Additional Hospital Insurance (HI) Tax on High-Income Taxpayers

**Summary**: Increases the hospital insurance (HI) tax rate by 0.9 percentage points on an individual taxpayer earning over $200,000 ($250,000 for married couples filing jointly). Currently, the employee portion of the HI tax part of Federal Insurance Contribution Tax (FICA) is 1.45% of covered wages.

**Next steps**:  
- January 1, 2013 – Provision goes into effect

**Additional information**:  
- American Institute of CPAs article explaining the new Medicare taxes -- [http://www.cpa2biz.com/Content/media/PRODUCER_CONTENT/Newsletters/Articles_2010/Tax/UnearnedIncome.jsp](http://www.cpa2biz.com/Content/media/PRODUCER_CONTENT/Newsletters/Articles_2010/Tax/UnearnedIncome.jsp)  
- About.com article, providing steps for calculating your new Medicare taxes -- [http://taxes.about.com/od/payroll/a/Medicare‐Tax.htm](http://taxes.about.com/od/payroll/a/Medicare‐Tax.htm)  

**Long summary**:  
Sec. 9015. Additional hospital insurance tax on high-income taxpayers(as amended by Section 1402 of HCERA).  
Increases the Medicare Hospital Insurance (HI) tax by 0.9 percentage points on wages (including self-employed earnings) in excess of $200,000 ($250,000 for couples filing jointly, $125,000 for married individuals filing separately). Amounts are not indexed for inflation. Self-employed individuals are not permitted to deduct any portion of the additional tax.

**Tax collection.** For wage earners, employers must withhold the employee’s tax from wages paid to the employee in excess of $200,000. In determining its withholding obligation, the employer is not required to consider wages that may be received by the employee’s spouse that would be subject to this tax. If the employer fails to collect the tax, and the employee subsequently pays the tax, then the tax will not be collected from the employer, but the employer will remain liable for penalties.

**Effective date** – The additional HI tax applies to wages received and taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012.
SEC. 9015. ADDITIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE TAX ON HIGH-INCOME TAXPAYERS

(a) FICA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3101(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking “In addition” and inserting the following:

“(1) In general.—In addition”,

(B) by striking “the following percentages of the” and inserting “1.45 percent of the”,

(C) by striking “(as defined in section 3121(b))—” and all that follows and inserting “(as defined in section 3121(b)).”, and

(D) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) ADDITIONAL TAX.—In addition to the tax imposed by paragraph (1) and the preceding subsection, there is hereby imposed on every taxpayer (other than a corporation, estate, or trust) a tax equal to 0.9 percent of wages which are received with respect to employment (as defined in section 3121(b)) during any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2012, and which are in excess of—

“(A) in the case of a joint return, $250,000,

“(B) in the case of a married taxpayer (as defined in section 7703) filing a separate return, 1⁄2 of the dollar amount determined under subparagraph (A), and

“(C) in any other case, $200,000.”.

(2) COLLECTION OF TAX.—Section 3102 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) SPECIAL RULES FOR ADDITIONAL TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any tax imposed by section 3101(b)(2), subsection (a) shall only apply to the extent to which the taxpayer receives wages from the employer in excess of $200,000, and the employer may disregard the amount of wages received by such taxpayer’s spouse.

“(2) COLLECTION OF AMOUNTS NOT WITHHELD.—To the extent that the amount of any tax imposed by section 3101(b)(2) is not collected by the employer, such tax shall be paid by the employee.

“(3) TAX PAID BY RECIPIENT.—If an employer, in violation of this chapter, fails to deduct and withhold the tax imposed by section 3101(b)(2) and thereafter the tax is paid by the employee, the tax so required to be deducted and withheld shall not be collected from the employer, but this paragraph shall in no case relieve the employer from liability for any penalties or additions to tax otherwise applicable in respect of such failure to deduct and withhold.”.

(b) SECA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1401(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking “In addition” and inserting the following:

“(1) In general.—In addition”, and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) ADDITIONAL TAX.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the tax imposed by paragraph (1) and the preceding subsection, there is hereby imposed on every taxpayer (other than a corporation, estate, or trust) for each taxable year beginning after December 31, 2012, a tax equal to 0.9 percent of the selfemployment income for such taxable year which is in excess of—

“(i) in the case of a joint return, $250,000,

“(ii) in the case of a married taxpayer (as defined in section 7703) filing a separate return, 1⁄2 of the dollar amount determined under clause (i), and

“(iii) in any other case, $200,000.

“(B) COORDINATION WITH FICA.—The amounts under clause (i), (ii), or (iii) (whichever is applicable) of subparagraph (A) shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the amount of wages taken into account in determining the tax imposed under section 3121(b)(2) with respect to the taxpayer.”.

(2) NO DEDUCTION FOR ADDITIONAL TAX.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 164(f) of such Code is amended by inserting “(other than the taxes imposed by section 1401(b)(2))” after “section 1401)”.

(B) DEDUCTION FOR NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 1402(a)(12) is amended by inserting “(determined without regard to the rate imposed under paragraph (2) of section 1401(b))” after “for such year”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to remuneration received, and taxable years beginning, after December 31, 2012.