



How to Read your W2

Box 1

Wages, tips and other compensation. – This does not include the cost of elective deferrals; including but not limited to: 401k, 403b, Section 125 medical plans.

Box 2

Federal income tax withheld.

Box 3

Social Security taxable wages up to the annual wage base limit.

Box 4

Social Security tax withheld.

Box 5

Wages subject to Medicare tax.

Box 6

Medicare tax withheld.

Box 10

Dependent care benefits.

Box 12

Used to show elective deferrals and designated Roth contributions to retirement plans as well as to report applicable employer sponsored coverage (as defined by the Affordable Care Act).

Box 13 – Checkboxes

Statutory employee – Checked if a statutory employee’s earnings are subject to Social Security and Medicare taxes but not subject to federal income tax withholding.

Retirement plan – Checked if the employee was an “active participant” (for any part of the year) in a retirement plan.

Third-party sick pay – Checked if reporting sick pay payments made by a third party for the employee.

Box 14 - Other

Used to record other information for an employee. Examples include union dues, health insurance premiums and educational assistance payments.

Box 15 through 20

State and local income tax information.



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