## Tribal Taxes Math Worksheet

## Scenario

John is a high school senior and an enrolled member of a federally recognized Native American Tribe who lives with his family on the Tribe's reservation lands near the Oregon Coast. Last summer, to save money for college, he worked two part-time jobs. The first was clearing trails on Tribal forest land for his Tribe's natural resources department, for which he was paid a total of $\$ 4,000$. The second job was lifeguarding at the public pool in the nearby beach town, for which he was paid $\$ 7,500$. It's now tax time, and John needs to figure out how much federal and Oregon income taxes he must pay.

Use this information to answer the questions that follow. Be sure to show your work.
Note: Figuring income taxes owed is a bit more complicated in real life than is suggested by the following steps. For example, each taxpayer must consider their dependent status, exemptions, and other adjustments to their income that apply to their unique tax situation. The steps below are intended to teach you the concept of tax rates and give you experience writing and graphing a piecewise function.

## Part 1

## Step 1

Using the instructions and information provided by your teacher, fill in the following table with federal income tax ranges and rates for the current tax reporting year.

| Federal Taxes (current year): |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Income (Single Filers) |  |
|  | Rate |
|  |  |
|  |  |

## Tribal Taxes Math Worksheet (Continued)

## Step 2

Use the information in the table to create a chart representing federal income tax rates by income ranges.

## Step 3

Use the table and/or chart above to determine the federal income tax rate John would pay on the income he earned last year.

## Tribal Taxes Math Worksheet (Continued)

## Step 4

Use the table and/or chart above to write a piecewise function to calculate actual federal income taxes owed for a given income.

## Step 5

Use your piecewise function to calculate how much John owes in federal income taxes.

## Tribal Taxes Math Worksheet (Continued)

## Part 2

## Step 1

Using the instructions and information provided by your teacher, fill in the following table with Oregon income tax ranges and rates for the current tax reporting year.

| Oregon Taxes (current year): |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Income (Single Filers) |  |
|  |  |
|  | Rate |
|  |  |

## Step 2

Use the information in the table to create a chart representing Oregon income tax rates by income ranges.

## Tribal Taxes Math Worksheet (Continued)

## Step 3

Use the table and/or chart above to determine the Oregon income tax rate John would normally have to pay on the income he earned from both jobs last year.

## Step 4

John may not have to pay Oregon income taxes on money he earned from one of his jobs. Which job and why?

If John can exempt the income from the job, does that change the Oregon income tax rate he will pay? Why or why not?

## Tribal Taxes Math Worksheet (Continued)

## Step 5

Use the table and/or chart above to write a piecewise function to calculate actual Oregon income taxes owed for a given income.

## Step 6

Use your piecewise function to calculate how much John owes in Oregon income taxes. Assume he qualifies to exclude the money he earned from one of his jobs as discussed in Step 4 above.

