**Why are there four wage amounts listed on my Form W-2?**

**Tell Me**

Government regulations determine how each type of wages are reported and taxed by the various federal and state agencies.

1. Your Form W-2 will show one or more of the following types of wages:
   a. **Box 1 – Wages, Tips, Other Compensation**
      Wages subject to Federal income tax (corresponding to Fed Gross applicable gross YTD on your paystub).
   b. **Box 3 – Social Security Wages**
      Wages that are subject to Social Security tax (corresponding to FICA Social Security applicable gross YTD on your paystub).
   c. **Box 5 – Medicare Wages and Tips**
      Wages subject to Medicare taxes (corresponding to FICA Medicare applicable gross YTD on your paystub).

   **Note**
   Your gross wages for Social Security and Medicare are reduced by “pre-tax” payroll deductions for health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, AD&D insurance, NC Flex (dependent care and medical), Health Care Plus and also for pre-tax parking. See this [FAQ](#) for the current Social Security wage base limit. Medicare has no maximum.

2. **Box 16 – State Wages, Tips, Etc.**
   Wages subject to State income tax (corresponding to NC State applicable gross YTD on your paystub).

   **Note**
   Your gross wages for federal and state taxes are reduced by the same “pre-tax” payroll deductions as Social Security and Medicare. In addition, deductions for retirement and deferred compensation (annuities) contributions are also deducted.

2. See this [FAQ](#) to learn how to reconcile your last paystub of the year to your Form W-2.

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**Related Articles**

- How do I ensure that the sales tax exemption is applied to my hotel bill?
- How do I change the allowances on my Form W-4 and NC-4?
- How do I view or edit my personal (non-uncc) address or phone number in Banner?
- Do I have to opt-in if I want to access my Form W-2 electronically?
- How will I know if my electronic Form W-2 is available to view and print?