CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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mobile capability. Offered only to accounting professionals, Payroll Relief provides the tools accountants need to offer payroll processing profitably.

Mary Girsch-Bock • Oct. 19, 2015



From the 2015 reviews of professional payroll systems.

Best Fit: Made exclusively for accountants, Payroll Relief is suitable for firms of any size that wish to offer payroll processing services to clients.

Product Strengths:

- Designed specifically for accountants
- Private labeling allows accountants to brand payroll as needed
- Cloud-based for easy access
- Free support is included in pricing

Potential Limitations:

• Product does not contain any HR related functions

Designed specifically for accountants, Payroll Relief offers anytime access along with mobile capability. Offered only to accounting professionals, Payroll Relief provides the tools accountants need to offer payroll processing profitably.

Basic System Functions: 5 Stars

Easily accessible using any device, including smart phones, Payroll Relief offers an

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Payroll Relief allows firms to process an unlimited number of payrolls for an unlimited number of clients, and offers special pricing for the first year after purchase. Payroll Relief handles payroll tax calculations for all 50 states, as well as Washington, DC and Puerto Rico. The product easily handles 'after-the-fact' payroll entry, and easily handles functions such as multiple pay schedules, multiple checks per employee, multiple withholding states per employee, and even multiple unemployment states per employer. Payroll runs are exception-based, automating the process considerably, with users able to easily address exceptions such as varying hours or adjusting deductions easily. Payroll Relief fully supports direct deposit for multiple banking institutions and accounts, as well as direct deposits for employee contributions to an HSA account.

Reporting & Monitoring: 5 Stars

The Payroll Center offers users a series of tools that make it easy to manage multiple payrolls for multiple clients from a single screen; providing detail on the current status of each payroll, upcoming due dates, pending tax payments, and the corresponding amounts. The Payroll Center can also be easily customized to suit the needs of any firm.

The product offers electronic filing of federal and most state forms, and provides with an automatic e-filing option. Payroll Relief also offers electronic filing for other related forms such as W-2's, W-3's, 1099-MISC, and 1096 forms, with users able to submit a single application for all e-fling services. The e-Services Snapshot allows users to review and monitor electronic services for all clients from a single screen. W-2's can now be processed in batches as well.

Payroll Relief offers a solid selection of payroll-related reports, including payroll analysis reports, which firms can use to analyze payroll for a particular client. Both pre-approval and post-approval reports are available for quick payroll review, and

Payroll Relief has added a Full-Time Equivalents report to comply with Affordable

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Integration/Import/Export: 5 Stars

Payroll Relief easily integrates with all AccountantsWorld products including both document management and practice management applications. Payroll Relief also integrates with both Swipeclock and Advantek for easy time and attendance management, and the product also integrates with QuickBooks, CS Accounting, Sage 50 (formerly Peachtree) products, and Accounting Power, as well as many others.

The product also allows easy import of employee data and other payroll information through Excel, and firms can choose to export payroll files to a client for approval, and import approved or edited files back into Payroll Relief.

Help/Support: 5 Stars

Solid help and support options can be found throughout Payroll Relief. Links to forms, federal and state sites are also available as well. Firms will also be assigned a Professional Development Consultant that will assist in both technical support and initial product setup. A series of free web-based seminars are available on a variety of payroll related subjects, system support can be accessed via the Internet at any time. Telephone support is also available 8:30 am – 5 pm EST. A chat line and access to the product knowledgebase is also available. Updates are handled by AccountantsWorld automatically, so no uploading of files is necessary.

Client Self-Service Features: 5 Stars

Users can set up employee portals for their clients if desired. Firms can provide a list of permissions to each client, who in turn can assign their own level of restrictions on their employees. Permission are fully customizable, so firms can determine which clients have access, and what level of access they are permitted, ranging from reporting access only to complete access to payroll entry functionality.

For clients not wishing to enter payroll data directly in Payroll Relief, they can enter

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Summary & Pricing

Designed specifically and solely for accountants, Payroll Relief offers easy cloud access and a simplified user entry screen that expedites payroll processing considerably. AccountantsWorld offers special pricing of \$1,495 for the first year, with that price including an unlimited number of payrolls, along with system support. After the first year, pricing starts as low as \$.50 per check.

2015 Overall Rating: 5 Stars

Payroll • Payroll Software

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