Instructions for Form 8233
(Rev. December 2001)

Exemption From Withholding on Compensation for Independent (and Certain Dependent) Personal Services of a Nonresident Alien Individual

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Note: For definitions of terms used throughout these instructions, see Definitions starting below.

A nonresident alien is primarily present in the United States as a professor, but also is occasionally invited to lecture at another educational institution. These lectures are not connected with his teaching obligations but are in the nature of self-employment. For each tax year, the professor must complete two Forms 8233 and give one to each withholding agent to claim tax treaty benefits on the separate items of income.

Definitions
Nonresident Alien
If you are an alien individual (that is, an individual who is not a U.S. citizen), specific rules apply to determine if you are a resident alien or a nonresident alien for tax purposes. Generally, you are a resident alien if you meet either the "green card test" or the "substantial presence test" for the calendar year. Any person not meeting either test is generally a nonresident alien. Additionally, an alien individual who qualifies as a "resident of a treaty country" (defined below) or a resident of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or American Samoa is a nonresident alien individual.

For more information on the tests used to determine resident alien or nonresident alien status, see Pub. 519, U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens.

Note: Even though a nonresident alien individual married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien may choose to be treated as a resident alien for certain purposes (for example, filing a joint income tax return), such individual is still treated as a nonresident alien for withholding tax purposes on all income except wages.

U.S. Person
For purposes of this form, a U.S. person is a U.S. citizen or resident alien.

Purpose of Form
In general, section 1441 requires 30% Federal income tax withholding on compensation for dependent personal services (defined on this page). Sections 1441, 3401, and 3402 require withholding, sometimes at 30% and sometimes at graduated rates, on compensation for dependent personal services (defined on page 2). However, some payments may be exempt from withholding because of a tax treaty or the personal exemption amount. Complete and give Form 8233 to your withholding agent if some or all of your compensation is exempt from withholding.

Note: Do not use Form 8233 if you have an office in the United States regularly available to you for performing personal services.

Giving Form 8233 to the Withholding Agent
You must complete Form 8233:

• For each tax year (be sure to specify the tax year in the space provided above Part I of the form).
• For each withholding agent, and
• For each type of income. However, you may use one Form 8233 to claim a tax treaty withholding exemption for both compensation for personal services (including compensatory scholarship or fellowship income) and noncompensatory scholarship or fellowship income received from the same withholding agent.

Example. A nonresident alien is primarily present in the United States as a professor, but also is occasionally invited to lecture at another educational institution. These lectures are not connected with his teaching obligations but are in the nature of self-employment. For each tax year, the professor must complete two Forms 8233 and give one to each withholding agent to claim tax treaty benefits on the separate items of income.

Tax Treaty Withholding Exemption
This term refers to an exemption from withholding permitted by IRS regulations under section 1441 that is based on a tax treaty benefit. See Resident of a Treaty Country below for requirements for claiming a tax treaty benefit on this form.

Resident of a Treaty Country
An alien individual may claim to be a resident of a treaty country if he or she qualifies as a resident of that country under the terms of the residency article of the tax treaty between the United States and that country. See Nonresident Alien above.

A nonresident alien may claim a tax treaty benefit on this form only if that individual is the beneficial owner of the income and meets the residency requirement and all other requirements for benefits under the terms of the tax treaty. See the instructions for line 4 on page 3 for additional information for determining residence for purposes of claiming a tax treaty withholding exemption on this form.

Compensation for Independent Personal Services
Independent personal services are services performed as an independent contractor in the United States by a nonresident alien who is self-employed rather than an employee. Compensation for such services includes payments for contract labor; payments for professional services, such as fees to an attorney, physician, or accountant, if the payments are made directly to the person performing the services; consulting fees; honoraria paid to visiting professors, teachers, researchers, scientists, and prominent speakers; and generally, payments made for performances by public entertainers.

Public entertainers. Special restrictions on exemption from or reduction of withholding apply to nonresident alien public entertainers (such as actors, musicians, artists, and athletes).

Generally, such individuals are subject to 30% withholding from gross income paid for personal services performed unless a reduced rate of withholding under a tax treaty applies. See Resident of a Treaty Country above for information on treaties which provide for a reduced rate of withholding. In addition, many tax treaties contain separate articles that apply to artists, athletes, and entertainers. If present, these articles take precedence over the “independent personal services” provisions.
and “dependent personal services” articles of the treaties.

**Required Withholding Form**

For compensation you receive for independent personal services, complete Form 8233 to claim a tax treaty withholding exemption for part or all of that income and/or to claim the daily personal exemption amount.

**Compensation for Dependent Personal Services**

Dependent personal services are services performed as an employee in the United States by a nonresident alien. Dependent personal services include compensatory scholarship or fellowship income (see definition below). Compensation for such services includes payments for wages, salaries, fees, bonuses, commissions, and similar designations for amounts paid to an employee.

**Required Withholding Form(s)**

Complete Form 8233 for compensation you receive for dependent personal services. If you are claiming a tax treaty withholding exemption for part or all of that income. Do not use Form 8233 to claim the daily personal exemption amount.

Use Form 8233 only to claim a tax treaty withholding exemption for any part of your compensation that is exempt from withholding. For compensation for which you are not claiming a tax treaty withholding exemption, use Form W-4, Employee’s Withholding Allowance Certificate.

**Completing Form W-4.** To avoid underwithholding on compensation for dependent personal services for which you are not claiming a tax treaty withholding exemption, you should complete Form W-4 as follows:

- **Withholding status.** Do not check the “Married” box on line 3 of Form W-4. Check either the “Single” box or the “Married, but withhold at higher Single rate” box.

- **Withholding allowances.** You should generally claim one withholding allowance on line 5 of Form W-4. However, if you are a resident of Canada, Mexico, Japan, or the Republic of (South) Korea; a student from India; or a U.S. national; you may be able to claim additional withholding allowances for your spouse and children. See Pub. 519 for more information.

If you are completing Form W-4 for more than one withholding agent (for example, you have more than one employer), figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim (see the previous paragraph) and claim no more than that amount on all Forms W-4 combined. Your withholding usually will be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the Form W-4 for the highest-paying job and zero allowances are claimed on the others.

**Additional withholding amount.** Enter the amount from the table below on line 6 of Form W-4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payroll Period</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>$7.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biweekly</td>
<td>15.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semimonthly</td>
<td>16.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>33.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>99.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semianually</td>
<td>198.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>397.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily*</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Amount to be used for each day of a payroll period not described above.

**Exemption from withholding.** Do not claim that you are exempt from withholding on line 7 of Form W-4 (even if you meet both of the conditions listed on that line).

**Compensatory Scholarship or Fellowship Income**

In general, scholarship or fellowship income is compensatory to the extent it represents payment for past, present, or future services (for example, teaching, research, etc.) performed by a nonresident alien as an employee and the performance of those services is a condition for receiving the scholarship or fellowship income (or tuition reduction).

Example. XYZ University awards a scholarship to N, a nonresident alien student. The only condition of the scholarship is that N attends classes and maintains a minimum level of academic performance. The scholarship income is not compensatory because N is not required to perform services as an employee as a condition for receiving the scholarship.

**Required Withholding Form(s)**

Compensatory scholarship or fellowship income is considered to be dependent personal services income. Therefore, complete Form 8233 for this income only if you are claiming a tax treaty withholding exemption for part or all of that income. Do not complete Form 8233 to claim the daily personal exemption amount.

Use Form 8233 only to claim a tax treaty withholding exemption for any part of your compensatory scholarship or fellowship income that is exempt from withholding. For any part of such income, you may claim the daily personal exemption amount.

**Noncompensatory Scholarship or Fellowship Income**

Noncompensatory scholarship or fellowship income is scholarship or fellowship income that is not compensatory scholarship or fellowship income (defined above).

The taxable portion of noncompensatory scholarship or fellowship income is paid to a nonresident alien is generally subject to withholding at a rate of 30% (the rate is generally 14% in the case of a nonresident alien temporarily present in the United States under an “F,” “J,” “M,” or “Q” visa).

**Taxable portion of noncompensatory scholarship or fellowship income.** If you were a degree candidate, the amount of this type of income that you used for expenses other than tuition and course-related expenses (fees, books, supplies, and equipment) is generally taxable. For example, amounts used for room, board, and travel are generally taxable. If you were not a degree candidate, the full amount of the scholarship or fellowship income is generally taxable.

**Required Withholding Form**

You should generally complete Form W-8BEN, Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for United States Tax Withholding, to claim a tax treaty withholding exemption for this type of income. No Form W-8BEN is required unless a treaty benefit is being claimed.

**Exception.** If you are receiving both compensatory personal services (including compensatory scholarship or fellowship income) and noncompensatory scholarship or fellowship income from the same withholding agent, you may use Form 8233 to claim both types of income. However, this exemption applies only if you are claiming a tax treaty withholding exemption for both types of income.

**Alternate withholding election.** A withholding agent may elect to withhold on the taxable portion of noncompensatory scholarship or fellowship income of a nonresident alien temporarily present in the United States under an “F,” “J,” “M,” or “Q” visa as if it were compensatory scholarship or fellowship income from the nonresident alien is not claiming treaty benefits with respect to that income. The withholding agent makes this election by requesting that the nonresident alien complete Form W-4 using the instructions in Rev. Proc. 88-24, 1988-1 C.B. 800.
and insurance companies. Generally, the person who pays (or causes to be paid) the amount subject to withholding to the nonresident alien individual (or to his or her agent) must withhold.

Beneficial Owner
For payments other than those for which a reduced rate of withholding is claimed under an income tax treaty, the beneficial owner of income is generally the person who is required under U.S. tax principles to include the income in gross income on a tax return. A person is not a beneficial owner of income, however, to the extent that person is receiving the income as a nonresident alien of Canada or a nonresident alien of a country that is not a treaty country, to the extent the person is a conduit whose participation in a transaction is disregarded. In the case of amounts paid that do not constitute income, beneficial ownership is determined as if the payment were income.

Avoid Common Errors
To ensure that your Form 8233 is properly accepted, be sure that you:
• Answer all applicable questions completely.
• Specify the tax year for which this form will be effective in the space provided above Part I of the form.
• Enter your complete name, addresses, and identifying number(s) in Part I.
• Have attached the required statement described in the line 10 instructions if you are a foreign student, trainee, professor/teacher, or researcher.
• Are not trying to claim tax treaty benefits for a country with which the United States does not have a ratified tax treaty.
• Are not trying to claim tax treaty benefits that do not exist in your treaty.
• Complete lines 11 through 14 in sufficient detail to allow the IRS to determine the tax treaty benefit you are claiming.
• Claim the proper number of personal exemptions on line 15.
• Complete the required certification in Part III.

Specific Instructions
Part I
Line 2
You are required to furnish a U.S. taxpayer identifying number on this form. You are generally required to enter your social security number (SSN) on line 2. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5 from a Social Security Administration office. Fill in Form SS-5 and return it to the SSA. If you do not have an SSN and are not eligible to get one, you must get an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). To apply for an ITIN, file Form W-7, Application for纳税 Identification Number, with the IRS. It usually takes about 4-6 weeks to get an ITIN.

Note: An ITIN is for tax use only. It does not entitle you to social security benefits or change your employment or immigration status under U.S. law.

If you have applied for a U.S. taxpayer identifying number but have not yet received it, you may attach a copy of a completed Form W-7 or SS-5 showing that a number has been applied for.

Line 3
If your country of residence for tax purposes has issued you a tax identifying number, enter it here. For example, if you are a resident of Canada, enter your Social Insurance Number.

Line 4
Your permanent residence address is the address in the country where you claim to be a resident for purposes of that country’s income tax. If you are completing Form 8233 to claim a tax treaty withholding exemption, you must determine your residency in the manner required by the treaty. Do not show the address of a financial institution, a post office box, or an address used solely for mailing purposes. If you are an individual who does not have a tax residence in any country, your permanent residence is where you normally reside.

Most tax treaties that provide for a tax treaty withholding exemption require that the recipient be a resident of the treaty country at the time of, or immediately prior to, entry into the United States. Thus, a student or researcher may generally claim the withholding exemption even if, for the no longer has a permanent address in the treaty country after entry into the United States. If this is the case, you may provide a U.S. address on line 4 and still be eligible for the withholding exemption if all other conditions required by the tax treaty are met. You must also identify on line 12a and/or line 13b the tax treaty country of which you were a resident at the time of, or immediately prior to, your entry into the United States.

Line 6
Enter your U.S. visa type. For example, foreign students are usually granted an "F-1" visa. Foreign professors, teachers, or researchers are usually granted a "J-1" visa. Business/vocational trainees are usually granted an "M-1" visa; however, some persons granted a "J-1" visa may also be center-held business/educational trainees for (for example, a person admitted to complete a postgraduate residency in medicine.)

Note: If you do not have, or do not require, a visa, write “None.”

Spouses and dependents admitted on secondary visas (for example, "F-2," "J-2," "H-4," and "O-3 visas) are not usually eligible to claim the same treaty benefits as the primary visa holder.

Line 8
You are generally required to enter your date of entry into the United States that pertains to your current nonimmigrant status. For example, enter the date of arrival shown on your current Ins Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record.

Exception. If you are claiming a tax treaty benefit that is determined by reference to more than one date of arrival, enter the earlier date of arrival. For example, you are currently claiming treaty benefits (as a teacher or a researcher) under article 19 of the tax treaty between the United States and Japan. You previously claimed treaty benefits (as a student) under article 20 of that treaty. Under article 22 of that treaty, you are liable to pay additional tax if you are not resident in the country in which you claim to be a resident. If you are claiming treaty benefits after you entered the United States, you must file Form 8233 before your treaty benefits expire. If your treaty benefits expire before you file Form 8233, you must file Form 8233 to claim treaty benefits for the current tax year. If you have been treated as a nonresident alien for the purpose of treaty benefits (as a student) under article 20 of a treaty with a different country, you must file Form 8233 to claim treaty benefits for the current tax year.
Line 11b Enter the total amount of compensation for personal services you will receive from this withholding agent during the tax year. Enter an estimated amount if you do not know the exact amount.

Line 12a Enter the specific treaty and article on which you are basing your claim for exemption from withholding (for example, "U.S./Germany tax treaty, Article 20(4)").

Line 12b If all income received for the services performed to which this Form 8233 applies is exempt, write "All." If only part is exempt, enter the exact dollar amount that is exempt from withholding.

Line 12c Generally, you may claim a withholding exemption based on a U.S. tax treaty with the country in which you claim permanent (or indefinite) residence. This is the foreign country in which you live most of the time. It is not necessarily the country of your citizenship. For example, you are a citizen of Pakistan but maintain your home in England. You cannot claim a withholding exemption based on the U.S./Pakistan tax treaty. Any withholding exemption you claim must be based on the U.S./United Kingdom tax treaty.

Line 13b Enter the specific treaty and article on which you are basing your claim for exemption from withholding (for example, "U.S./Germany tax treaty, Article 20(3)").

Line 14 Provide sufficient facts to justify the exemption from withholding claimed on line 12 and/or line 13. Be sure you provide enough details to allow the IRS to determine the tax treaty benefit you are claiming.

Lines 15 through 18 (for certain independent personal services)

Note: Do not complete lines 15 through 18 if you are claiming on line 12b that all of the compensation you are receiving for independent personal services is exempt from withholding.

Line 15 For compensation for independent personal services which are not tax treaty based, enter the number of days on line 16 that pertain to the independent personal services described on line 1a and included on line 11b. To figure the daily personal exemption amount to enter on line 17, divide the personal exemption amount by 365 (366 for a leap year) and multiply the result by the amount you entered on line 15. For example, if you are entitled to one personal exemption for 2001, enter $7.95 (that is, $2,900 / 365 days = $7.95 x 1 personal exemption = $7.95) on line 17.

Part IV Withholding Agent’s Responsibilities

When the nonresident alien individual gives you Form 8233, review it to see if you are satisfied that the exemption from withholding is warranted. If you are satisfied, based on the facts presented, complete and sign the certification in Part IV.

You will need three copies of a completed Form 8233. Within 5 days of your acceptance, forward one copy to: Internal Revenue Service International Section P.O. Box 920 Bensalem, PA 19020-8518 Give one copy of the completed Form 8233 to the nonresident alien individual. Keep a copy for your records. Each copy of Form 8233 must include any attachments submitted by the nonresident alien individual.

The exemption from withholding is effective for payments made retroactive to the date of the first payment covered by Form 8233, even though you must wait at least 10 days after you have properly mailed Form 8233 to the IRS to see whether the IRS has any objections to the Form 8233. You must not accept Form 8233, and you must withhold, if either of the following applies: You know, or have reason to know, that any of the facts or statements on Form 8233 may be false or You know, or have reason to know, that the nonresident alien’s eligibility for the exemption from withholding cannot be readily determined (for example, you know the nonresident alien has a fixed base or permanent establishment in the United States).

If you accept Form 8233 and later find that either of the situations described above applies, you must promptly notify the IRS (by writing to the above address) and you must begin withholding immediately.

Line 16 and 17 Each allowable personal exemption must be prorated for the number of days during the tax year you will perform personal services in the United States. Enter the number of days on line 16 that pertain to the independent personal services described on line 1a and included on line 11b. To figure the daily personal exemption amount to enter on line 17, divide the personal exemption amount by 365 (366 for a leap year) and multiply the result by the amount you entered on line 15. For example, if you are entitled to one personal exemption for 2001, enter $7.95 (that is, $2,900 / 365 days =)$7.95 x 1 personal exemption = $7.95) on line 17.

Any Form 8233 that claims a tax treaty benefit that does not exist or is obviously false. Any Form 8233 that has not been completed in sufficient detail to allow determination of the correctness of the tax treaty benefit or exemption claimed.

Signature You or your authorized agent must sign and date Form 8233. See Regulations section 1.1441-7(c) for information about authorized agents.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. If you want to receive exemption from withholding on compensation for independent (and certain dependent) personal services, you are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: Recordkeeping, 1 hr. 5 min.; Preparing and sending the form to IRS, 57 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Tax Forms Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001. Do not send the tax form or the updates. Instead, give it to your withholding agent.

Amounts not yet paid. Also, if you are notified by the IRS that the nonresident alien’s eligibility for the exemption from withholding is in doubt or that the nonresident alien is not eligible for exemption from withholding, you must begin withholding immediately. See Regulations section 1.1441-4(b)(2)(iii) for examples illustrating these rules.

If you submit an incorrect Form 8233, you will be notified by the IRS that the form submitted is not acceptable and that you must begin withholding immediately. Examples of incorrect Forms 8233 include:

• Any Form 8233 that claims a tax treaty benefit that does not exist or is obviously false.

• Any Form 8233 that has not been completed in sufficient detail to allow determination of the correctness of the tax treaty benefit or exemption claimed.

Exception. If you are a resident of Canada, Mexico, Japan, or the Republic of (South) Korea; a student from India; or a U.S. national; you may be able to claim additional personal exemptions for your spouse and children. See Pub. 519 for more information.