



# Schedule 7 – Tax table for unused leave payments on termination of employment

Work out the tax to withhold from payments made to an employee for unused leave on termination of their employment.

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## Using this schedule

**This schedule applies to payments made from 1 July 2026.**

This withholding schedule is made by the Commissioner of Taxation in accordance with sections 15–25 and 15–30 of Schedule 1 to the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* (TAA). It applies to withholding payments covered by section 12–90 of Schedule 1 to the TAA.

Use this schedule if you pay an amount to an employee for unused leave on the termination of their employment or office.

Unused leave payments on termination of employment or office include:

- annual leave
- leave loading
- leave bonuses
- long service leave.

Before calculating the amount to be withheld, you must work out if the payments are being made as a result of a genuine redundancy, invalidity or an early retirement scheme.

For more information, refer to [Withholding from unused leave payments on termination of employment](#).

If you employ individuals under a working holiday makers visa, use [Schedule 15 – Tax table for working holiday makers](#) for all payments made to them, including unused leave payments on termination of employment.

## Working out the withholding amount

### When a tax file number (TFN) is provided

When a TFN is provided, the amount to withhold is calculated using the tables below.

If the post-17 August 1993 lump sum payment from normal termination is less than \$300, you must withhold the lesser of the following:

- the amount worked out using the table below
- 32% of the payment.

Note: Normal termination includes voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency or retirement.

### Withholding amounts for long service leave, annual leave and annual leave loading

Payment type	Reason	Accrual dates	Withholding rates	Payroll equivalent
Long service leave	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency, retirement)	Pre-16 August 1978	5% of total at marginal rates	B

Long service leave	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency, retirement)	16 August 1978 to 17 August 1993	32%	A
Long service leave	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency, retirement)	Post-17 August 1993	Marginal rates	Inclu salar
Long service leave	Termination because of genuine redundancy, invalidity or early retirement scheme	Pre-16 August 1978	5% of total at marginal rates	B
Long service leave	Termination because of genuine redundancy, invalidity or early retirement scheme	16 August 1978 to 17 August 1993	32%	A
Long service leave	Termination because of genuine redundancy, invalidity or early retirement scheme	Post-17 August 1993	32%	A

Annual leave	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency, retirement)	Pre-18 August 1993	32%	A
Annual leave	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency, retirement)	Post-17 August 1993	Marginal rates	Inclu salar
Annual leave	Termination because of genuine redundancy, invalidity or early retirement scheme	Any date	32%	A
Annual leave loading	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated due to inefficiency, retirement)	Pre-18 August 1993	32%	A
Annual leave loading	Normal termination (e.g. voluntary resignation, employment terminated	Post-17 August 1993	Marginal rates	Inclu salar

	due to inefficiency, retirement)			
Annual leave loading	Termination because of genuine redundancy, invalidity or early retirement scheme	Any date	32%	A

## Rounding of withholding amounts

Withholding amounts calculated using this schedule are rounded to the nearest dollar. Results ending in 50 cents are rounded up to the next dollar. If a TFN is not provided, ignore cents when calculating withholding amounts.

## Marginal rate calculation

To work out the marginal rate, follow these steps:

1. Using the relevant PAYG withholding tax table, work out the amount to withhold from your employee's normal gross earnings for a regular pay period.
2. Divide the amount of the payment by the number of normal pay periods in 12 months (12 monthly payments, 26 fortnightly payments or 52 weekly payments).
3. Ignore any cents.
4. Add the amount at step 3 to the normal gross earnings for a single pay period.
5. Use the same PAYG withholding tax tables used at step 1 to work out the amount to withhold for the amount at step 4.
6. Subtract the amount at step 1 from the amount at step 5.
7. Multiply the amount obtained at step 6 by the number of normal pay periods in 12 months (12 monthly payments, 26 fortnightly payments or 52 weekly payments).

Do not withhold any amount for study and training support loans.

## Normal gross earnings

Normal gross earnings are all payments, except those relating to termination payments, received in the last full pay period of employment. This includes taxable allowances, overtime and bonuses. Therefore, for the purposes of this schedule, your employee's normal gross earnings should be taken to be the earnings relating to the last full pay period worked.

Where your employee's pay fluctuates significantly over a number of pay periods, you can use the average of gross taxable earnings for the financial year to date over the number of pays received.

The following example uses the *Weekly tax table* (NAT 1005) effective from 1 July 2026.

### **Example: long service leave**

Norman retires on 31 December 2026. He qualified for long service leave after 10 years of service, with further leave accruing on each completed year of service.

He is not leaving because of genuine redundancy, invalidity or under an early retirement scheme.

Norman also receives his normal weekly earnings of \$1,155. He has quoted his TFN and has claimed the tax-free threshold. Therefore, the amount withheld is calculated using column 2 of the *Weekly tax table* (NAT 1005).

### **Details of payment for long service leave:**

- Pre-16 August 1978 component = \$780.00
- 16 August 1978 to 17 August 1993 component = \$6,420.00
- Post-17 August 1993 component = \$14,820.00

### **Amounts to be withheld:**

- Pre-16 August 1978 component subject to withholding  
  
= \$780.00 × 5% = \$39.00

The marginal rate calculation is used to work out the amount to be withheld from the pre-16 August 1978 component.

- 16 August 1978 to 17 August 1993 component

$$= \$6,420.00 \times 32\% = \$2,054.40$$

The post-17 August 1993 component of \$14,820.00 is also to be withheld at the marginal rate. To simplify the marginal rate calculation for this employee, the pre-16 August 1978 component and the post-17 August 1993 component are added together first:

$$\$39.00 + \$14,820.00 = \$14,859.00$$

Now apply the marginal rate calculation to the sum of the 2 components:

### Marginal rate calculation

Step	Instruction	Result
1	Amounts to be withheld from normal gross earnings (\$1,155)	\$188
2	Divide the amount of the payment by the number of normal pay periods in 12 months (\$14,859.00 ÷ 52)	\$285.75
3	Disregard any cents	\$285
4	Add the amount at step 3 to normal gross earnings for a single pay period (\$1,155 + \$285)	\$1,440
5	Work out the amount to be withheld from the amount at step 4 (\$1,440)	\$279
6	Subtract the amount at step 1 from the amount at step 5 (\$279 - \$188)	\$91
7	Multiply the amount at step 6 by the number of normal pay periods in 12 months (\$91 × 52)	\$4,732

The amount to be withheld from the 3 components of Norman's unused long service leave payments is \$6,786 (\$2,054 + \$4,732). See [Rounding of withholding amounts](#).

The total amount to be withheld from payments made to Norman upon his retirement in his final pay week is \$6,974. This consists of \$188 withholding from normal earnings plus \$6,786 withholding from unused long service leave.

## Withholding variations

If an employee has a withholding variation in effect when unused leave payments are made, the rate specified on the variation notice will only apply to the unused leave payments if the variation notice includes unused leave payments. Otherwise, the rates in this schedule apply. This includes using the regular tax table per pay period for the marginal rate calculation, and not the varied withholding rate.

## When a TFN has not been provided

If your employee who is receiving the unused leave payments has not provided you with their TFN before the payment is made, you must withhold 47% from the payment.

If your employee is a foreign resident who has not provided you with their TFN, you must withhold 45% from the payment.

If your employee believes that for their circumstances the amount you withhold will be too much, they may apply for a variation to reduce the amount of withholding.

Your employee can refer to [Varying your PAYG withholding](#) for more information.

## Tax file number (TFN) declaration

Any [Tax file number declaration](#) your employee provides while they were working for you will only be effective for either:

- the period that they were working for you
- 12 months after you make the last payment.

## PAYG withholding publications

You can access all PAYG withholding tax tables and other PAYG withholding publications at:

- [Tax tables](#)
- [PAYG withholding](#)

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