



# Information Bulletin

**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Engineer Research and  
Development Center

Topographic Engineering Center

*U.S. Army 1999 Research & Development  
Organization of the Year*

Feb. 24, 2000  
Number 00-8

## OFFICIAL

### ERDC Emergency Operations

An ERDC Operations Center (EROC) has been established to coordinate crisis planning and contingency operations. The ERDC Chief of Crisis Operations (Lt. Col. Vincent Collier, Alexandria) heads the EROC and the TeleEngineering Operations Center Director (Dr. Larry Lynch, Vicksburg) is the Deputy. The office symbol for the EROC is CEERD-PO, the telephone numbers are 703-428-6115, DSN 328-6115, fax 703-428-6656 or 601-634-3485, DSN 446-3485, fax 601-634-2764, and the e-mail address is EROC@erdc.usace.army.mil.

### 2000 Tax Withholding Changes

The Defense Civilian Pay System (DCPS) calculates tax withholding based on an annual year basis. The biweekly taxable income is annualized by multiplying it by the number of pay periods, less any personal exemption withholding allowances. This amount is used in the Annual Payroll Period tax withholding table. Once the annual tax amount is determined it is divided by the number of pay periods. Pay year 2000 contains the normal 26 pay periods.

**FEDERAL INCOME TAX:** Federal income tax withholding formulas have been revised for the 2000 Pay Year. The Federal annual personal exemption withholding allowance is \$2799.94 for each exemption claimed on your W-4. The 2000 Federal Tax Withholding Tables are provided for your use in estimating your 2000 Federal Tax Withholding.

**FICA:** The 1990 Budget Reconciliation Bill set up two wage bases for all employees subject to Social Security (FICA)--one for the Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance (OASDI) portion of Social Security and a second wage base for the Medicare portion. OASDI deductions at 6.20 percent will be made on a 2000 OASDI taxable wage base of \$76,200, resulting in a maximum OASDI deduction of \$4,724.40.

**MEDICARE:** The Medicare tax rate will remain the same for 2000 at 1.45 percent of gross pay for both the employee deduction and employer contribution. All 2000 taxable wages are subject to Medicare.

**SUPPLEMENTAL WITHHOLDING RATE:** The tax rate for supplemental wages, such as cash incentive awards, lump sum leave payments, recruitment bonuses, relocation bonuses, and VSIP remains at 28 percent for Federal plus any applicable state tax.

The loss of a tax exemption that affects withholding at the beginning of the next taxable year, such as a divorce or the loss of a dependent, should be reflected by an amended Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate.

These revised tax rates are effective for all wages PAID on or after Jan. 1, 2000. These revised rates were reflected in paychecks for pay period ending Jan. 1, 2000, paid on Jan. 13, 2000.

IRS also has a W4 calculator located on the web:  
[http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/ind\\_info/webw4/index.html](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/ind_info/webw4/index.html)

**ANNUAL FEDERAL TAX WITHHOLDING TABLE - Effective PPE Jan. 1, 2000**

**PERSONAL EXEMPTION WITHHOLDING ALLOWANCE:** \$2799.94 per exemption

**(a) SINGLE person, including HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD:**

If the amount of wages is:		The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:	Of excess over-
Over-	But not over-		
\$ 0	\$ 2,650	\$ 0.00	
\$ 2,650	\$ 27,850	\$ 0.00 plus 15%	\$ 2,650
\$ 27,850	\$ 59,900	\$ 3,780.00 plus 28%	\$27,850
\$ 59,900	\$134,200	\$12,754.00 plus 31%	\$59,900
\$134,200	\$289,950	\$35,787.00 plus 36%	
\$134,200			
\$289,950 . . . .		\$91,857.00 plus 39.6%	\$289,950

**(b) MARRIED person:**

If the amount of wages is:		The amount of income tax to be withheld shall be:	Of excess over-
Over-	But not over-		
\$ 0	\$6,450	\$ 0.00	
\$ 6,450	\$48,400	\$ 0.00 plus 15%	\$ 6,450
\$ 48,400	\$101,000	\$ 6,292.50 plus 28%	\$ 48,400
\$101,000	\$166,000	\$21,020.50 plus 31%	\$101,000
\$166,000	\$292,900	\$41,170.50 plus 36%	\$166,000
\$292,900 . . . .		\$86,854.50 plus 39.6%	\$292,900

**Travel update**

Here is the current schedule for approving travel in CEFMS:

Feb. 28- March 3      Betty O'Donnell      (603) 646-4355/4356

Please note: If you are not sure who is signing, please forward an e-mail to each of us and we will ensure your request is taken care of by the appropriate person.

**Commander's mailbox**

ERDC team members are reminded that an electronic mailbox has been established to allow employees to send questions and/or comments to the Commander. If an employee wishes to remain anonymous, his or her name will be deleted from the question before it is forwarded to the Commander for comment. Employees' questions will be answered via return e-mail. Answers to anonymous and frequently asked questions will be posted in the Employee Information Bulletin.

The address in Outlook is, "ERDC Commander." Again, all information is kept strictly confidential and all questions are addressed directly by the Commander.

## **ERDC publications on Internet**

The ERDC Publication Bulletin serves as the official notification of new ERDC forms and publication, as well as rescissions or changes to existing forms or publications. As of Sept. 10, 1999, ERDC official publications ceased to be printed (i.e., Center Regulations, Circulars, Pamphlets, or Commander's Policy Memoranda). All ERDC official publications are now distributed in electronic format on the ERDC web site located at <http://erdc.usace.army.mil/pubs/index.htm>.

## **Departures**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Date</u>
Taz Ahmed	FDD	Feb. 26 (promotion)
Gary Hall	IM (Contractor)	Feb. 25
Betty Quinte	FDD	Feb. 26 (promotion)

FOR THE DIRECTOR

JACKIE L. BRYANT  
Public Affairs Office

## **U N O F F I C I A L**

### **Blood Drive Results**

During the Feb. 18 Blood Drive, 46 pints were collected. Thanks to all who donated!

### **Blessed Event**

Congratulations to Tom Hay, TRD, on the birth of his granddaughter, Catherine Grace on Feb. 22. She weighed 8 pounds.

### **Carpoolers Wanted**

As many of you may know, HQ USACE is reorganizing and getting ready to move to the GAO building. HQ Civil Works Engineering and Military Construction are merging to one E&C Division and moving to the Kingman Building. Around September, about 70 people will be relocated to this complex. Most HQ personnel prefer to carpool and are looking to create or join carpools around the HECSA complex. Since I am in a carpool and losing a member due to this reorganization, I am looking for new recruits. I thought other carpools/vanpools might also be interested in expanding their membership. I have contacted a few carpools/vanpools and started a master list to share with HQ personnel. If your carpool/vanpool is interested, please e-mail

Rebecca Ragon with the following information: current number of members and how many people can join, departure location and time, work hours, AWS day (if applicable) and name of person to contact for more detailed information. Also, if you are not in a current carpool but wish to carpool, please send me your departure location and phone number. Many of the HQ personnel are coming from different areas and you may have neighbors that now are coming to the HECSA complex!

Rebecca Ragon  
428-6766 ext. 2443  
ICOM 2443