

**WAC 192-350-070 What effect does a predecessor-successor relationship have on tax rates?** (1) Under RCW 50.29.062(1), if the successor is an employer at the time of the transfer of a business, the successor's tax rate shall remain unchanged for the rest of the calendar year. Beginning on January 1 of the year after the transfer and until the successor qualifies for its own rate, the successor's tax rate for each rate year shall combine the successor's experience with the experience of the predecessor or the relevant portions of the partial predecessor.

(2) (a) Under RCW 50.29.062 (2) (b), if the successor is not an employer at the time of the transfer of a business and if the transfer occurs after January 1, 2005, the successor's tax rate for the rest of the calendar year shall be the same as the predecessor employer at the time of the transfer. Any experience attributable to the predecessor shall be transferred to the successor.

(b) Under RCW 50.29.062 (2) (b) (ii), if there is a substantial continuity of ownership, control, or management by the successor, beginning on January 1 after the transfer, the successor's tax rate shall be based on a combination of the successor's experience and the transferred experience from the predecessor.

(c) Under RCW 50.29.062 (2) (b) (i), if there is not a substantial continuity of ownership, control, or management by the successor, beginning on January 1 after the transfer, the successor's tax rate shall be assigned under RCW 50.29.062 (2) (b) (i) (B). However, if the predecessor terminates business on December 31st of any year and the successor begins business on January 1st of the next year, the department will calculate tax rates as if the transfer occurred on January 1st. Therefore, the department will assign a tax rate to the predecessor for January 1st and that rate will transfer to the successor.

(3) If the successor simultaneously acquires businesses from two or more employers with different tax rates, the successor's tax rate shall be assigned under RCW 50.29.062 (2) (b) (iii).

(4) The tax rate on any payroll retained by a predecessor employer shall remain unchanged for the rest of the rate year in which the transfer occurs. Beginning on January 1 after the transfer, the predecessor's tax rate shall be assigned under RCW 50.29.062 (3) (b).

(5) Changes in rate class for a predecessor or successor are effective only for the rate year the information was provided and for subsequent rate years.

(6) This section does not apply to a transfer of less than one percent of a business.

(7) This section does not apply if there is "SUTA dumping" under RCW 50.29.063.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040. WSR 10-23-064, § 192-350-070, filed 11/12/10, effective 12/13/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, and 50.29.064. WSR 07-23-131, § 192-350-070, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08.]