



Rhode Island Department of Revenue Division of Taxation

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TAX AMNESTY

ADVISORY FOR TAX PROFESSIONALS
JANUARY 10, 2018

Amnesty deadline just five weeks away

Extended office hours to be offered as convenience for those seeking amnesty

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Rhode Island Tax Administrator Neena S. Savage today issued a reminder to taxpayers and tax professionals that the Rhode Island tax amnesty deadline is five weeks away.

“Under the terms of amnesty, if you pay what you owe in back taxes, we’ll eliminate all penalties and erase 25 percent of the interest you owe,” Savage said.

“Now is the time to step forward and take advantage of the many benefits available under our amnesty program. Now’s the time to clean your slate and get a fresh start,” she added, noting that all amnesty applications and payments are due on or before February 15, 2018 – which is five weeks from tomorrow.

EXTENDED HOURS FOR TAX AMNESTY

The Division of Taxation will hold special extended office hours on six dates this month to handle inquiries and provide other amnesty-related assistance to taxpayers and their advisors.

“We are normally open on business days and handle many amnesty matters by phone, email, and in-person during that time,” she said.

“However, those hours aren’t always convenient for every taxpayer. With the amnesty deadline just five weeks from



**Take advantage of
the RI State Tax
Amnesty Program.**

**This is a rare opportunity
to pay any back taxes.**

*Interest reduced by 25%
All civil and criminal penalties waived*

Tax amnesty runs from December 1, 2017 to February 15, 2018,
and applies to individuals and businesses.

Call us at (401) 574-8650 to learn more or download the
necessary forms at www.taxamnesty.ri.gov



tomorrow, we want to give taxpayers and their advisors extra opportunity to get their amnesty-related questions and issues addressed at a time that’s convenient for them,” she said.

“For amnesty, we will extend our weekday operating hours on four dates in January. In addition, also for the purpose of amnesty, we will be open for a limited number of hours on two Saturdays in January,” Savage said.

EXTENDED OFFICE HOURS FOR AMNESTY: DATES AND TIMES

The extended hours for tax amnesty start next week. Following is a list of the extended office hours and the dates on which they will occur:

- Tuesday, January 16, open until 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 18, open until 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, January 20, open 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
- Tuesday, January 23, open until 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 25, open until 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, January 27, open 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

The Division’s “open to the public” hours, including the new extended office hours for amnesty, are shown in calendar format below:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan. 14 closed	Jan. 15 closed (holiday)	Jan. 16 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. <u>EXTENDED HOURS</u>	Jan. 17 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Jan. 18 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. <u>EXTENDED HOURS</u>	Jan. 19 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Jan. 20 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon <u>EXTENDED HOURS</u>
Jan. 21 closed	Jan. 22 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Jan. 23 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. <u>EXTENDED HOURS</u>	Jan. 24 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Jan. 25 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. <u>EXTENDED HOURS</u>	Jan. 26 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Jan. 27 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon <u>EXTENDED HOURS</u>
Note: Extended office hours are only for purposes of tax amnesty.						

Overall, the Division will be open to the public for amnesty purposes an extra 16 hours during January. “During our extended hours, we will have specially trained staff available to handle phone calls, emails, and in-person visits relating to amnesty,” Savage said.

ONLINE RESERVATION SYSTEM

The Division of Taxation recently launched an online reservation system for taxpayers who want to make appointments involving amnesty. For taxpayers and tax professionals who plan to take advantage of the Division’s extended office hours for amnesty, the Division encourages them to

use the reservation system. “Our new online reservation system is a convenience for taxpayers. It will save time and let you plan your schedule around your appointment with us,” Savage said.

“This new system also will help to ensure that we process inquiries in the most effective and efficient manner possible,” Savage said. The address for the new reservation system is:

<https://ritaxreservations.stonewallsolutions.com/>.

“Although our amnesty website and phone bank are excellent sources of information and help, some taxpayers need in-person assistance with their amnesty-related matters. Their time is valuable, and using our reservation system can be a great convenience,” Savage said. To learn more about the reservation system, use the following link: <https://go.usa.gov/xnRuB>.

FIRST FULL MONTH OF AMNESTY

Many taxpayers have already taken advantage of amnesty: For December 2017, the first full month of amnesty, the Division of Taxation received about 4,200 amnesty applications and generated nearly \$4.5 million in revenue.

The personal income tax has resulted in the single largest amount of amnesty-related deposits, totaling approximately \$2.8 million in December.

Overall, the Division has received amnesty-related deposits involving a variety of tax types - - 22 in all -- totaling \$4,467,420.93 in its first full month.

AMNESTY DETAILS

Details of amnesty – including forms, frequently asked questions (FAQs), and other information – are on the agency’s tax amnesty website, which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at: www.TaxAmnesty.ri.gov.

The Division of Taxation also has an amnesty phone bank to field general amnesty questions from taxpayers, tax professionals, and others. Call (401) 574-8650. The phone bank is typically staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on business days.¹ Or email: Tax.Amnesty@tax.ri.gov.

Tax amnesty revenue for December 2017	
Tax/fee type	Total deposits
Personal income tax	\$ 2,834,816.76
Sales tax	721,740.08
Corporate tax	517,562.80
Estate tax	113,323.10
Bank excise tax	104,604.88
Withholding	85,114.20
Compassion center	41,679.96
Employer tax	25,957.58
Use tax	5,573.02
Rental vehicle excise	4,807.56
Insurance tax	4,622.68
Meals and beverage tax	3,473.18
Public service corporation tax	1,137.00
Healthcare nursing	854.84
Tobacco products	800.00
IFTA	366.54
Motor fuel excise	342.75
Cigarette stamps	264.08
Telecom wireline	201.84
Beverage container/litter fee	79.43
1% local hotel tax	55.31
Hotel revenue	43.34
Grand Total:	\$ 4,467,420.93
<small>"IFTA" means International Fuel Tax Agreement. "Grand Total" means gross revenue – i.e., total amount of tax and reduced interest submitted with amnesty returns.</small>	

¹ Also staffed during newly announced extended hours for amnesty.

However, for taxpayer-specific questions involving amnesty – for example, a taxpayer wants to know about his or her specific account balance, or which returns have not been filed -- call the Collections section at (401) 574-8941 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days.²

ABOUT AMNESTY

Tax amnesty is a unique opportunity for you to get a fresh start. Pay what you owe in delinquent Rhode Island state taxes – no matter the type of tax. In exchange, the Division will waive penalties and reduce, by 25 percent, the amount of interest normally charged.

Any person, corporation, or other entity that is subject to Rhode Island tax is eligible for amnesty – no matter where that person, corporation, or other entity is located.

All Rhode Island state taxes are eligible – including personal income tax, corporate income tax, sales tax, use tax, estate tax, unemployment insurance tax (and other employer taxes), withholding tax, and other Rhode Island state taxes.

The amnesty applies to taxes due for any taxable period ended on or before December 31, 2016.

The Division began accepting amnesty payments, amnesty tax returns, and related paperwork on December 1, 2017. Amnesty runs through February 15, 2018, and is also open to non-filers.

Amnesty status

To check on the status of your amnesty application, phone the Division's tax amnesty call center, at (401) 574-8650 (staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days, and during newly announced extended hours for amnesty), or email: Tax.Amnesty@tax.ri.gov.

For taxpayer-specific questions involving amnesty – for example, if a taxpayer wants to know about his or her specific account balance, or which returns have not been filed -- call the Collections section at (401) 574-8941 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days, or during newly announced extended office hours for amnesty.

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation office is at One Capitol Hill in Providence, R.I., diagonally across from the Smith Street entrance to the State House, and is open to the public 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days. To learn more, see the agency's website: www.tax.ri.gov, or call (401) 574-8829.

² Also staffed during newly announced extended hours for amnesty.