



Rhode Island Department of Revenue

Division of Taxation

ADV 2021-18
TAX ADMINISTRATION

ADVISORY FOR TAXPAYERS AND TAX PROFESSIONALS
MAY 14, 2021

Final weekend before Monday's tax deadline

Due date is May 17 for personal income tax returns and payments

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Rhode Island Division of Taxation today issued a final reminder about Monday's deadline for filings and payments involving Rhode Island resident and nonresident personal income tax returns for the 2020 tax year.

The reminder comes as taxpayers and tax preparers begin their final weekend before the deadline; many will be using the time to finish up on last-minute returns.

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and for other reasons, the Internal Revenue Service postponed the usual April 15 deadline for federal filings and payments to May 17. The Rhode Island Division of Taxation followed suit.

Thus, personal income tax returns and associated payments for federal and Rhode Island personal income tax purposes are due on the same date - Monday, May 17, 2021 - a convenience for taxpayers and tax preparers.

May 17 due date for these Rhode Island filings and related payments*		
FILING	FORM	DUE DATE
Personal income tax annual return – resident	Form RI-1040	May 17, 2021
Personal income tax return – nonresident/PY	Form RI-1040NR	May 17, 2021
Personal income tax – extension form	Form RI-4868	May 17, 2021
Property tax relief credit	Form RI-1040H	May 17, 2021
Residential lead abatement credit	Form RI-6238	May 17, 2021

* Postponed deadline of May 17, 2021, is limited in scope; it applies only for 2020 returns and payments listed in table.

The postponement of the deadline to May 17 is automatic. No late charges will apply to Rhode Island personal income tax return filings and payments for 2020 that are made on or before Monday, May 17, 2021.

For those who have yet to file, electronic filing is recommended. E-filed returns are processed more quickly than paper returns. There are fewer errors. E-filing gives you the option to have your Rhode Island personal income tax refund deposited directly into your bank or credit union account (assuming a complete and accurate return is filed). Direct deposit is not available for returns filed on paper.

Filing for an extension

You may apply for an automatic extension, which will give you several more months to file your return: The extended due date this year is October 15, 2021. (Note: It is a six-month extension from the original due date of April 15, not from the postponed due date of May 17.) Following are some key points.

- ✓ If you use tax-preparation software, or your preparer does, you may use the extension request form provided by the software program. You may also use the Division's extension form, which includes instructions: <https://go.usa.gov/xHsJM>. For information about how to make a proper estimate when filing for an extension, please use the following link: <https://go.usa.gov/xHsSY>.
- ✓ If you are not required to make a payment by May 17 – because your calculations show that you paid in a sufficient amount last year, for example – don't file the Rhode Island extension form, but when you file your Rhode Island return by the October extended due date, attach a copy of your federal extension application.
- ✓ If you have a balance due, you still must pay what you owe by May 17 or face late charges. Remember: It's an extension of the time to file, not of the time to pay. If you'll have a balance due, file Form RI-4868 on paper: <https://go.usa.gov/xHsJM>.
- ✓ If you can't pay what you owe by May 17, file by that date to avoid the failure-to-file penalty – and enter into an agreement to pay over time, in installments. To learn more about payment plans, call the Division's Compliance & Collections section, at (401) 574-8941 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days. (Have a copy of your return handy when you call.)

List of tax-time resources

Following is a brief list of some resources for last-minute taxpayers ahead of the May 17 deadline.

DESCRIPTION	LINK
Pay using Division's taxpayer portal	https://www.taxportal.ri.gov
Pay by credit card, debit card	http://www.tax.ri.gov/misc/creditcard.php
Summary of payment methods	http://www.tax.ri.gov/Advisory/ADV_2021_15.pdf#page=3
Forms and instructions	http://www.tax.ri.gov/taxforms/personal.php
See if you can prepare, e-file at no charge:	http://www.tax.ri.gov/misc/efile.php
Find a volunteer tax preparer	https://go.usa.gov/xHvAb
Find a paid preparer	https://go.usa.gov/xHvA8
Information on penalty relief	http://www.tax.ri.gov/Advisory/ADV_2020_23.pdf
Information about extensions	http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2020/Income/RI-4868_1D_w.pdf
How to reach us (email, website, phones)	http://www.tax.ri.gov/Advisory/ADV_2021_16.pdf
Check the status of your refund	https://www.ri.gov/taxation/refund/
Federal tax information	https://www.irs.gov/

To reach the Division's Personal Income Tax area: (401) 574-8829, option # 3. The line is typically staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days.

Free File program

Many taxpayers this season can prepare and electronically file their federal and Rhode Island personal income-tax returns online, at no charge, by using the Free File program available on the Rhode Island Division of Taxation website.



To use the Free File program, go to the Rhode Island Division of Taxation's Free File webpage and review the free offers displayed on that page from five brand-name online tax providers to see the ones for which you may be eligible, based on income, filing status, or other factors. Choose the one that best suits your needs



and click on it. To view the offerings available on the Division of Taxation's Free File page, use the QR code on this page or the following link: <http://www.tax.ri.gov/misc/efile.php>.

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation has normal operating hours from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days. For more information, contact the Division of Taxation at (401) 574-8829 or see <http://www.tax.ri.gov/contact>
