

**Internal Revenue Service, Treasury**

**§ 31.3121(a)(10)-1**

**§ 31.3121(a)(9)-1 Payments to employees for nonwork periods.**

(a) The term “wages” does not include any payment (other than vacation or sick pay) made by an employer to an employee for a period throughout which the employment relationship exists between the employer and the employee, but in which the employee does not work (other than being subject to call for the performance of work) for the employer, if such payment is made after the calendar month in which—

(1) The employee attains age 65, if the employee is a man to whom the payment is made before January 1975, or if the employee is a woman to whom the payment is made before November 1956, or

(2) The employee attains age 62, if the employee is a man to whom the payment is made after December 1974, or if the employee is a woman to whom the payment is made after October 1956.

(b) Vacation or sick pay is not within this exclusion from wages. If the employee does any work for the employer in the period for which the payment is made, no remuneration paid by such employer to such employee with respect to such period is within this exclusion from wages.

*Example.* Mrs. A, an employee of X, attained the age of 62 on September 15, 1956, and discontinued the performance of regular work for X on September 30, 1956. Their employment relationship continued for several years until Mrs. A’s death, and X paid Mrs. A \$50 per month as consideration for Mrs. A’s agreement to work when asked by X. The payment for each month was made on the first day of each succeeding month. After September 30, 1956, the only work performed by Mrs. A for X was performed on one day in October 1956. The payment made by X to Mrs. A on November 1 (for October 1956) is not excluded from wages under this exception, but the payments made thereafter are excluded from wages. The payment on November 1 was not excluded because Mrs. A worked for X on one day in October 1956. (Inasmuch as Mrs. A had attained age 62 in September 1956, the November 1 payment would have been excluded if Mrs. A had not performed any work for X in October 1956.)

[T.D. 6744, 29 FR 8309, July 2, 1964, as amended by T.D. 7373, 40 FR 30957, July 24, 1975; 40 FR 32831, Aug. 5, 1975]

**§ 31.3121(a)(10)-1 Payments to certain home workers.**

(a) The term *wages* does not include remuneration paid by an employer in any calendar year to an employee for service performed as a home worker who is an employee by reason of the provisions of section 3121(d)(3)(C) (*see* § 31.3121(d)-1(d)), unless the cash remuneration paid in such calendar year by the employer to the employee for such services is \$100 or more. The test relating to cash remuneration of \$100 or more is based on remuneration paid in a calendar year rather than on remuneration earned during a calendar year. If cash remuneration of \$100 or more is paid in a particular calendar year, it is immaterial whether such remuneration is in payment for services performed during the year of payment or during any other year.

(b) The application of paragraph (a) of this section may be illustrated by the following example:

*Example.* A, a home worker, performs services for X, a manufacturer, in 2003 and 2004. In the performance of the home work A is an employee by reason of section 3121(d)(3)(C). In March 2004, A returns to X articles made by A at home from materials received by A from X in 2003. X pays A cash remuneration of \$100 for such work when the finished articles are delivered. The \$100 includes \$10 which represents remuneration for home work performed by A in 2003. The entire \$100 is subject to the taxes. Any additional cash remuneration paid by X to A in 2004 for such services is also subject to the taxes.

(c) In the event an employee receives remuneration in any one calendar year from more than one employer for services performed as a home worker of the character described in paragraph (a) of this section, the regulations in this section are to be applied with respect to the remuneration received by the employee from each employer in such calendar year for such services. This exclusion from wages has no application to remuneration paid for services performed as a home worker who is an employee under section 3121(d)(2) (*see* § 31.3121(d)-1(c)) relating to common law employees.

(d) Cash remuneration includes checks and other monetary media of exchange. Remuneration paid in any

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other medium, such as clothing, car tokens, transportation passes or tickets, or other goods or commodities, is disregarded in determining whether the \$100 cash-remuneration test is met. If the cash remuneration paid in any calendar year by an employer to an employee for services performed as a home worker of the character described in paragraph (a) of this section is \$100 or more, then no remuneration, whether in cash or in any medium other than cash, paid by the employer to the employee in such calendar year for such services is excluded from wages under this exception.

(e)(1) For provisions relating to deductions of employee tax or amounts equivalent to the tax from cash payments for services performed as a home worker within the meaning of section 3121(d)(3)(C), *see* § 31.3102-1.

(2) For provisions relating to the time of payment of wages for services performed as a home worker within the meaning of section 3121(d)(3)(C), *see* § 31.3121(a)-2.

(3) For provisions relating to records to be kept with respect to payment of wages for services performed as a home worker within the meaning of section 3121(d)(3)(C), *see* § 31.6001-2.

(f) The provisions of this section apply to any payment for services performed as a home worker within the meaning of section 3121(d)(3)(C) made on or after January 1, 1978. For rules applicable to any payment for services performed as a home worker within the meaning of section 3121(d)(3)(C) made prior to January 1, 1978, *see* § 31.3121(a)(10)-1 in effect at such time (*see* 26 CFR part 31 contained in the edition of 26 CFR parts 30 to 39, revised as of April 1, 2006).

[T.D. 9266, 71 FR 35156, June 19, 2006]

#### § 31.3121(a)(11)-1 Moving expenses.

(a) The term “wages” does not include remuneration paid on or after November 1, 1964, to or on behalf of an employee, either as an advance or a reimbursement, specifically for moving expenses incurred or expected to be incurred, if (and to the extent that) at the time of payment it is reasonable to believe that a corresponding deduction is or will be allowable to the employee under section 217. The reasonable belief

contemplated by the statute may be based upon any evidence reasonably sufficient to induce such belief, even though such evidence may be insufficient upon closer examination by the district director or the courts finally to establish that a deduction is allowable under section 217. The reasonable belief shall be based upon the application of section 217 and the regulations thereunder in Part 1 of this chapter (Income Tax Regulations). When used in this section, the term “moving expenses” has the same meaning as when used in section 217 and the regulations thereunder.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of this section, or in a numbered paragraph of section 3121(a), amounts paid to or on behalf of an employee for moving expenses are wages for purposes of section 3121(a).

[T.D. 7375, 40 FR 42350, Sept. 12, 1975]

#### § 31.3121(a)(12)-1 Tips.

The term “wages” does not include remuneration received by an employee after December 1965 in the form of tips if—

(a) The tips are paid in any medium other than cash, or

(b) The cash tips received by an employee in any calendar month in the course of his employment by an employer are less than \$20.

If the cash tips received by an employee in a calendar month after December 1965 in the course of his employment by an employer amount to \$20 or more, none of the cash tips received by the employee in such calendar month are excluded from the term “wages” under this section. The cash tips to which this section applies include checks and other monetary media of exchange. Tips received by an employee in any medium other than cash, such as passes, tickets, or other goods or commodities do not constitute wages. If an employee in any calendar month performs services for two or more employers and receives tips in the course of his employment by each employer, the \$20 test is to be applied separately with respect to the cash tips received by the employee in respect of his services for each employer and not to the total cash tips received by the