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Online Registration of Employers

Article 2 of Agreement No. 1123, Regulation for Registration of Employers in the Social Security Regime establishes that "all employers, individuals or legal entities, that have three or more workers, are obligated to register themselves in the Social Security Regime."

In this respect, the Guatemalan Social Security Institute –IGSS- recently announced the implementation of online registration of employers, which seeks to have all employers that are obligated to pay social security contributions formalize their situation before the Social Security office.

The tool permits the uploading of the information required by the Social Security office, in PDF format, and for all of the verifications to be performed online. If any corrections to such information need to be made, a notification will be sent to the electronic mail address registered by the employer during the registration process.

In general terms, following are some of the requirements that must be attached to the registration request:

- Photocopy of both sides of the Personal Identification Document
 -DPI- of the employer or business owner.
- In cases of foreigners, a photocopy of the passport, authenticated by a notary.
- Photocopy of the Certificate of Registration and Modifications to the taxpayer's information in the Unified Tax Registry -RTU- with a current and recent ratification of such registration.
- Photocopy of the Business Commercial License.
- Certification of the number of employees and employment start dates, issued by an expert accountant.
- Payroll certified by an expert accountant.

Finally, it is important to mention that in the event of non-compliance with the payment of social security contributions, there is the risk that: 1) the Tax Administration could question the deductibility of the salaries recorded in accounting, per that established in article 22, numeral 3 of Decree No. 10-2012 and its amendments, Tax Update Law; and 2) IGSS could claim the contributions that are owed, plus late payment surcharges.



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