Six-month extension for calendar-year C corporations
Extended due date will be October 16, 2017, for calendar-year C corporation’s TY 2016 return

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Rhode Island Division of Taxation announced today that calendar-year C corporations are eligible for an automatic six-month extension for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

For example, a calendar-year C corporation preparing its Rhode Island return for tax year 2016, with an original due date of April 18, 2017, will have an extended due date of October 16, 2017.

The Division decided to establish the six-month extension so that entities filing their federal and Rhode Island returns will have the same deadlines – a convenience for businesses and for tax professionals.

BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION

Legislation approved by Congress and signed into law by then-President Barack H. Obama (Public Law 114-41) on July 31, 2015, changed the original due dates for C corporations and partnerships, and also made changes to extended due dates for certain entities. As a result, for federal tax purposes, calendar-year C corporations were assigned a mid-April original due date and an extended due date five months later. Rhode Island followed suit (see ADV 2016-16).

However, the Internal Revenue Service announced today that, relying on the authority under Internal Revenue Code § 6081(a), it is granting calendar-year C corporations a six-month extension: https://www.irs.gov/uac/rda-2017-02-08-2016-form-7004. Rhode Island Tax Administrator Neena S. Savage, relying on the authority under Rhode Island General Laws § 44-11-5, also grants calendar-year C corporations a six-month extension.

⇒ As a result, for federal and Rhode Island tax purposes, the original due date and the extended due date for calendar year C corporations will be the same.

⇒ The Division will update its Form RI-7004 instructions to reflect the change, which involves an extension of the time to file, not of the time to pay; payment requirements have not changed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To reach the Rhode Island Division of Taxation, call the Division’s main phone line at (401) 574-8829. The Division is normally open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days, and is located at One Capitol Hill in Providence, in the Powers Building, which is diagonally across Smith Street from the State House. For forms, instructions, and other information, see the Division website: www.tax.ri.gov. For a list of phone numbers and email addresses of specific sections within the agency, see: www.tax.ri.gov/contact/