FREE REFERENCE

Alaska business taxes, explained for 2026

Small businesses in Alaska register with and with the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Tax for unemployment tax. Alaska has no state income tax on wages, no statewide sales tax and a $54,200 unemployment wage base for 2026. This guide links every Alaska agency and form you need, and the calculators for Alaska pay and tax.

QUICK FACTS

- **Income tax.** No state income tax on wages for 2026
- **Sales tax.** No statewide sales tax, though some Alaska boroughs charge one
- **Unemployment.** Employers pay Alaska unemployment tax on the first $54,200 of each worker's 2026 wages

What taxes does a small business pay in Alaska?

Most Alaska businesses deal with four: federal and state payroll taxes once they hire, sales tax if they sell taxable items, income tax on profit, and the state's annual report or franchise filing for an LLC or corporation, filed with the Secretary of State.

How do I register for payroll taxes in Alaska?

Before your first payroll in Alaska:

1. Get a federal EIN and enroll in EFTPS for federal deposits.
2. Register for unemployment insurance with the Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Tax. For 2026, the tax applies to the first $54,200 of each employee's wages, at a rate the state sets for new employers and then adjusts to your history.
3. Report each new hire to Alaska's new hire registry, usually within 20 days.

Employees in Alaska also pay unemployment (employee share) at 0.5% of wages up to $54,200.

Our state payroll registration guide explains each step, and our payroll service handles it for you.

General information, not tax advice for your situation.

Does Alaska have a sales tax?

Alaska has no statewide sales tax. Some Alaska cities and boroughs charge their own, up to 7.85%, and remote sellers may have to collect it through the Alaska Remote Seller Sales Tax Commission.

How does Alaska tax business owners?

Alaska doesn't tax wages or pass-through business income. Owners still pay federal income and self-employment tax.

Where are Alaska's tax forms and refund status?

- Alaska tax forms
- Alaska revenue agency
- Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Tax

Every state's links are on our state tax forms page.

Which calculators work for Alaska?

- Alaska paycheck calculator: take-home pay after every deduction
- Alaska income tax calculator: your 2026 state income tax
- Payroll cost calculator: what a hire costs you, with Alaska unemployment

Common questions

Do I need a sales tax permit in Alaska?
No. Alaska has no statewide sales tax. Some local areas charge their own.

What is the Alaska unemployment wage base for 2026?
$54,200. Employers pay Alaska unemployment tax on that much of each employee's wages, at a rate the state assigns.

Does Alaska have a state income tax?
No, not on wages.

Who runs payroll taxes in Alaska?
The Alaska Department of Labor, Employment Security Tax handles unemployment tax.

Want payroll handled?

We set it up, run it and file the returns. Book a free 30-minute call at eminenttax.com/contact or call (972) 347-4590.

eminenttax.com