



# Rhode Island Department of Revenue

## Division of Taxation

ADV 2021-43  
TAX ADMINISTRATION

ADVISORY FOR TAXPAYERS AND TAX PROFESSIONALS  
NOVEMBER 10, 2021

### **Annual e-file production shutdown and switchover is November 20** *E-filers should get electronic submissions to transmitters well in advance of deadline*

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Rhode Island Division of Taxation’s annual electronic filing shutdown and switchover for personal and business returns will occur on Saturday, November 20, 2021, allowing the Division to prepare its system for the upcoming tax-filing season.

Individuals and businesses seeking to e-file their Rhode Island personal and business returns for tax year 2020 must do so on or before Saturday, November 20, 2021. This will be the last opportunity this calendar year to e-file such returns. To avoid any last-minute logjams, preparers and taxpayers should get their electronic submissions to their transmitters well in advance of the deadline.



The Division plans to reopen its system to e-filing in January 2022, at about the same time that the Internal Revenue Service starts accepting e-filed 1040 returns for the new tax-filing season.

#### **Details**

Each year, the Division temporarily closes its system to e-filing in order to prepare the system for the coming filing season. The Internal Revenue Service, and many other states, follow the same or a similar practice. This year, the Rhode Island modernized e-file (MeF) shutdown and cutover will occur on Saturday, November 20, 2021, following the IRS’s 1040 MeF production shutdown schedule. Rhode Island’s annual MeF shutdown and switchover affects only the returns listed in the following table.

<b>Form number</b>	<b>Description</b>
Form RI-1040	Resident, nonresident personal income tax returns
Form RI-1120C	Corporate income tax returns
Form RI-1120S	Subchapter S corporation returns
Form RI-1065	Partnership return
Form RI-1041	Fiduciary (income tax return for estates, trusts)

Transmissions of e-filed Rhode Island personal and business returns must be completed by 10:00 p.m. (Eastern time) on Saturday, November 20, 2021. The shutdown begins at 11:59 p.m. (Eastern time) on Saturday, November 20, 2021.

From the Rhode Island Division of Taxation's standpoint, the shutdown on November 20, 2021, is for incoming e-filed 2020 returns. However, even after the point of shutdown, the Division will continue to issue electronic receipts -- also known as acknowledgements, or "acks" -- for all returns that have been properly prepared and e-filed by the deadline of November 20, 2021. (Because the shutdown occurs on a weekend, some acknowledgements may not be issued until the following week.)

### **More information**

Whether a fiscal-year filer can e-file its return will depend mainly on its due date. For example, a C corporation's annual return on Form RI-1120C is due on or before the fifteenth day of the fourth month following the close of the corporation's taxable year.

If XYZ Corporation is a fiscal-year taxpayer with a year-end of August 31, 2021, its original due date is December 15, 2021. If XYZ Corporation waits until December 15, 2021, to file, it will have to file on paper -- because December 15 is after the November 20 e-file shutdown and cutover date. (If XYZ Corporation is willing to file by November 20, it will have the option to e-file.)

Thus, some fiscal-year taxpayers can e-file their Rhode Island returns only if those taxpayers are willing to e-file early (before their original due date).

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*The Rhode Island Division of Taxation, part of the Rhode Island Department of Revenue, has normal operating hours of 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>*