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features specially tailored to the unique needs of those receiving pension payments and ...

Mar. 10, 2020

The screenshot shows the IRS website's 'Tax Withholding Estimator' page. At the top is the IRS logo and navigation links for Help, News, English, and a user icon. Below this is a dark blue header with links for File, Pay, Refunds, Credits & Deductions, and Forms & Instructions. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: Home / File / Individuals / Tax Withholding Estimator. The title 'Tax Withholding Estimator' is prominently displayed. To the right of the title are language options: English, Español, and 中文. On the left, a sidebar under the 'Individuals' heading lists various categories: How to File, When to File, Where to File, Your Information, Students, Employees, Parents, and Military. The main content area features a 'Before You Begin' section with an information icon and four checklist items: 'Gather the most recent pay statements for yourself, and if you have a spouse, your spouse too.', 'Gather information for other sources of income you may have.', 'Have your most recent income tax return handy.', and 'Use whole dollar amounts in the estimator.' Below the checklist is a note: 'Keep in mind that the Tax Withholding Estimator's results will only be as accurate as the information you enter. Note: this application requires JavaScript to be enabled in your default browser setting.' At the bottom right, there is a large blue button labeled 'Use the Tax Withholding Estimator'.

The Internal Revenue Service is encouraging taxpayers to take control of the size of their refund using the [Tax Withholding Estimator](#) on IRS.gov.

The estimator has a “slider” feature to let users to choose the refund they want from a range of amounts based on the information they enter. The feature helps taxpayers

set their withholding to get a large refund or more money in their paychecks

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The improved and mobile-friendly estimator offers retirees, employees and self-employed individuals a user-friendly way to check their withholding. It also has features specially tailored to the unique needs of those receiving pension payments and Social Security benefits.

People with more than one job and families where both spouses work may need to adjust their withholding to avoid having too little withheld. Not paying enough during the year, either through withholding or by making timely estimated tax payments, may mean paying a penalty.

When to check

Taxpayers should check their withholding annually. They should also check when life changes occur, such as marriage, childbirth, adoption and when buying a home. The IRS recommends anyone who changed their withholding late in 2019 should do a Paycheck Checkup. Taxpayers who receive a tax bill after they file should use the estimator to ensure the right amount is being withheld for 2020.

Taxpayers can use the results from the IRS Withholding Calculator to determine if they should complete a new [Form W-4](#), Employee's Withholding Certificate.

Submitting a new Form W-4

Employees submit a completed Form W-4 to their employer, not the IRS. Beginning in 2020, all new employees must use the redesigned form. Employees who submitted Form W-4 in 2019 or before are not required to submit a new form. However, the new form must be used to adjust their withholding. New employees who fail to submit a Form W-4 will be treated as a single filer with no other adjustments. This means that a single filer's standard deduction with no other entries will be considered in determining withholding.

The new Form W-4 is simpler than the old form and increases the transparency and

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1040-ES Estimated Tax for Individuals and IRS **Publication 505**, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

For more information see the **Tax Withholding Estimator FAQs** and **FAQs on the 2020 Form W-4**. Whether at home, at work or on the go, taxpayers can find answers to questions, forms and instructions and easy-to-use tools online at IRS.gov.

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