour to \$15.00 an hour;
- \$15.01 an hour to \$20.00 an hour;
- \$20.01 an hour to \$30.00 an hour; and
- \$30.01 an hour or more.

Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%). For purposes of the annual report, wages are measured on December 31st of the calendar year for which an applicable tax adjustment is claimed.

(b) **Examples.** Assume these facts for the following examples. Washington Airplane Inc. manufactures FAA certified navigation systems at a manufacturing site located in Tacoma, WA. Washington Airplane Inc. is claiming all the tax adjustments available for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. Washington Airplane Inc. employs five hundred people at the manufacturing site, which constitutes its entire work force in this state. Four hundred employees engage in activities that are classified as SOC Production Occupations. Fifty employees engage in activities that are classified as SOC Architect and Engineer Occupations. Twenty-five employees are engaged in activities classified as SOC Management Occupations. Twenty employees are engaged in activities classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations. Five employees are engaged in activities classified as SOC Sales and Related Occupations.

(i) One hundred employees classified as SOC Production Occupations are paid \$12.00 an hour. Two hundred employees classified as SOC Production Occupations are paid \$17.00 an hour. One hundred employees classified as SOC Production Occupations are paid \$25.00 an hour. For SOC Production Occupations, Washington Airplane Inc. will report 25% of employment positions are paid \$10.01 an hour to \$15.00 an hour;

50% are paid \$15.01 an hour to \$20.00 an hour; and 25% are paid \$20.01 an hour to \$30.00 an hour.

(ii) Ten employees classified as SOC Architect and Engineering Occupations are paid an annual salary of \$42,000; another ten employees are paid \$50,000 annually; and the remaining employees are all paid over \$70,000 annually. In order to report wages, the annual salaries must be converted to hourly amounts by dividing the annual salary by 2080 hours. For SOC Architect and Engineering Occupations, Washington Airplane Inc. will report 40% of employment positions are paid \$20.01 an hour to \$30.00 an hour and 60% are paid \$30.00 an hour or more.

(iii) All the employees classified as SOC Sales and Related Occupations are sales representatives that are paid on commission. They receive \$10.00 commission for each navigation system sold. Three sales representatives sell 2,500 navigation systems during the calendar year. Two sales representatives sell 3,500 navigation systems during the calendar year and receive a \$10,000 bonus for exceeding company's sales goals. In order to report wages, the employee's commissions must be converted to hourly amounts by dividing the total commissions by 2080 hours. Washington Airplane Inc. will report that 60% of employment positions classified as SOC Sales and Related Occupations are paid \$10.01 an hour to \$15.00 an hour. Because bonuses are not included in wages, Washington Airplane Inc. will report 40% of employment positions classified as SOC Sales and Related Occupations are paid \$15.01 an hour to \$20.00 an hour.

(iv) Ten of the employees classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations earn \$9.50 an hour. The remaining ten employees classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations earn wages between \$10.01 an hour to \$15.00 an hour. On December 1st, Washington Airplane Inc. announces that effective December 15th, all employees classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations will earn wages of at least \$10.50 an hour, but no more than \$15.00 an hour. Because wages are measured on December 31st, Washington Airplane Inc. will report 100% of employment positions classified as SOC Office and Administrative Support Occupations Sales and Related Occupations are paid \$10.01 an hour to \$15.00 an hour.

(11) **Reporting workers furnished by staffing companies.** For temporary positions filled by workers that are furnished by staffing companies, the person filling out the annual report must provide the following information:

(a) Total number of staffing company employees furnished by staffing companies;

(b) Top three occupational codes of all staffing company employees; and

(c) Average duration of all staffing company employees.

(12) **What are employer-provided health benefits?** For

purposes of the annual report, "health benefits" means compensation, not paid as wages, in the form of a health plan offered by an employer to its employees. A health plan that is equally available to employees and the general public is not an "employer-provided" health benefit.

(a) "Dental care services" means services offered or provided by health care facilities and health care providers relating to the prevention, cure, or treatment of illness, injury, or disease of human teeth, alveolar process, gums, or jaw.

(b) "Dental care plan" means a health plan for the purpose of providing for its employees or their beneficiaries' dental care services.

(c) "Health plan" means any plan, fund, or program established, maintained, or funded by an employer for the purpose of providing for its employees or their beneficiaries, through the purchase of insurance or otherwise, medical care and dental care services. Health plans include any "employee welfare benefit plan" as defined by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), any "health plan" or "health benefit plan" as defined in RCW 48.43.005, any self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement as defined in RCW 48.125.010, any "qualified health insurance" as defined in Section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code, an "Archer MSA" as defined in Section 220 of the Internal Revenue Code, a "health savings plan" as defined in Section 223 of the Internal Revenue Code, any "health plan" qualifying under Section 213 of the Internal Revenue Code, governmental plans, and church plans.

(d) "Medical care services" means services offered or provided by health care facilities and health care providers relating to the prevention, cure, or treatment of illness, injury, or disease.

(e) "Medical care plan" means a health plan for the purpose of providing for its employees or their beneficiaries' medical care services.

(13) **How are employer-provided health benefits detailed in the annual report?** The annual report is organized by SOC major group and by type of health plan offered to or with enrolled employees on December 31st of the calendar year for which an applicable tax adjustment is claimed.

(a) **Detail by SOC major group.** For each SOC major group, report the number of employees, as a percentage of total employment in the SOC major group, eligible to participate in an employer-provided medical care plan. An employee is "eligible" if the employee can currently participate in a medical care plan provided by the employer. Waiting periods, tenure requirements, minimum work hour requirements, preexisting conditions, and other limitations may prevent an employee from being eligible for coverage in an employer's medical care plan. If an employer

provides multiple medical care plans, an employee is "eligible" if the employee can currently participate in one of the medical care plans. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(b) **Examples.**

(i) On December 31st, Acme Engines has one hundred employees classified as SOC Production Occupations. It offers these employees two medical care plans. Plan A is available to all employees at the time of hire. Plan B is available to employees after working ninety days. For SOC Production Occupations, Acme Engines will report 100% of its employees are eligible for employer-provided medical benefits because all of its employees are eligible for at least one medical care plan offered by Acme Engines.

(ii) Apex Aluminum has fifty employees classified as SOC Transportation and Material Moving Occupations, all of whom have worked for Apex Aluminum for over five years. Apex Aluminum offers one medical care plan to its employees. Employees must work for Apex Aluminum for six months to participate in the medical care plan. On October 1st, Apex Aluminum hires ten new employees classified as SOC Transportation and Material Moving Occupations. For SOC Transportation and Material Moving Occupations, Apex Aluminum will report 83.3% of its employees are eligible for employer-provided medical benefits.

(c) **Detail by type of health plan.** The report also requires detailed information about the types of health plans the employer provides. If an employer has more than one type of health plan, it must report each health plan separately. If a person offers more than one of the same type of health plan as described in (c)(i) of this subsection, the person may consolidate the detail required in (c) through (e) of this subsection by using ranges to describe the information. The details include:

(i) A description of the type of plan in general terms such as self-insured, fee for service, preferred provider organization, health maintenance organization, health savings account, or other general description. The report does not require a person to disclose the name(s) of their health insurance carrier(s).

(ii) The number of employees eligible to participate in the health plan, as a percentage of total employment at the manufacturing site or as otherwise reported. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(iii) The number of employees enrolled in the health plan, as a percentage of employees eligible to participate in the health plan at the manufacturing site or as otherwise reported. An employee is "enrolled" if the employee is currently covered by or participating in an employer-provided health plan. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1%

(XX.X%).

(iv) The average percentage of premium paid by employees enrolled in the health plan. "Premium" means the cost incurred by the employer to provide a health plan or the continuance of a health plan, such as amounts paid to health carriers or costs incurred by employers to self-insure. Employers are generally legally responsible for payment of the entire cost of the premium for enrolled employees, but may require enrolled employees to share in the cost of the premium to obtain coverage. State the amount of premium, as a percentage, employees must pay to maintain enrollment under the health plan. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(v) If necessary, the average monthly contribution to enrolled employees. In some instances, employers may make contributions to an employee health plan, but may not be aware of the percentage of premium cost borne by the employee. For example, employers may contribute to a health plan sponsored by an employee organization, or may sponsor a medical savings account or health savings account. In those instances where the employee's contribution to the health plan is unknown, an employer must report its average monthly contribution to the health plan by dividing the employer's total monthly costs for the health plan by the total number of employees enrolled in the health plan.

(vi) Whether legal spouses, state registered domestic partners, and unmarried dependent children can obtain coverage under the health plan and if there is an additional premium for such coverage.

(vii) Whether part-time employees are eligible to participate in the health plan.

(d) **Medical care plans.** In addition to the detailed information required for each health plan, report the amount of enrolled employee point of service cost-sharing for hospital services, prescription drug benefits, and primary care physician services for each medical care plan. If differences exist within a medical care plan, the lowest cost option to the enrolled employee must be stated in the report. For example, if employee point of service cost-sharing is less if an enrolled employee uses a network of preferred providers, report the amount of point of service cost-sharing using a preferred provider. Employee point of service cost-sharing is generally stated as a percentage of cost, a specific dollar amount, or both.

(i) "Employee point of service cost-sharing" means amounts paid to health carriers directly providing medical care services, health care providers, or health care facilities by enrolled employees in the form of copayments, co-insurance, or deductibles. Copayments and co-insurance mean an amount

specified in a medical care plan which is an obligation of enrolled employees for a specific medical care service which is not fully prepaid. A deductible means the amount an enrolled employee is responsible to pay before the medical care plan begins to pay the costs associated with treatment.

(ii) "Hospital services" means covered in-patient medical care services performed in a hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW.

(iii) "Prescription drug benefit" means coverage to purchase a thirty-day or less supply of generic prescription drugs from a retail pharmacy.

(iv) "Primary care provider services" means nonemergency medical care services provided in an office setting by the employee's primary care provider.

(e) **Dental care plans.** In addition to the health plan information required for each dental care plan, the annual maximum benefit for each dental care plan must be stated in the report. Most dental care plans have an annual dollar maximum benefit. This is the maximum dollar amount a dental care plan will pay toward the cost of dental care services within a specific benefit period, generally one year. The enrolled employee is personally responsible for paying costs above the annual maximum.

(f) **Examples.**

(i) Assume the following facts for the following examples. Mosaic Aerospace employs one hundred employees and offers two medical care plans as health benefits to employees at the time of hire. Plan A is a managed care plan (HMO). Plan B is a fee for service medical care plan.

(A) Forty Mosaic Aerospace employees are enrolled in Plan A. It costs Mosaic Aerospace \$750 a month for each employee covered by Plan A. Enrolled employees must pay \$150 each month to participate in Plan A. If an enrolled employee uses its network of physicians, Plan A will cover 100% of the cost of primary care provider services with employees paying a \$10.00 copayment per visit. If an enrolled employee uses its network of hospitals, Plan A will cover 100% of the cost of hospital services with employees paying a \$200 deductible. If an enrolled employee does not use a network provider, Plan A will cover only 50% of the cost of any service with a \$500 employee deductible. An enrolled employee must use a network of retail pharmacies to receive any prescription drug benefit. Plan A will cover the cost of prescription drugs with enrolled employees paying a \$10.00 copayment. If an enrolled employee uses the mail-order pharmacy option offered by Plan A, copayment for prescription drug benefits is not required.

Mosaic Aerospace will report Plan A separately as a managed care plan. One hundred percent of its employees are eligible to participate in Plan A. The percentage of eligible employees

enrolled in Plan A is 40%. The percentage of premium paid by an employee is 20%. Mosaic Aerospace will also report that employees have a \$10.00 copayment for primary care provider services and a \$200 deductible for hospital services because this is the lowest cost option within Plan A. Mosaic Aerospace will report that employees have a \$10.00 copayment for prescription drug benefit. Mosaic Aerospace cannot report that employees do not have a prescription drug benefit copayment because "prescription drug benefit" is defined as coverage to purchase a thirty-day or less supply of generic prescription drugs from a retail pharmacy, not a mail-order pharmacy.

(B) Fifty Mosaic Aerospace employees are enrolled in Plan B. It costs Mosaic Aerospace \$1,000 a month for each employee covered by Plan B. Enrolled employees must pay \$300 a month to participate in Plan B. Plan B covers 100% of the cost of primary care provider services and 100% of the cost of prescription drugs with employees paying a \$200 annual deductible for each covered service. Plan B covers 80% of the cost of hospital services with employees paying a \$250 annual deductible.

Mosaic Aerospace will report Plan B separately as a fee for service medical care plan. One hundred percent of its employees are eligible to participate in Plan B. The percentage of eligible employees enrolled in Plan B is 50%. The percentage of premium paid by an employee is 30%. Mosaic Aerospace will also report that employees have a \$200 annual deductible for both primary care provider services and prescription drug benefits. Hospital services have a \$250 annual deductible and 20% co-insurance obligation.

(C) On December 1st, Mosaic Aerospace acquires General Aircraft Inc., a company claiming all the tax adjustments available for manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes and component parts. General Aircraft Inc. had fifty employees, all of whom were retained by Mosaic Aerospace. At General Aircraft Inc., employees were offered one managed care plan (HMO) as a benefit. The former General Aircraft Inc. employees will retain their current managed care plan until the following June when employees would be offered Mosaic Aerospace benefits. On December 31st, Mosaic Aerospace is offering employees two managed care plans. Mosaic Aerospace may report each managed care plan separately or may consolidate the detail required in (c) through (e) of this subsection for this type of medical care plan by using ranges to report the information.

(ii) Aero Turbines employs one hundred employees. It offers employees health savings accounts as a benefit to employees who have worked for the company for six months. Aero Turbines established the employee health savings accounts with a local bank and makes available to employees a high deductible

medical care plan to be used in conjunction with the account. Aero Turbines deposits \$500 a month into each employee's health savings account. Employees deposit a portion of their pretax earnings into a health savings account to cover the cost of primary care provider services, prescription drug purchases, and the high deductible medical care plan for hospital services. The high deductible medical care plan has an annual deductible of \$2,000 and covers 75% of the cost of hospital services. Sixty-six employees open health savings accounts. Four employees have not worked for Aero Turbines for six months.

Aero Turbines will report the medical care plan as a health savings account. Ninety-six percent of employees are eligible to participate in health savings accounts. The percentage of eligible employees enrolled in health savings accounts is 68.8%. Because the amount of employee deposits into their health savings accounts will vary, Aero Turbines will report the average monthly contribution of \$500 rather than the percentage of premium paid by enrolled employees. Because employees are responsible for covering their primary care provider services and prescription drugs costs, Aero Turbines will report that this health plan does not include these services. Because the high deductible medical care plan covers the costs of hospital services, Aero Turbines will report that the medical care plan has an annual deductible of \$2,000 and employees have 25% co-insurance obligation.

(14) **What are employer-provided retirement benefits?** For purposes of the annual report, "retirement benefits" mean compensation, not paid as wages, in the form of a retirement plan offered by an employer to its employees. A "retirement plan" means any plan, account, deposit, annuity, or benefit, other than a life insurance policy, that provides for retirement income or deferred income to employees for periods extending to the termination of employment or beyond. Retirement plans include pensions, annuities, stock bonus plans, employee stock ownership plans, profit sharing plans, self-employed retirement plans, individual retirement accounts, individual retirement annuities, and retirement bonds, as well as any other plan or program, without regard to its source of funding, and without regard to whether the retirement plan is a qualified plan meeting the guidelines established in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and the Internal Revenue Code. A retirement plan that is equally available to employees and the general public is not an "employer-provided" retirement benefit.

(15) **How are employer-provided retirement benefits detailed in the annual report?** The annual report is organized by SOC major group and by type of retirement plans offered to employees or with enrolled employees on December 31st of the calendar year for which an applicable tax adjustment is claimed. Inactive or

terminated retirement plans are excluded from the annual report. An inactive retirement plan is a plan that is not offered to new employees, but has enrolled employees, and neither enrolled employees nor the employer are making contributions to the retirement plan.

(a) **Detail by SOC major group.** For each SOC major group, report the number of employees, as a percentage of total employment in the SOC major group, eligible to participate in an employer-provided retirement plan. An employee is "eligible" if the employee can currently participate in a retirement plan provided by the employer. Waiting periods, tenure requirements, minimum work hour requirements, and other limitations may prevent an employee from being eligible for coverage in an employer's retirement plan. If an employer provides multiple retirement plans, an employee is "eligible" if the employee can currently participate in one of the retirement plans. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(b) **Examples.**

(i) Lincoln Airplane has one hundred employees classified as SOC Production Occupations. Fifty employees were enrolled in defined benefit pension at the time of hire. All employees are eligible to participate in a 401(k) Plan. For SOC Production Occupations, Lincoln Airplane will report 100% of its employees are eligible for employer-provided retirement benefits because all of its employees are eligible for at least one retirement plan offered by Lincoln Airplane.

(ii) Fly-Rite Airplanes has fifty employees classified in SOC Computer and Mathematical Occupations. Fly-Rite Airplane offers a SIMPLE IRA to its employees after working for the company one year. Forty-five employees classified in SOC Computer and Mathematical Occupations have worked for the company more than one year. For SOC Computer and Mathematical Occupations, Fly-Rite Airplanes will report 90% of its employees are eligible for retirement benefits.

(c) **Detail by retirement plan.** The report also requires detailed information about the types of retirement plans an employer offers employees. If an employer offers multiple retirement plans, it must report each type of retirement plan separately. If an employer offers more than one of the same type of retirement plan, but with different levels of employer contributions, it may consolidate the detail required in (i) through (iv) of this subsection by using ranges to describe the information. The report includes:

(i) The type of plan in general terms such as 401(k) Plan, SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA, cash balance pension, or defined benefit plan.

(ii) The number of employees eligible to participate in the retirement plan, as a percentage of total employment at the

manufacturing site, or as otherwise reported. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(iii) The number of employees enrolled in the retirement plan, as a percentage of employees eligible to participate in the retirement plan at the manufacturing site. An employee is "enrolled" if the employee currently participates in an employer-provided retirement plan, regardless of whether the employee has a vested benefit. Percentages should be rounded to the nearest 1/10th of 1% (XX.X%).

(iv) The maximum benefit the employer will contribute into the retirement plan for enrolled employees. The maximum benefit an employer will contribute is generally stated as a percentage of salary, specific dollar amount, or both. This information is not required for a defined benefit plan meeting the qualification requirements of Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) that provides benefits according to a flat benefit, career-average, or final pay formula.

(d) **Examples.**

(i) General Airspace is a manufacturer of airplane components located in Centralia, WA. General Airspace employs one hundred employees. Fifty employees are eligible for and enrolled in a defined benefit pension with a flat benefit at the time of retirement. Twenty-five employees are eligible for and enrolled in a cash balance pension with General Airspace contributing 7% of an employee's annual compensation with a maximum annual contribution of \$10,000. All General Airspace employees can participate in a 401(k) Plan. Sixty-five employees are participating in the 401(k) Plan. General Airspace does not make any contributions into the 401(k) Plan. Five employees are former employees of United Skyways, a company General Airspace acquired. United Skyways employees were enrolled in a cash balance pension at the time of hire. When General Airspace acquired United Skyways, it did not terminate or liquidate the United Skyways cash balance plan. Rather, General Airspace maintains cash balance plan only for former United Skyways employees, allowing only interest to accrue to the plan.

(A) General Airspace will report that it offers three retirement plans - A defined benefit pension, a cash-balance pension, and a 401(k) Plan. General Airspace will not report the inactive cash balance pension it maintains for former United Skyways employees.

(B) For the defined benefit pension, General Airspace will report 50% of its total employment positions are eligible to participate. Of the employment positions eligible to participate, 100% are enrolled.

(C) For the cash-balance pension, General Airspace will report 25% of its total employment positions are eligible to participate. Of the employment positions eligible to

participate, 100% are enrolled. General Airspace will report a maximum contribution of \$10,000 or 7% of an employee's annual compensation.

(D) For the 401(k) Plan, General Airspace will report 100% of its total employment positions are eligible to participate in the retirement plan. Of the employment positions eligible to participate, 65% are enrolled. General Airspace will report that it does not make any contributions into the 401(k) Plan.

(ii) Washington Alloys is an aluminum smelter located in Grandview, WA. Washington Alloys employs two hundred employees. Washington Alloys offers a 401(k) Plan to its employees after one year of hire. One hundred seventy-five employees have worked for Washington Alloys for one year or more. Of that amount, seventy-five have worked more than five years. Washington Alloys will match employee contributions up to a maximum 3% of annual compensation. If an employee has worked for Washington Alloys for more than five years, Washington Alloys will contribute 5% of annual compensation regardless of the employee's contribution. One hundred employees receive a 3% matching contribution from Washington Alloys. Fifty employees receive a contribution of 5% of annual compensation.

(A) Washington Alloys can report each 401(k) Plan separately - A 401(k) Plan with a maximum employer contribution of 3% of annual compensation and a 401(k) Plan with a maximum employer contribution to 5% of annual compensation. Alternatively, Washington Alloys can report that it offers a 401(k) Plan with a maximum employer contribution ranging from 3% to 5% of annual compensation.

(B)(I) If Washington Alloys reports each 401(k) Plan separately, for the 401(k) Plan with a maximum employer contribution of 3% of annual compensation, Washington Alloys will report 50% of its total employment positions are eligible to participate. Of the employment positions eligible to participate, 100% are enrolled.

For the 401(k) Plan with a maximum employer contribution of 5% of annual compensation, Washington Alloys will report 37.5% of its total employment positions are eligible to participate. Of the employment positions eligible to participate, 66.6% are enrolled.

(II) If Washington Alloys consolidates its detailed information about its 401(k) Plans, it will report that 87.5% of its total employment positions are eligible to participate in 401(k) Plans. Of the employment positions eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plans, 85.7% are enrolled.

**(16) Additional reporting for aluminum smelters and electrolytic processing businesses.** (~~Annual reports must include data for actual levels of employment for each quarter of the calendar year covered by the report. In addition, the report must identify the number of jobs affected by any~~

~~employment reductions that have been publicly announced within sixty days of the date the report is submitted to the department.))~~ For an aluminum smelter or electrolytic processing business, the annual report must indicate the quantity of ~~((aluminum smelted at the plant))~~ product produced in this state during the time period covered by the report. ~~((For an electrolytic processing business, the annual report must indicate the quantity of product produced at the plant during the time period covered by the report.))~~

(17) **Are annual reports confidential?** Except for the additional information that the department may request which it deems necessary to measure the results of, or to determine eligibility for the tax preference, annual reports are not subject to the confidentiality provisions of RCW 82.32.330 and may be disclosed to the public upon request.

(18) **What are the consequences for failing to file a complete annual report?**

(a) ~~If a person ((fails to submit a complete annual report by March 31st, the department will declare the amount of taxes against which the tax adjustment was taken during the previous calendar year to be immediately due and payable. Interest, but not penalties, will be assessed retroactively to the date the tax adjustment was taken and accrues until taxes for which the tax adjustment was taken are repaid. Interest will be assessed at the rate provided for delinquent excise taxes as provided under chapter 82.32 RCW.))~~ claims a tax adjustment that requires an annual report under this section but fails to submit a complete report by the due date or any extension under RCW 82.32.590 the amount of the tax adjustment claimed for the previous calendar year becomes immediately due and payable. Interest, but not penalties, will be assessed on these amounts due. The interest will be assessed at the rate provided for delinquent taxes provided for in RCW 82.32.050, retroactively to the date the tax preference was claimed, and accrues until the taxes for which the tax preference was claimed are repaid.

(b) **Complete annual report.** An annual report is complete if:

(i) The annual report is filed on the form required by this section; and

(ii) The person makes a good faith effort to substantially respond to all report questions required by this section.

The answer "varied," "various," or "please contact for information" is not a good faith response to a question.

(c) **Extension for circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer.** If the department finds that the failure of a taxpayer to file an annual report by the due date was the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the department will extend the time for filing the report. The extension will be for a period of thirty days from the date the

department issues its written notification to the taxpayer that it qualifies for an extension under this section. The department may grant additional extensions as it deems proper.

In making a determination whether the failure of a taxpayer to file an annual report by the due date was the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the department will apply the provisions adopted by the department in WAC 458-20-228 for the waiver or cancellation of penalties when the underpayment of untimely payment of any tax was due to circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer.

(d) **One-time only extension.** A taxpayer who fails to file an annual report required under this section by the due date of the report is entitled to an extension of the due date. A request for an extension under this subsection must be made in writing to the department.

(i) To qualify for an extension, a taxpayer must have filed all annual reports and surveys, if any, due in prior years by their respective due dates, beginning with annual reports and surveys due in the calendar year 2010.

(ii) An extension is for ninety days from the original due date of the annual report.

(iii) No taxpayer may be granted more than one ninety-day extension.

This rule draft is being proposed under an expedited rule-making process that does not require the agency to hold public hearings. Under no circumstances is this proposed rule to be used as a basis for determining tax liability or eligibility for a tax deduction, exemption, or credit.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-10-038, filed 4/27/10, effective 5/28/10)

**WAC 458-20-268 Annual surveys for certain tax adjustments.**

(1) **Introduction.** In order to take certain tax credits, deferrals, and exemptions ("tax adjustments"), taxpayers must file an annual survey with the department of revenue (the "department") containing information about their business activities and employment. This section explains the survey requirements for the various tax adjustments. This section also explains who is required to file an annual survey, how to file a survey, and what information must be included in the survey.

Refer to WAC 458-20-267 (Annual reports for certain tax adjustments) for more information on the annual report requirements for certain tax incentive programs.

This section provides examples that identify a number of facts and then state a conclusion. These examples should be used only as a general guide. The tax results of other situations must be determined after a review of all of the facts and circumstances.

(2) **Who is required to file the annual survey?** The following persons must file ~~((an))~~ a complete annual survey:

(a) A person claiming the business and occupation ("B&O") tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 for engaging in qualified research and development. A separate annual survey must be filed for each tax reporting account. If the person has assigned its entire B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 to another person, the assignor is not required to file an annual survey. In such an instance, the assignee of the B&O tax credit is required to file an annual survey. If the person has assigned a portion of its B&O tax credit to another person, both the assignor and the assignee are required to file an annual survey. Refer to WAC 458-20-24003 (Tax incentives for high technology businesses) for more specific information about this tax adjustment.

(b) ~~((An applicant for))~~ A recipient of a deferral of taxes under chapter 82.60 RCW for sales and use taxes on an eligible investment project in ~~((rural))~~ high unemployment counties, except as provided in (f) of this subsection. Refer to WAC 458-20-24001 (Sales and use tax deferral--Manufacturing and research/development activities in ~~((rural counties))~~ high unemployment counties--Applications filed after ~~((March 31,~~

2004)) June 30, 2010) for more specific information about this tax adjustment.

(c) ~~((An applicant for))~~ A recipient of a deferral of taxes under chapter 82.63 RCW for sales and use taxes on an eligible investment project in high technology, except as provided in (g) of this subsection. Refer to WAC 458-20-24003 (Tax incentives for high technology businesses) for more specific information about this tax adjustment.

(d) ~~((An applicant for))~~ A recipient of a deferral of taxes under chapter 82.74 RCW for sales and use taxes on eligible investment project in certain agricultural or cold storage facilities, except as provided in (g) of this subsection.

(e) Deferral of taxes under chapter 82.75 RCW for sales and use taxes on an eligible investment project in biotechnology products, except as provided in (g) of this subsection.

(f) A recipient of a deferral of taxes under chapter 82.82 RCW for sales and use taxes on a corporate headquarters, except as provided in (f) of this subsection (2).

~~((e))~~ (g) A lessee of an eligible investment project under chapters 82.60, 82.63, ~~((and 82.75))~~ 82.74 or 82.82 RCW ~~((as defined in RCW 82.60.020 (4)(b)(ii), 82.63.010 (7)(b), or 82.75.010 (5)(b)(ii)))~~ who receives the economic benefit of the deferral ~~((and agrees in writing with the department to complete the annual survey))~~. A lessor, by written contract, must agree to pass the economic benefit of the deferral to its lessee. The economic benefit of the deferral to the lessee must be no less than the amount of tax deferred by the lessor as evidenced by written documentation of any type, whether by payment, credit, or other financial arrangement between the lessor or owner of the qualified building and the lessee. An applicant who is a lessor of an eligible investment project that received a deferral of taxes under chapters 82.60, 82.63, ~~((and 82.75))~~ 82.74 or 82.82 RCW and who meets these requirements is not required to complete and file an annual survey.

~~((f))~~ (h) A person claiming the B&O tax exemption provided by RCW 82.04.4268 for dairy product~~((s))~~ manufacturers, RCW 82.04.4269 for seafood product~~((s))~~ manufacturers, and RCW 82.04.4266 for fruits and vegetable~~((s))~~ manufacturers.

~~((The first survey filed under this subsection must also include employment, wage, and benefit information for the twelve-month period immediately before first use of the B&O tax exemption. In order to meet this requirement, a person must complete a survey for the calendar year immediately preceding the first use of the B&O tax exemption.~~

~~(g) An applicant for deferral of taxes under chapter 82.74 RCW for sales and use taxes on an eligible investment project for dairy product manufacturing, seafood product manufacturing, or fresh fruit and vegetable processing. This tax adjustment is effective July 1, 2007.~~

~~(h) A lessee of an eligible investment project under chapters 82.74 RCW (as defined in RCW 82.74.010 (4)(b)) who receives the economic benefit of the deferral and agrees in writing with the department to complete the annual survey. A lessor, by written contract, must agree to pass the economic benefit of the deferral to its lessee. The economic benefit of the deferral to the lessee must be no less than the amount of tax deferred by the lessor as evidenced by written documentation of any type, whether by payment, credit, or other financial arrangement between the lessor or owner of the qualified building and the lessee. An applicant who is a lessor of an eligible investment project that received a deferral of taxes under chapter 82.74 RCW and who meets these requirements is not required to complete and file an annual survey. This tax adjustment is effective July 1, 2007.)~~

(i) A person claiming the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.449 for customized employment training.

~~((The first survey filed under this subsection must also include employment, wage, and benefit information for the twelve-month period immediately before first use of the B&O tax credit. In order to meet this requirement, a person must complete a survey for the calendar year immediately preceding the first use of the B&O tax credit.))~~

(j) A person claiming the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(~~(+12)~~) (11) for timber products, unless the person is a "small harvester" as defined in RCW 84.33.035.

~~((The first survey filed under this subsection must also include employment, wage, and benefit information for the twelve-month period immediately before first use of the B&O tax rate. In order to meet this requirement, a person must complete a survey for the calendar year immediately preceding the first use of the B&O tax rate.))~~

(k) A person claiming the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4483 for new employees created by businesses engaging in computer software manufacturing or programming in rural counties.

(l) A person claiming the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4484 for persons providing information technology help desk services to third parties.

**(3) How to file annual surveys.**

(a) **Required form.** The department has developed a survey form that must be used to complete the annual survey unless a person obtains prior written approval from the department to file the annual survey in an alternative format.

(b) **Electronic filing.** Surveys must be filed electronically unless the department waives this requirement upon a showing of good cause. A survey is filed electronically when the department receives the survey in an electronic format.

~~((The department may waive the electronic filing requirement for~~

~~good cause shown. Any person not statutorily required to electronically file the survey has the option of filing the annual survey electronically.~~

~~Persons that claim the following tax adjustments must file the survey electronically with the department:~~

~~(i) B&O tax credit for qualified research and development under RCW 82.04.4452 (subsection (2)(a) of this section);~~

~~(ii) B&O tax exemptions for dairy products, seafood products or fruits and vegetables under RCW 82.04.4268, 82.04.4269, and 82.04.4266 (subsection (2)(f) of this section);~~

~~(iii) Sales and use tax deferral for dairy product manufacturing, seafood product manufacturing, or fresh fruit and vegetable processing under chapter 82.74 RCW (subsection (2)(g) and (h) of this section);~~

~~(iv) B&O tax rate for timber products under RCW 82.04.260(12) (subsection (2)(j) of this section).)~~

~~(c) **How to obtain the form.** ((The form may be filed electronically online or obtained by downloading it)) Persons who have received a waiver of the electronic filing requirement from the department or who otherwise would like a paper copy of the survey may obtain the survey from the department's web site (www.dor.wa.gov). It may also be obtained from the department's district offices, by telephoning the telephone information center (800-647-7706), or by contacting the department's special programs division at:~~

Department of Revenue  
Special Programs Division  
Post Office Box 47477  
Olympia, WA 98504-7477  
Fax: 360-586-2163

~~(d) **Due date.**~~

~~(i) **For surveys due in 2011 or later.** For persons claiming any B&O tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate listed under subsection (2) of this section, the survey must be filed or postmarked by ~~((March 31st))~~ April 30th following any calendar year in which the person becomes eligible to claim the tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate ((is claimed)).~~

~~For ((applicants)) recipients of any sales tax deferrals listed under subsection (2) of this section or for lessees required to file the annual survey as provided in subsection (2)(g) of this section, the survey must be filed or postmarked by ~~((March 31st))~~ April 30th of the year following the calendar year in which an eligible investment project is certified by the department as being operationally complete and each of the seven succeeding calendar years.~~

~~(ii) **For surveys due in 2010 or earlier.** For persons claiming any B&O tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate listed~~

under subsection (2) of this section, the survey must be filed or postmarked by March 31st following any calendar year in which the tax credit, tax exemption, or tax rate is claimed.

For recipients of any sales tax deferrals listed under subsection (2) of this section or for lessees required to file the annual survey as provided in subsection (2)(g) of this section, the survey must be filed or postmarked by March 31st of the year following the calendar year in which an eligible investment project is certified by the department as being operationally complete and each of the seven succeeding calendar years.

(iii) Due date extensions. The department may extend the due date for timely filing annual surveys as provided in subsection (11) of this section.

(e) Special requirement for person who did not file an annual survey during the previous calendar year. If a person is a first-time filer or otherwise did not file an annual survey with the department during the previous calendar year, the annual survey must include the information described in subsection (4) of this section for the two calendar years immediately preceding the due date of the survey.

((e)) (f) Examples.

(i) Advanced Computing, Inc. qualifies for the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 and applied it against taxes due in calendar year ((2006)) 2010. Advanced Computing, Inc. filed an annual survey in March 2010 for credit claimed under RCW 82.04.4452 in 2009. Advanced Computing, Inc. must electronically file an annual survey with the department by ((March 31, 2007)) April 30, 2011.

(ii) In ((1999)) 2009, Biotechnology, Inc. applied for and received a sales and use tax deferral under chapter 82.63 RCW for an eligible investment project in qualified research and development. The investment project was certified by the department as being operationally complete in ((2001)) 2010. Biotechnology, Inc. filed an annual survey in March 2010 for credit claimed under RCW 82.04.4452 in 2009. For the sales and use tax deferral under chapter 82.63 RCW. Biotechnology, Inc. must file its annual survey with the department for the ((2005)) 2010 calendar year by ((March 31, 2006)) April 30, 2011. A survey is due from Biotechnology, Inc. by ((March 31st)) April 30th each following year, with its last survey due ((March 31, 2008)) April 30, 2018.

(iii) Advanced Materials, Inc. has been conducting manufacturing activities in a building leased from Property Management Services since ((2002)) 2009. Property Management Services is a recipient of a deferral under chapter 82.60 RCW, and the building was certified by the department as operationally complete in ((2002)) 2009. In order to pass on the entire economic benefit of the deferral, Property Management

Services charges Advanced Materials, Inc. \$5,000 less in rent each year. ~~((Prior to the 2004 calendar year, Advanced Materials, Inc. is not required under chapter 82.60 RCW to file an annual survey.))~~ Advanced Materials, Inc. is a first-time filer of annual surveys. ~~Advanced Materials, Inc. ((, however,))~~ must file its annual survey with the department ~~((for))~~ covering the ((2004)) 2008 and 2009 calendar years by March 31, ~~((2005))~~ 2010, assuming all the requirements of ~~((RCW 82.60.020 (4)(b)(ii)))~~ subsection (2)(f) of this section are met. A survey is due from Advanced Materials, Inc. by ~~((March 31st))~~ April 30th each following year, with its last survey due by ~~((March 31, 2009))~~ April 30, 2017.

(iv) Fruit Canning, Inc. claims the B&O tax exemption provided in RCW 82.04.4266 for the ~~((gross proceeds of sales derived from the))~~ canning of fruit ~~((for the first time))~~ in ~~((2006))~~ 2010. Fruit Canning, Inc. is a first-time filer of annual surveys. Fruit Canning, Inc. must file ~~((two))~~ an annual survey((s)) with the department by ~~((March 31, 2007))~~ April 30, 2011, ~~((one))~~ covering calendar years ((2005)) 2009 and ((one covering calendar year 2006)) 2010. If Fruit Canning, Inc. claims the B&O tax exemption during subsequent years, it must file an annual survey for each of those years by ~~((March 31))~~ April 30th of each following year.

**(4) What information does the annual survey require?** The annual survey requests information about the following:

(a) Amount of tax deferred, the amount of B&O tax exempted, the amount of B&O tax credit taken, or the amount of B&O tax reduced under the preferential rate;

(b) For persons claiming the tax deferral under chapter 82.60 or 82.63 RCW:

(i) The number of new products or research projects by general classification; and

~~((+e))~~ (ii) The number of trademarks, patents, and copyrights associated with activities at the investment project;

(c) For persons claiming the B&O tax credit under RCW 82.04.4452:

(i) The qualified research and development expenditures during the calendar year for which the credit was claimed;

(ii) The taxable amount during the calendar year for which the credit was claimed;

(iii) The number of new products or research projects by general classification;

(iv) The number of trademarks, patents, and copyrights associated with the research and development activities for which the credit was claimed; and

(v) Whether the credit has been assigned and who assigned the credit.

(d) The following information for employment positions in Washington:

- (i) The total number of employment positions;
- (ii) Full-time, part-time, and temporary employment positions as a percent of total employment. Refer to subsection (7) of this section for information about full-time, part-time, and temporary employment positions;
- (iii) The number of employment positions according to the wage bands of less than \$30,000; \$30,000 or greater, but less than \$60,000; and \$60,000 or greater. A wage band containing fewer than three individuals may be combined with the next lowest wage band; and
- (iv) The number of employment positions that have employer-provided medical, dental, and retirement benefits, by each of the wage bands; and
- (e) Additional information the department requests that is necessary to measure the results of, or determine eligibility for the tax adjustments.

(i) The department is required to report to the state legislature summary descriptive statistics by category and the effectiveness of ~~((the))~~ certain tax adjustments, such as job creation, company growth, and such other factors as the department selects or as the statutes identify. The department has included questions related to measuring these effects.

(ii) In addition, the department has included questions related to:

(A) The person's use of the sales and use tax exemption for machinery and equipment used in manufacturing provided in RCW 82.08.02565 and 82.12.02565; and

(B) The Unified Business Identifier used with the Washington state employment security department and all employment security department reference numbers used on quarterly tax reports that cover the employment positions reported in the annual survey.

**(5) What is total employment in the annual survey?**

(a) The annual survey requires information on all full-time, part-time, and temporary employment positions located in Washington state on December 31st of the calendar year covered by the survey. Total employment includes persons who are on leaves of absence such as sick leave, vacation, disability leave, jury duty, military leave, and workers compensation leave, regardless of whether those persons are receiving wages. Total employment does not include separation from employment such as layoffs or reductions in force. Vacant positions are not included in total employment.

(b) **Examples.** Assume these facts for the following examples. National Construction Equipment (NCE) manufactures bulldozers, cranes, and other earth-moving equipment in Ridgefield, WA and Kennewick, WA. NCE received a deferral of taxes under chapter 82.60 RCW for sales and use taxes on its new manufacturing site in Kennewick, WA.

(i) NCE employs two hundred workers in Ridgefield manufacturing construction cranes. NCE employs two hundred fifty workers in Kennewick manufacturing bulldozers and other earth-moving equipment. Although NCE's facility in Ridgefield does not qualify for any tax adjustments, NCE's annual survey must report a total of four hundred fifty employment positions. The annual survey includes all Washington state employment positions, which includes employment positions engaged in activities that do not qualify for tax adjustments.

(ii) On November 20th, NCE lays off seventy-five workers. NCE notifies ten of the laid off workers on December 20th that they will be rehired and begin work on January 2nd. The seventy-five employment positions are excluded from NCE's annual survey, because a separation of employment has occurred. Although NCE intends to rehire ten employees, those employment positions are vacant on December 31st.

(iii) On December 31st, NCE has one hundred employees on vacation leave, five employees on sick leave, two employees on military leave, one employee who is scheduled to retire as of January 1st, and three vacant employment positions. The employment positions of employees on vacation, sick leave, and military leave must be included in NCE's annual survey. The one employee scheduled to retire must be included in the annual survey because the employment position is filled on December 31st. The three vacant positions are not included in the annual survey.

(iv) In June, NCE hires two employees from a local college to intern in its engineering department. When the academic year begins in September, one employee ends the internship. The other employee's internship continues until the following June. NCE must report one employment position on the annual survey, representing the one intern employed on December 31st.

(6) **When is an employment position located in Washington state?** The annual survey seeks information about Washington employment positions only. An employment position is located in Washington state if:

(a) The service of the employee is performed entirely within the state;

(b) The service of the employee is performed both within and without the state, but the service performed without the state is incidental to the employee's service within the state;

(c) The service of the employee is performed both within and without the state, and the employee's base of operations is within the state;

(d) The service of the employee is performed both within and without the state, but the service is directed or controlled in this state; or

(e) The service of the employee is performed both within and without the state and the service is not directed or

controlled in this state, but the employee's individual residence is in this state.

(f) **Examples.** Assume these facts for the following examples. Acme Computer, Inc. develops computer software and claims the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 for its research and development spending. Acme Computer, headquartered in California, has employees working at four locations in Washington state. Acme Computer also has offices in Oregon and Texas.

(i) Ed is a software engineer in Acme Computer's Vancouver office. Ed occasionally works at Acme Computer's Portland, Oregon office when other software engineers are on leave. Ed's position must be included in the number of total employment in Washington state that Acme Computer reports on the annual survey. Ed performs services both within and without the state, but the services performed without the state are incidental to the employee services within Washington state.

(ii) John is an Acme Computer salesperson. John travels throughout Washington, Oregon, and Idaho promoting sales of new Acme Computer products. John's activities are directed by his manager in Acme Computer's Spokane office. John's position must be included in the number of total employment in Washington state that Acme Computer reports on the annual survey. John performs services both within and without the state, but the services are directed or controlled in Washington state.

(iii) Jane, vice-president for product development, works in Acme Computer's Portland, Oregon office. Jane regularly travels to Seattle to review the progress of research and development projects conducted in Washington state. Jane's position must not be included in the number of total employment in Washington state that Acme Computer reports on the annual survey. Although Jane regularly performs services within Washington state, her activities are directed or controlled in Oregon.

(iv) Roberta, a service technician, travels throughout the United States servicing Acme Computer products. Her activities are directed from Acme Computer's corporate offices in California, but she works from her home office in Tacoma. Roberta's position must be included in the number of total employment in Washington state that Acme Computer reports on the annual survey. Roberta performs services both within and without the state and the service is not directed or controlled in this state, but her residence is in Washington state.

(7) **What are full-time, part-time and temporary employment positions?** The survey must separately identify the number of full-time, part-time, and temporary employment positions as a percent of total employment.

(a) **Full-time and part-time employment positions.** A position is considered full-time or part-time if the employer

intends for the position to be filled for at least fifty-two consecutive weeks or twelve consecutive months, excluding any leaves of absence.

(i) A full-time position is a position that requires the employee to work, excluding overtime hours, thirty-five hours per week for fifty-two consecutive weeks, four hundred fifty-five hours a quarter for four consecutive quarters, or one thousand eight hundred twenty hours during a period of twelve consecutive months.

(ii) A part-time position is a position in which the employee may work less than the hours required for a full-time position.

(iii) In some instances, an employee may not be required to work the hours required for full-time employment because of paid rest and meal breaks, health and safety laws, disability laws, shift differentials, or collective bargaining agreements. If, in the absence of these factors, the employee would be required to work the number of hours for a full-time position to receive their current wage, the position must be reported as a full-time employment position.

(b) **Temporary positions.** There are two types of temporary positions.

(i) **Employees of the person required to complete the survey.** In the case of a temporary employee directly employed by the person required to complete the survey, a temporary position is a position intended to be filled for a period of less than fifty-two consecutive weeks or twelve consecutive months. For example, seasonal employment positions are temporary positions. These temporary positions must be included in the information required in subsections (5), (8), and (9) of this section.

(ii) **Workers furnished by staffing companies.** A temporary position also includes a position filled by a worker furnished by a staffing company, regardless of the duration of the placement. These temporary positions must be included in the information required in subsections (5), (8), and (9) of this section. In addition, the person filling out the annual survey must provide the following additional information:

(A) Total number of staffing company employees furnished by staffing companies;

(B) Top three occupational codes of all staffing company employees; and

(C) Average duration of all staffing company employees.

(c) **Examples.** Assume these facts for the following examples. Worldwide Materials, Inc. is a developer of materials used in manufacturing electronic devices at a facility located in Everett, WA. Worldwide Materials claims the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 for its research and development spending. Worldwide Materials has one hundred employees.

(i) On December 31st, Worldwide Materials has five employees on workers' compensation leave. At the time of the work-related injuries, the employees worked forty hours a week and were expected to work for fifty-two consecutive weeks. Worldwide Materials must report these employees as being employed in a full-time position. Although the five employees are not currently working, they are on workers' compensation leave and Worldwide Materials had intended for the full-time positions to be filled for at least fifty-two consecutive weeks.

(ii) In September, Worldwide Materials hires two employees on a full-time basis for a two-year project to design composite materials to be used in a new airplane model. Because the position is intended to be filled for a period exceeding twelve consecutive months, Worldwide Materials must report these positions as two full-time positions.

(iii) Worldwide Materials has two employees who clean laboratories during the evenings. The employees regularly work 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, fifty-two weeks a year. Because the employees work less than thirty-five hours a week, the employment positions are reported as part-time positions.

(iv) On November 1st, a Worldwide Materials engineer begins twelve weeks of family and medical leave. The engineer was expected to work forty hours a week for fifty-two consecutive weeks. While the engineer is on leave, Worldwide Materials hires a staffing company to furnish a worker to complete the engineer's projects. Worldwide Materials must report the engineer as a full-time position on the annual survey. Worldwide Materials must also report the worker furnished by the staffing company as a temporary employment position and include the information as required in (b) of this subsection.

(v) Worldwide Materials allows three of its research employees to work on specific projects with a flexible schedule. These employees are not required to work a set amount of hours each week, but are expected to work twelve consecutive months. The three research employees are paid a comparable wage as other research employees who are required to work a set schedule of forty hours a week. Although the three research employees may work fewer hours, they are receiving comparable wages as other research employees working forty hours a week. Worldwide Materials must report these positions as full-time employment positions, because each position is equivalent to a full-time employment position.

(vi) Worldwide Materials has a large order to fulfill and hires ten employees for the months of June and July. Five of the employees leave at the end of July. Worldwide Materials decides to have the remaining five employees work on an on-call basis for the remainder of the year. As of December 31st, three of the employees are working for Worldwide Materials on an on-

call basis. Worldwide Materials must report three temporary employment positions on the annual survey and include these positions in the information required in subsections (5), (8), and (9) of this section.

(8) **What are wages?** For the purposes of the annual survey, "wages" means compensation paid to an individual for personal services, whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, or otherwise as reported on the W-2 forms of employees. Stock options granted as compensation to employees are wages to the extent they are reported on the W-2 forms of the employees and are taken as a deduction for federal income tax purposes by the employer. The compensation of a proprietor or a partner is determined in one of two ways:

(a) If there is net income for federal income tax purposes, the amount reported subject to self-employment tax is the compensation.

(b) If there is no net income for federal income tax purposes, reasonable cash withdrawals or cash advances is the compensation.

(9) **What are employer-provided benefits?** The annual survey requires persons to report the number of employees that have employer-provided medical, dental, and retirement benefits, by each of the wage bands. An employee has employer-provided medical, dental, and retirement benefits if the employee is currently eligible to participate or receive the benefit. A benefit is "employer-provided" if the medical, dental, and retirement benefit is dependent on the employer's establishment or administration of the benefit. A benefit that is equally available to employees and the general public is not an "employer-provided" benefit.

(a) **What are medical benefits?** "Medical benefits" means compensation, not paid as wages, in the form of a health plan offered by an employer to its employees. A "health plan" means any plan, fund, or program established, maintained, or funded by an employer for the purpose of providing for its employees or their beneficiaries, through the purchase of insurance or otherwise, medical and/or dental care services.

(i) Health plans include any:

(A) "Employee welfare benefit plan" as defined by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA);

(B) "Health plan" or "health benefit plan" as defined in RCW 48.43.005;

(C) Self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement as defined in RCW 48.125.010;

(D) "Qualified health insurance" as defined in Section 35 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(E) "Archer MSA" as defined in Section 220 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(F) "Health savings plan" as defined in Section 223 of the

Internal Revenue Code;

(G) "Health plan" qualifying under Section 213 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(H) Governmental plans; and

(I) Church plans.

(ii) "Health care services" means services offered or provided by health care facilities and health care providers relating to the prevention, cure, or treatment of illness, injury, or disease.

(b) **What are dental benefits?** "Dental benefits" means a dental health plan offered by an employer as a benefit to its employees. "Dental health plan" has the same meaning as "health plan" in (a) of this subsection, but is for the purpose of providing for employees or their beneficiaries, through the purchase of insurance or otherwise, dental care services. "Dental care services" means services offered or provided by health care facilities and health care providers relating to the prevention, cure, or treatment of illness, injury, or disease of human teeth, alveolar process, gums, or jaw.

(c) **What are retirement benefits?** "Retirement benefits" means compensation, not paid as wages, in the form of a retirement plan offered by an employer to its employees. An employer contribution to the retirement plan is not required for a retirement plan to be employer-provided. A "retirement plan" means any plan, account, deposit, annuity, or benefit, other than a life insurance policy, that provides for retirement income or deferred income to employees for periods after employment is terminated. The term includes pensions, annuities, stock bonus plans, employee stock ownership plans, profit sharing plans, self-employed retirement plans, individual retirement accounts, individual retirement annuities, and retirement bonds, as well as any other plan or program, without regard to its source of funding, and without regard to whether the retirement plan is a qualified plan meeting the guidelines established in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) **Examples.** Assume these facts for the following examples. Medical Resource, Inc. is a pharmaceutical manufacturer located in Spokane, WA. Medical Resource, Inc. claims the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 for its research and development spending. It employs two hundred full-time employees and fifty part-time employees. Medical Resource, Inc. also hires a staffing company to furnish seventy-five workers.

(i) Medical Resource, Inc. offers its employees two different health plans as a medical benefit. Plan A is available at no cost to full-time employees. Employees are not eligible to participate in Plan A until completing thirty days of employment. Plan B costs employees \$200 each month. Full-

time and part-time employees are eligible for Plan B after six months of employment. One hundred full-time employees are enrolled in Plan A. One hundred full-time and part-time employees are enrolled in Plan B. Forty full-time and part-time employees chose not to enroll in either plan. Ten part-time employees are not yet eligible for either Plan A or Plan B. Medical Resource, Inc. must report two hundred employees as having employer-provided medical benefits, because this is the number of employees enrolled in the health plans it offers.

(ii) Medical Resource, Inc. does not offer medical benefits to the employees of the staffing company. However, twenty-five of these workers have enrolled in a health plan through the staffing company. Medical Resource, Inc. must report these twenty-five employment positions as having employer-provided medical benefits.

(iii) Medical Resource, Inc. does not offer its employees dental insurance, but has arranged with a group of dental providers to provide all employees with a 30% discount on any dental care service. No action, other than Medical Resource, Inc. employment, is required by employees to receive this benefit. Unlike the medical benefit, employees are eligible for the dental benefit as of the first day of employment. This benefit is not provided to the workers furnished by the staffing company. Medical Resource, Inc. must report two hundred and fifty employment positions as having dental benefits, because this is the number of employees enrolled in this dental plan.

(iv) Medical Resource, Inc. offers a 401(k) Plan to its full-time and part-time employees after six months of employment. Medical Resource, Inc. makes matching contributions to an employee's 401(k) Plan after two years of employment. On December 31st, two hundred and twenty-five workers are eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plan. Two hundred workers are enrolled in the 401(k) Plan. One hundred of these workers receive matching contributions. Medical Resource, Inc. must report two hundred employment positions as having employer-provided retirement benefits, because this is the number of employees enrolled in the 401(k) Plan.

(v) Medical Resource, Inc. coordinates with a bank to insert information in employee paycheck envelopes on the bank's Individual Retirement Account (IRA) options offered to bank customers. Employees who open an IRA with the bank can arrange to have their contributions directly deposited from their paychecks into their accounts. Fifty employees open IRAs with the bank. Medical Resource, Inc. cannot report that these fifty employees have employer-provided retirement benefits. IRAs are not an employer-provided benefit because the ability to establish the IRA is not dependent on Medical Resource, Inc.'s participation or sponsorship of the benefit.

(10) **Is the annual survey confidential?** The annual survey

is subject to the confidentiality provisions of RCW 82.32.330. However, information on the amount of tax adjustment taken is not subject to the confidentiality provisions of RCW 82.32.330 and may be disclosed to the public upon request, except as provided in (b) and (c) of this subsection. More confidentiality provisions in regards to the annual surveys are as follows:

**(a) Failure to timely file a complete annual survey subject to disclosure.** ~~If ((the following taxpayers fail to timely file a complete annual survey for claiming the tax adjustment))~~ a taxpayer fails to file a complete annual survey as required by law, then the fact that ((such)) the taxpayer((s)) fails to timely file a complete annual survey and the amount required to be repaid as a result of the taxpayer's failure to file a complete annual survey is not confidential((:

~~(i) Persons receiving deferral of taxes under chapter 82.75 RCW on an eligible investment project in biotechnology products (RCW 82.32.645(6));~~

~~(ii) Persons claiming the B&O tax exemption provided by RCW 82.04.4266 for fruits and vegetables, RCW 82.04.4268 for dairy products, and RCW 82.04.4269 for seafood products (RCW 82.32.610(5)); and~~

~~(iii) Persons claiming the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.449 for customized employment training (RCW 82.32.650(5))~~) and may be disclosed to the public upon request.

**(b) Amount reported in annual survey is different from the amount claimed or allowed.** ~~If ((the following))~~ a taxpayer((s)) reports a tax adjustment amount on the annual survey that is different than the amount actually claimed on the ((taxpayers)) taxpayer's tax returns or otherwise allowed by the department, then the amount actually claimed or allowed may be disclosed((:

~~(i) Persons claiming the high technology B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 (RCW 82.04.4452 (6)(d)(i));~~

~~(ii) Persons claiming the B&O tax rate provided by RCW 82.04.260(12) for timber products (RCW 82.32.630 (2)(d)).~~

**(c) Tax adjustment is less than ten thousand dollars.** ~~If the tax adjustment ((of the following taxpayers))~~ is less than ten thousand dollars during the period covered by the annual survey, then ((such)) the taxpayer((s)) may request the department to treat the amount of the tax adjustment as confidential under RCW 82.32.330. The request must be made for each survey in writing, dated and signed by the owner, corporate officer, partner, guardian, executor, receiver, administrator, or trustee of the business, and filed with the department's special programs division at the address provided above in subsection (3) of this section.

~~((i) Persons claiming the high technology B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 (RCW 82.04.4452 (6)(d)(ii)); and~~

~~(ii) Persons claiming the B&O tax credit provided by RCW~~

~~82.04.4487 for engaging in qualified preproduction development in the field of aeronautics (RCW 82.32.635 (2)(d)).)~~

(11) **What are the consequences for failing to timely file a complete annual survey?**

(a) **What is a "complete annual survey"?** An annual survey is complete if:

(i) The annual survey is filed on the form required by this section or in an electronic format as required by law; and

(ii) The person makes a good faith effort to substantially respond to all survey questions required by this section.

Responses such as "varied," "various," or "please contact for information" are not good faith responses to a question.

(b) ~~((High technology business and occupation (B&O) tax credit. If a person claiming the B&O tax credit provided by RCW 82.04.4452 for persons engaged in qualified research and development fails to timely file a complete annual survey by the date due, the person is not eligible to take or assign the credit in the year the person failed to timely complete the annual survey. See RCW 82.04.4452. For example, if a person claims the credit in 2006 but fails to file a complete annual survey by March 31, 2007, then the person is not eligible to take or assign the credit in 2007. If a person claims the B&O tax credit during this period of ineligibility, the department will declare the amount of taxes for which the credit was claimed during the period of ineligibility to be immediately due and payable with interest, as provided in chapter 82.32 RCW.~~

~~If a person fails to file the survey by the due date as the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the person may request a thirty day extension of the due date. See WAC 458 20 228 for more information on circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer. The request must be made in writing before the due date to the address provided in subsection (3)(c) of this section.~~

~~(c) **Tax deferrals for investment projects in rural counties.** If a recipient of the deferral fails to timely file a complete annual survey required under RCW 82.60.070 by the date due, 12.5% of the total deferred tax is immediately due. See RCW 82.60.070. If the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in RCW 82.60.020(4), the lessee is responsible for payment to the extent the lessee has received the economic benefit. No penalties or interest will be assessed on the deferred sales/use tax; however, all other penalties and interest applicable to excise tax assessment may be assessed and imposed. For example, if a person fails to file a complete annual survey by March 31, 2007, then 12.5% of the total deferred tax is immediately due, with applicable penalties and interest beginning to accrue on the due date.~~

~~(d) **Tax deferrals for investment projects for high technology businesses.** If a recipient of the deferral fails to~~

~~timely file a complete annual survey required under RCW 82.63.020 by the date due, 12.5% of the total deferred tax is immediately due with interest, but not penalties, as provided in chapter 82.32 RCW. See RCW 82.63.045. Interest is computed retroactively to the date the tax deferral was claimed and accrues until the liability is paid in full. If the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in RCW 82.63.010(7), the lessee is responsible for payment to the extent the lessee has received the economic benefit.~~

~~(e) **Business and occupation (B&O) tax exemption for fruit and vegetable, dairy product, and seafood product businesses.** If a person fails to timely file a complete annual survey for the B&O tax exemption under RCW 82.04.4266, 82.04.4268, or 82.04.4269 by the due date, the amount of taxes exempted for the previous calendar year is immediately due and payable. See RCW 82.32.610. Interest, but not penalties, applies to the amounts due under this subsection. The amount due must be calculated using a rate of 0.138%. Interest is computed retroactively to the date the tax exemption was claimed and accrues until the liability is paid in full.~~

~~If a person fails to file the survey by the due date as the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the person may request a thirty day extension of the due date. See WAC 458-20-228 for more information on circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer. The request must be made in writing before the due date to the address provided in subsection (3)(c) of this section.~~

~~(f) **Tax deferrals for investment projects for fruit and vegetable, dairy product, and seafood product businesses.** If a recipient of the deferral fails to file a complete annual survey required under RCW 82.74.040 by the date due, 12.5% of the total deferred tax is immediately due with interest, but not penalties, as provided in chapter 82.32 RCW. See RCW 82.74.040. Interest begins to accrue on the due date and accrues until the liability is paid in full. If the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee as provided in RCW 82.74.010(4), the lessee must be responsible for payment to the extent the lessee has received the economic benefit.~~

~~If a person fails to file the survey by the due date as the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the person may request a thirty day extension of the due date. See WAC 458-20-228 for more information on circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer. The request must be made in writing before the due date to the address provided in subsection (3)(c) of this section.~~

~~(g) **Tax deferrals for investment projects for biotechnology products.** If a recipient of the deferral fails to file a complete annual survey required under RCW 82.32.645 by the due date, 12.5% of the total deferred tax is immediately due with~~

interest, but not penalties, as provided in chapter 82.32 RCW. See RCW 82.32.645. Interest begins to accrue on the due date and accrues until the liability is paid in full.

~~(h) **Business and occupation (B&O) tax credit for customized employment training.** If a person fails to timely file a complete annual survey for the B&O tax credit under RCW 82.04.449 by the due date, the amount of tax credit claimed for the previous calendar year is immediately due and payable. See RCW 82.32.650. Interest, but not penalties, applies to the amounts due under this subsection. Interest is computed retroactively to the date the tax credit was claimed and accrues until the liability is paid in full.~~

~~If a person fails to file the survey by the due date as the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the person may request a thirty-day extension of the due date. See WAC 458-20-228 for more information on circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer. The request must be made in writing before the due date to the address provided in subsection (3)(c) of this section.~~

~~(i) **Reduced business and occupation (B&O) tax credit for timber products.** If a person fails to timely file a complete annual survey for the reduced B&O tax rate under RCW 82.04.260(12) by the due date, the amount of tax reduced for the previous calendar year is immediately due and payable. See RCW 82.32.630. Interest, but not penalties, applies to the amounts due under this subsection. Interest is computed retroactively to the date the reduced taxes were due and accrues until the liability is paid in full.~~

~~If a person fails to file the survey by the due date as the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the person may request a thirty-day extension of the due date. See WAC 458-20-228 for more information on circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer. The request must be made in writing before the due date to the address provided in subsection (3)(c) of this section.)~~ If a person claims a tax adjustment that requires an annual survey under this section but fails to submit a complete annual survey by the due date of the survey or any extension under RCW 82.32.590, the amount of the tax adjustment claimed for the previous calendar year becomes immediately due. If the tax adjustment is a deferral of tax, twelve and one-half percent of the deferred tax is immediately due. If the economic benefits of the deferral are passed to a lessee, the lessee is responsible for payment to the extent the lessee has received the economic benefit. Interest, but not penalties, will be assessed on these amounts. The interest will be assessed at the rate provided for delinquent taxes provided for in RCW 82.32.050, retroactively to the date the tax adjustment was claimed, and accrues until the taxes for which the tax adjustment was claimed are repaid.

(c) Extension for circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer. If the department finds that the failure of a taxpayer to file an annual survey by the due date was the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the department will extend the time for filing the survey. The extension will be for a period of thirty days from the date the department issues its written notification to the taxpayer that it qualifies for an extension under this section. The department may grant additional extensions as it deems proper.

In making a determination whether the failure of a taxpayer to file an annual survey by the due date was the result of circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer, the department will apply the provisions adopted by the department in WAC 458-20-228 for the waiver or cancellation of penalties when the underpayment of untimely payment of any tax was due to circumstances beyond the control of the taxpayer.

(d) One-time only extension. A taxpayer who fails to file an annual survey required under this section by the due date of the survey is entitled to an extension of the due date. A request for an extension under this subsection must be made in writing to the department.

(i) To qualify for an extension, a taxpayer must have filed all annual reports and surveys, if any, due in prior years by their respective due dates, beginning with annual reports and surveys due in the calendar year 2010.

(ii) An extension is for ninety days from the original due date of the annual survey.

(iii) No taxpayer may be granted more than one ninety-day extension.