Tax Flash Alert

Global Mobility Service

2026 Year End Statutory Requirement



Introduction

As the year 2026 draws to a close, employers and individual taxpayers are reminded of the need to ensure full and timely compliance with all applicable tax and immigration obligations. In view of the Government's heightened focus on tax compliance and domestic revenue mobilisation, employers and individuals should undertake a comprehensive review of their year-end obligations, including the reconciliation of employment taxes, submission of annual tax schedules and returns, and fulfilment of immigration reporting requirements in respect of foreign employees. Timely compliance is essential to mitigate exposure to penalties, interest charges and other regulatory sanctions.

This alert provides an overview of the principal statutory filing and payment obligations, the applicable compliance deadlines, and the potential consequences arising from non-compliance.

Employment Tax Reconciliation

In accordance with the Income Tax Regulations, 2016 (L.I. 2244), an employer is required, to reconcile the total employment income paid to employees and the corresponding PAYE tax withheld and remitted for the preceding year of assessment by 15 January of the ensuing year. Accordingly, employers must complete the reconciliation for the 2026 year of assessment by 15 January 2027. Any shortfall arising from an omission, error or miscalculation should be disclosed and paid by that date, together with the PAYE liability for December 2026, to mitigate exposure to applicable interest and penalties.





Return by Employer

Employers are required to submit the Employer's Annual Tax Deduction Schedule through the Taxpayers Portal. The schedule must detail each employee's total employment income and the corresponding tax deducted during the year. The filing deadline for the 2026 year of assessment is 30 April 2027.

Annual Personal Income Tax Return

Individuals with personal income tax obligation for the 2026 year of assessment must file their annual income tax returns through the Taxpayers Portal by 30 April 2027. The return should disclose income from all sources, including employment, investment, and business activities, together with details of all taxes paid during the year.

Annual Immigration Return

Employers that engage foreign nationals under valid work permits or immigrant quota arrangements are required to submit their 2026 Annual Immigration Return to Ghana Immigration Service no later than 14 January 2027. Failure to comply with this filing requirement may result in regulatory sanctions or administrative penalties.

Interest For Late Payments of Taxes Outstanding & Penalties For Late Filing

Interest on Outstanding Tax Liabilities

Interest on an outstanding tax liability accrues at 125% of the prevailing statutory rate (Monetary Policy Rate), compounded monthly until the outstanding liability is paid in full.

Penalty for Late Filing of Tax Returns

Late filing of an Annual Personal Income Tax Return or an Employer's Annual Tax Deduction Schedule attracts an initial penalty of GH¢500 on the date of default, together with an additional penalty of GH¢10 for each day the return remains outstanding.

Penalty for Late Filing of Annual Immigration Returns

A company that fails to file its Annual Immigration Return is liable to a penalty of GH¢500, while an individual is subject to a penalty of GH¢100. Failure to pay the prescribed penalty within seven (7) days may result in a further fine of GH¢1,000, imprisonment for a term of not less than six (6) months and not more than two (2) years, or both.

For more information,
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