



# Instructions for Form 4898

## Corporate Income Tax: Non-Unitary Relationships with Flow-Through Entities

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this form is to gather information on the distributive share of flow-through income (loss) attributable to flow-through entities (FTEs) that are directly or indirectly owned but not unitary for apportionment purposes with the taxpayer, or with the member of a Unitary Business Group (UBG).

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### General Information

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This form is intended to only be used by a Corporate Income Tax (CIT) taxpayer (or member of a UBG) to report the distributive income (loss) from its interests in FTEs that are not unitary for apportionment purposes with the taxpayer or UBG. This form must be filed by any taxpayer that has a distributive share of income (loss) attributable to an FTE with which the taxpayer is not unitary for apportionment purposes. If the taxpayer is a UBG, then each member of the UBG that has a distributive share of income (loss) from an FTE that the UBG is not unitary with for apportionment purposes must file this form. If more space is needed, use additional copies of Form 4898. Repeat the taxpayer's and UBG member's name and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) (if applicable) at the top of every copy of Form 4898.

*Flow-through entity* means an entity that for the applicable tax year is treated as a subchapter S Corporation under section 1362(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), a general partnership, a trust, a limited partnership, a limited liability partnership, or a limited liability company, that for the tax year is not taxed as a C Corporation for federal income tax purposes.

*A taxpayer is unitary for apportionment purposes with an FTE if the taxpayer:*

- Owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of the ownership interests with voting rights (or ownership interests that confer comparable rights to voting rights) of the FTE; AND
- The taxpayer and FTE have activities or operations which result in a flow of value between the taxpayer and the FTE, or between the FTE and another FTE unitary with the taxpayer, or has business activities or operations that are integrated with, are dependant upon, or contribute to each other.

The determination of whether a taxpayer is unitary for apportionment purposes with an FTE is made at the taxpayer level. If the taxpayer at issue is a UBG, the ownership requirement will be made at the UBG level. So, if the combined ownership of the FTE by the UBG is greater than 50%, then the ownership requirement will be satisfied.

*An FTE is not unitary with a taxpayer* when either of the tests above is not met.

### Public Act (PA) 266 of 2013

PA 266 of 2013 authorizes an affiliated group election that applies an alternate test for finding a unitary relationship

between corporations. This act **DID NOT** create a corresponding "affiliated group" test for finding a unitary relationship between a corporation and an FTE. The existence of a unitary relationship between a corporation and an FTE is still based exclusively on the traditional two-part test described above.

**NOTE:** An FTE owned directly or indirectly by a taxpayer or a member of a UBG may or may not be unitary with a taxpayer or UBG member. This form asks for information only about the FTEs that are NOT unitary for apportionment purposes with the taxpayer or UBG member. For those FTEs that are unitary for apportionment purposes with the taxpayer, use the *CIT Unitary Relationships with FTEs* (Form 4900).

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### Line-by-Line Instructions

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Lines not listed are explained on the form.

**Taxpayer Name and Account Number:** Enter taxpayer name and account number as reported on page 1 of the *CIT Annual Return* (Form 4891).

**Unitary Business Groups (UBGs):** Complete one form for each member included in the standard return that received a distributive share of income (loss) from an FTE not unitary for apportionment purposes with the UBG. Enter the Designated Member's (DM's) name and FEIN in the Taxpayer Name and FEIN fields and the name and FEIN of the member to which the schedule applies on the line below.

**Column A and B:** Identify each non-unitary FTE by name and FEIN.

**Column C:** To the extent included in federal taxable income and the corporate income tax base before apportionment, enter the distributive share of income (loss) attributable to the non-unitary FTE listed in Columns A and B. Enter loss as negative. A UBG member will enter the amount of distributive income (loss) that the member was distributed from each non-unitary FTE listed in Columns A and B. For each UBG member, the sum of all distributive shares of flow-through income (loss) entered in Column C shall equal the sum of all distributive shares of flow-through income (loss) entered on line 32 of the *CIT Data on Unitary Business Group Members* (Form 4897).

To compute the amount required to be reported in Column C, for each FTE listed in Columns A and B:

- Begin with the amount of distributive share of income (loss) included in federal taxable income.
- Adjust that amount by amounts attributable to the FTE that are included on the following lines of Form 4891: 13, 14, 15c, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, and 31.
- Report the result in Column C.

### Exclusion of MBT Filer Distributive Shares

Public Act 233 of 2013 provides that, in the case of an FTE that made the election to remain taxable under the MBT, each member of the FTE that does not file as a member of a

UBG with the FTE shall disregard all items attributable to that member's ownership interest in the electing FTE for all purposes of the CIT. If the taxpayer owns an interest in an FTE that files an MBT return for a tax year that ends with or within this taxpayer's tax year, the taxpayer's distributive share of income (loss) from such FTE will be exempt from the taxpayer's corporate income tax base. Report distributive income (loss) exempt under 2013 PA 233 in column C, then leave Columns D and E blank.

**Tiered Entities:** In the event of a tiered entity, enter in this column the distributive share of income or loss attributable to a non-unitary FTE in which the taxpayer has an indirect ownership interest.

When computing the distributive share of income attributable to the non-unitary FTE in which the taxpayer has a direct ownership interest, only enter the direct income of that FTE. This is done by subtracting any income (loss) attributable to the filer's indirectly owned FTEs from the income (loss) reported here that is attributable to the directly owned FTE.

**Example:** C Corporation 1 owns 50% of FTE B and FTE B owns 40% of FTE A. FTE B received from FTE A a distributive share of income of \$20,000. C Corporation 1 received from FTE B a distributive share of income of \$100,000. On the line corresponding to FTE A, C Corporation 1 would enter \$10,000. This is the indirect distributive share that C Corporation 1 received from FTE A and is calculated by multiplying C Corporation 1's ownership interest in FTE B by the distributive share FTE B received from FTE A:

$$50\% \times \$20,000 = \$10,000$$

On the line corresponding to FTE B, C Corporation 1 would enter \$90,000. This is the distributive share C Corporation 1 received from FTE B less the distributive share C Corporation 1 received from FTE A:

$$\$100,000 - \$10,000 = \$90,000$$

**NOTE:** The sum of the amount in every line on column C (plus, in the case of a UBG, the sum of column C for all other UBG members that filed this form) should equal the amount reported on Form 4891, line 27.

**Column D:** Enter in this column the non-unitary FTE's apportionment percentage. The non-unitary FTE's apportionment percentage is the FTE's sales factor. The sales factor is a fraction, the numerator of which is the total sales of the FTE in this state during the tax year and the denominator of which is the total sales of the FTE everywhere during the tax year. For more information on what is a sale, see the instructions for Form 4891. Use the information in the "Sourcing of Sales to Michigan" section of Form 4890 to determine Michigan sales. Enter this amount as a percentage, carrying it out 4 digits to the right of the decimal point (i.e. 12.3456). **Do not enter the percent symbol (%).**

For FTEs whose distributive income (loss) is exempt under **2013 PA 233**, leave column D blank.

**Column E:** Enter the non-unitary flow-through distributive income after apportionment by multiplying the amount in column C by the apportionment percentage in column D for

each FTE included on this form.

For FTEs whose distributive income (loss) is exempt under **2013 PA 233**, leave column E blank.

**NOTE:** The sum of column E (in the case of a UBG, the sum of column E for all UBG members) should equal the amount reported on Form 4891, line 35.

***Include completed Form 4898 as part of the tax return filing.***