

Office of the Chancellor 401 Golden Shore, 4th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802-4210 562-951-4411 email: hradmin@calstate.edu

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HR/Benefits 2007-06

Supersedes: HR/Benefits 1996-18 Supersedes: HR/Benefits 1999-03

To: Human Resources Directors

Benefits Representatives

From: Gail Brooks

Associate Vice Chancellor

**Human Resources** 

Subject: Revised Group Term Life Insurance Imputed Income Table

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) permits an employer to provide life insurance up to \$50,000, without any tax liability to employees that are eligible for CSU-paid life insurance. Consequently, any amount of employer paid life insurance in excess of \$50,000, has an imputed income tax impact on the employee based on the employee's age.

The IRS requires the State Controller's Office (SCO) to report these amounts each month as additional taxable income. The amount is reported as state and federal income, but Social Security/Medicare taxes are withheld only. Campuses are not involved in the SCO's reporting process.

The following CSU employee groups have CSU-paid life insurance coverage in excess of \$50,000:

	Payroll		Amount Subject to Imputed Income
Employee Group	Deduction Code	Coverage Amount	Calculation
Executives (M98)	250-026	\$250,000 Life & ADD	\$200,000.00
Management Personnel Program (MPP)	250-020	\$100,000 Life & ADD	\$50,000.00

The chart below reflects the amount of imputed income based on age and amount of life insurance coverage per \$1,000 of coverage, as defined under Internal Revenue Code section 79:

	IRS "Cost" Per	MPP Total Monthly	<b>Executives Total Monthly</b>
Age of Employee	\$1,000 of Insurance	Imputed Income	Imputed Income
Under 25	\$0.05	\$2.50	\$10.00
25 - 29	\$0.06	\$3.00	\$12.00
30 - 34	\$0.08	\$4.00	\$16.00
35 - 39	\$0.09	\$4.50	\$18.00
40 - 44	\$0.10	\$5.00	\$20.00
45 - 49	\$0.15	\$7.50	\$30.00
50 - 54	\$0.23	\$11.50	\$46.00
55 - 59	\$0.43	\$21.50	\$86.00
60 - 64	\$0.66	\$33.00	\$132.00
65 - 69	\$1.27	\$63.50	\$254.00
70 And Older	\$2.06	\$103.00	\$412.00

Please note: the imputed income value is increased effective with the calendar year that the employee's age bracket is scheduled to change, not the birth month of the employee. Therefore, if an employee is scheduled to turn 65 in September 2007, the higher imputed income tax value was applied effective with the December 2006 (January 2007 pay warrant).

To calculate the imputed income, please note the following steps:

- Subtract \$50,000 from the life insurance coverage amount. For example, \$250,000 \$50,000 is \$200,000.
- 2. Divide the result by 1,000 (200,000  $\div$  1000 = 200), then
- 3. Multiply by the IRS "cost" listed on the table based on the employee's age. For example, a 65 year-old executive employee's imputed income would be calculated as follows: 200 x \$1.27 = \$254.00

MPP and Executive employees who do not want to be assessed the additional tax liability, may opt to waive life insurance coverage over \$50,000. To do so, the employee must sign a completed STD. 698 form (Attachment A) to enroll in deduction code 250-025, which is assigned to Confidential (C99) employees.

Form STD. 698 should not be used for any other purpose, as the CSU's automated life insurance program electronically processes all other life insurance transactions.

The life insurance forms must be received by the State Controller's Office no later than the 10th of each month to process the waiver of extra coverage effective the first of the following month. These forms need to be given priority at the campus in order to avoid inappropriate taxation which may not be reversible.

Please also note that if an employee who has waived coverage moves between qualifying management and faculty positions, the management waiver of extra coverage must be reprocessed each time the employee is reappointed to the management position. If the campus fails to submit a new form placing the employee in payroll code 250-025, the extra coverage will automatically be reflected and the additional imputed income will be reported and taxed.

Questions regarding this Technical Letter may be directed to Human Resources Administration at (562) 951-4411. This Technical Letter is also available on the Human Resources Administration's Web site at: http://www.calstate.edu/HRAdm/memos.shtml.

GB/mh

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## LIFE INSURANCE ENROLLMENT

STD. 698 (REV. 3-97)

PLEASE TYPE OR USE BALL POINT PEN, PRINT CLEARLY-SEND COMPLETED FORM TO PERSONNEL/PAYROLL OFFICE

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