

Oregon Transit Payroll Taxes for Employers

Should I file?

Transit district taxes

Oregon Department of Revenue administers tax programs for the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet) and the Lane County Mass Transit District (LTD). Nearly every employer who pays wages for services performed in these districts must pay transit payroll tax.

The transit tax is imposed directly on the employer. The tax is figured only on the amount of gross payroll for services performed within the TriMet or Lane Transit Districts. This includes traveling sales representatives and employees working from home.

Who must file and pay?

All employers, including nonresident employers, who are paying wages earned in the TriMet or LTD districts must register and file with Oregon Department of Revenue. Wages include all salaries, commissions, tips, bonuses, fees, payments to a deferred compensation plan, or other items of value.

Your payroll service may not be aware that you have employees working in the transit districts. You may need to contact the service regarding your reporting and payment responsibility.

How to register

If you're a new employer and subject to the transit tax, register at sos.oregon.gov/business/pages/register.aspx or complete the *Combined Employer's Registration* including the transit tax section.

If you're registered and have employees in the transit tax districts, complete the *Oregon Combined Payroll Tax Business Change in Status Form*.

You can download these forms from: www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/businesses, or order them by calling 503-945-8100.

When to file the transit tax

Your transit tax is reported quarterly using Form OQ. Make your payment using the payment coupon, Form OR-OTC-V, or through the electronic fund transfer (EFT). For EFT information, go to www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/businesses or call 503-945-8100 option 4 then option 1.

How to figure the transit tax

Multiply the gross taxable payroll earned within the transit district by the current transit rate. The current rate is in the TriMet/LTD portion of the *Oregon Combined Payroll Tax Report*.

Exempt payroll

The following are exempt from transit payroll taxes:

1. Federal credit unions.
2. Public school districts.
3. 501(c)(3) nonprofit and tax-exempt institutions (except hospitals).
4. Insurance companies (except domestic insurers).
5. Domestic service in a private home.

The following are exempt from LTD, but subject to TriMet taxes:

1. Public education districts.
2. Public special service and utility districts.
3. Port authorities.
4. Fire districts.
5. City, county, and other local governments.

For more definitions of exempt payroll for payroll taxes, refer to the *Oregon Business Guide*.

Penalty and interest

We charge:

- A 5 percent penalty on any unpaid tax after the return's due date;
- An additional 20 percent penalty on any tax due if Form OQ is filed more than one month late;
- An additional 25 percent penalty on any tax due if Form OQ is not filed within 30 days of the date of a *Demand to File* notice;
- A 100 percent penalty on any tax due if Form OQ is not filed for three consecutive years;
- Interest, at the current rate, on the unpaid tax from the return's due date.

Self-employment transit tax

If you have self-employment earnings within a transit district, they may be subject to transit self-employment tax. For more information, call 503-378-4988.

Download forms:

www.oregon.gov/dor/pages/index.aspx

or write:

Forms, Oregon Department of Revenue
PO Box 14999
Salem OR 97309-0990

Contact

For more information on TriMet or LTD tax, call the Oregon Department of Revenue, 503-945-8100.

If you use a payroll service or a tax preparer, be sure your preparer is filing and depositing correctly for transit taxes.



ZIP code list

Use this list as a guideline to help determine if you have employees in the TriMet Transit District. Some ZIP codes may not coincide with the district boundaries. For TriMet boundary information, call TriMet, 503-962-6466.

ZIP codes completely in TriMet Transit District

| | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 97003 | 97035 | 97205 | 97215 | 97223 | 97239 |
| 97005 | 97036 | 97206 | 97216 | 97225 | 97256 |
| 97006 | 97068 | 97209 | 97217 | 97227 | 97258 |
| 97008 | 97077 | 97210 | 97218 | 97229 | 97266 |
| 97024 | 97201 | 97211 | 97219 | 97230 | 97267 |
| 97027 | 97202 | 97212 | 97220 | 97232 | |
| 97030 | 97203 | 97213 | 97221 | 97233 | |
| 97034 | 97204 | 97214 | 97222 | 97236 | |

ZIP codes partially in TriMet Transit District

| | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 97007 | 97022 | 97062 | 97086 | 97123 | 97231 |
| 97009 | 97023 | 97070 | 97089 | 97124 | |
| 97015 | 97045 | 97078 | 97113 | 97140 | |
| 97019 | 97060 | 97080 | 97116 | 97224 | |

Counties

Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington

TriMet Transit District rate

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1/1/16 to 12/31/16 | 0.007337 |
| 1/1/17 to 12/31/17 | 0.007437 |
| 1/1/18 to 12/31/18 | 0.007537 |
| 1/1/19 to 12/31/19 | 0.007637 |
| 1/1/20 to 12/31/20 | 0.007737 |
| 1/1/21 to 12/31/21 | 0.007837 |
| 1/1/22 to 12/31/22 | 0.007937 |
| 1/1/23 to 12/31/23 | 0.008037 |

Deleted from TriMet

(Transit still subject before the deletion date)

| | | | |
|--------|--------|-------------|--------|
| Boring | 1/1/13 | Wilsonville | 1/1/89 |
| Canby | 1/1/02 | Molalla | 1/1/89 |
| Sandy | 1/1/00 | Damascus | 1/1/89 |



ZIP code list

Use this list as a guideline to help determine if you have employees in the Lane Transit District. Some ZIP codes may not coincide with the district boundaries. For Lane Transit boundary information, call LTD, 541-682-6100.

| City | ZIP code |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Blue River | 97413 |
| Coburg | 97408 |
| Cottage Grove | 97424 |
| Creswell | 97426 |
| Dexter | 97431 |
| Elmira | 97437 |
| Eugene | 97401-97405 |
| Eugene | 97408 |
| Eugene | 97440 |
| Fall Creek | 97438 |
| Finn Rock | 97438 |
| Goshen | 97405 |
| Jasper | 97438 |
| Leaburg | 97489 |
| Lowell | 97452 |
| Maywood | 97413 |
| McKenzie Bridge | 97413 |
| Pleasant Hill | 97455 |
| Springfield | 97475, 97477, 97478 |
| Thurston | 97482 |
| Trent | 97431 |
| Veneta | 97487 |
| Vida | 97488 |
| Waltersville | 97488 |

County

Lane

Lane Transit District rate

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| 1/1/17 to 12/31/17 | 0.0072 |
| 1/1/18 to 12/31/18 | 0.0073 |
| 1/1/19 to 12/31/19 | 0.0074 |
| 1/1/20 to 12/31/20 | 0.0075 |
| 1/1/21 to 12/31/21 | 0.0076 |
| 1/1/22 to 12/31/22 | 0.0077 |
| 1/1/23 to 12/31/23 | 0.0078 |