



Rhode Island Department of Revenue

Division of Taxation

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TAX ADMINISTRATION

ADVISORY FOR TAX PROFESSIONALS
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Filing season will begin on January 29, 2018

Also, details on filing deadline, business returns, withholding, sales tax reconciliation

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Rhode Island Division of Taxation announced today that the filing season for Rhode Island resident and nonresident personal income tax returns will begin on Monday, January 29, 2018.

On that day, the Division will officially begin accepting and processing electronically filed personal income tax returns as well as paper returns on Form RI-1040 and Form RI-1040NR, and certain other filings, including property-tax relief claims on Form RI-1040H.

The Internal Revenue Service launches the federal filing season on the same date. For the benefit and convenience of taxpayers and tax preparers, the Rhode Island launch date will be the same as the federal launch date.

“We urge all taxpayers and tax preparers to file electronically. E-filing is faster, results in fewer errors, and generates refunds more quickly,” said Rhode Island Tax Administrator Neena Savage.

“Furthermore, e-filing is the only way a taxpayer can receive a Rhode Island personal income tax return by direct deposit,” she said. (Paper filers must receive refunds by check.) E-filing also saves Division of Taxation processing costs, which, in turn, saves money for all taxpayers, Savage said.

Last year, approximately 87 percent of Rhode Island personal income tax returns were e-filed, which is an increase from the prior year.

“We strongly recommend that taxpayers and tax return preparers file electronically,” Savage said. She also reminded preparers that e-filing is mandated by statute and regulation.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Filing season starts Monday, January 29, 2018, for Rhode Island personal income tax returns.
- Business returns also accepted starting January 29, 2018.
- Filing deadline for personal income tax returns is April 17, 2018.
- Sales tax reconciliation due on or before January 31, 2018
- Sales permit renewals due on or before February 1, 2018

Rhode Island personal income tax returns			
	2016*	2017*	Difference
Number of e-filed returns	549,953	572,208	+4.0%
Number of paper returns	95,273	86,550	-9.2%
Total returns filed	645,226	658,758	+2.1%
E-filed returns as % of total	85.2%	86.9%	+2.0%

* Returns filed in calendar year 2016, calendar year 2017, through December 26, 2017.

ACCEPTING BUSINESS RETURNS

Also on January 29, 2018, the Division of Taxation will officially begin accepting business returns – including those filed electronically and those filed on paper.

The Division encourages e-filing of business returns because e-filing is faster, results in fewer errors, generates refunds more quickly, and saves taxpayers in processing costs. Preparers also are subject to the requirements of mandatory e-filing by statute and by regulation.

Rhode Island Division of Taxation electronic filing	
<i>The Division of Taxation will accept the following returns electronically this season:</i>	
Form RI-1040	Resident personal income tax return
Form RI-1040NR	Nonresident personal income tax return
Form RI-1120C	Business corporation tax return – C corporations
Form RI-1120S	Business corporation tax return – S corporations
Form RI-1065	For partnerships, LLPs, LPs, LLCs, single-member LLCs
Preparers should check with their tax-preparation software provider to see if their programs are updated and ready for e-file.	

FILING DEADLINE IS APRIL 17

Because of a number of factors, preparers and taxpayers will get a little extra time this year to work on their federal and Rhode Island personal income tax returns.

The normal April 15 filing deadline will fall on a Sunday this year. On April 16, Emancipation Day will be observed by Washington, D.C., and by the IRS.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
April 15, 2018	April 16, 2018 Emancipation Day observed	April 17, 2018 Filing deadline

Thus, the federal filing deadline this year will be Tuesday, April 17, 2018, and Rhode Island will follow suit: All resident and nonresident Rhode Island personal income tax returns and related payments for tax year 2017 must be e-filed or postmarked on or before 11:59 p.m. on April 17, 2018. (Six-month extensions are allowed, but they are extensions of the time to file, not of the time to pay.) April 17 is also the deadline for first-quarter payments of quarterly estimated personal income tax for the 2018 tax year.

Overall, the Division expects this year to receive and process more than 650,000 resident and nonresident personal income tax returns covering the 2017 tax year.

For those without tax preparation software, forms for the new filing season, covering tax year 2017, are now available on the Division's website: <http://www.tax.ri.gov/taxforms/personal.php>.

Among the forms now available for download from the Division's website is Form RI-1040H, involving the statewide property-tax relief credit.

BUSINESS FILING DEADLINE

April 17, 2018, is also the Rhode Island filing deadline for a number of entities, as shown in the table below:

<i>Entity/tax type</i>	<i>Form</i>	<i>Due date</i>
Corporate income tax	RI-1120C	April 17, 2018
Public service gross earnings tax	T-72	April 17, 2018
Bank excise tax	T-74	April 17, 2018
Insurance gross premiums tax	T-71	April 17, 2018
Individual income tax*	RI-1040	April 17, 2018
Single-member LLC**	RI-1065	April 17, 2018
Income tax of trust, estate	RI-1041	April 17, 2018

* Includes nonresident returns on Form RI-1040NR. ** Single-member limited liability company (SMLLC) uses same due date and extended due date as its owner. Table assumes owner is calendar-year individual.

WITHHOLDING TABLES, W-4 WITHHOLDING CERTIFICATE

The Division of Taxation has posted on its website the booklet of income tax withholding tables for tax year 2018. Employers use the tables to calculate how much to withhold from an employee's pay for Rhode Island personal income tax purposes.

- Following is a link:

<http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2018/Withholding/2018%20Withholding%20Booklet.pdf>

The booklet also includes a copy of the 2018 version of Form RI W-4, "Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate."

- Following is a link:

<http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2018/Withholding/RI%20W-4%202018.pdf>

CALENDARS OF DUE DATES

The 2018 calendar of filing due dates for withholding has now been posted. The calendar is available for viewing or download at the following link:

- <http://www.tax.ri.gov/documents/information/2018/2018%20TXCLDR%20WITHHOLDING.pdf>

The 2018 calendar of due dates for sales and excise taxes has also been posted. The calendar is available for viewing or download at the following link:

- <http://www.tax.ri.gov/documents/information/2018/2018%20TXCLDR%20SALES.pdf>

SALES TAX – ANNUAL RECONCILIATION

The annual sales tax reconciliation is due on or before January 31, 2018. Electronic filing is the recommended method. The Division of Taxation will open its portal for electronic filing of annual sales tax reconciliation returns on Friday, January 19, 2018.

(Keep in mind that electronic filing of the annual sales tax reconciliation is not allowed for writers, composers, and artists. It is also not allowed for those who do not remit their sales tax online. In addition, electronic filing of the annual reconciliation is not allowed for the annual alcoholic beverage filing for Class A liquor stores.)

There are three sales tax reconciliation forms available online:

- Form T-204R, the annual return for sellers of tangible property:
http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2017/Excise/AnnualRecs/T204R_2017b.pdf
- Form T-204W, the annual return for writers, composers, and artists:
http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2017/Excise/AnnualRecs/T204W_2017b.pdf
- Form T-204A, the alcoholic beverages annual return:
http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2017/Excise/AnnualRecs/T204A_2017b.pdf

SALES TAX – ANNUAL PERMIT RENEWAL

Now is the time to renew your annual sales tax permit. Your renewal, along with the annual \$10 fee, is due on or before February 1, 2018.

- Keep in mind that your annual retail sales permit may be renewed online:
<https://www.ri.gov/taxation/business/>.
- The renewal form is also online:
http://www.tax.ri.gov/forms/2018/Excise/ST_REN_FYE2019_m.pdf.

Note: If you are renewing by mail, please be sure to use your license/sales permit ID number – not your federal employer identification number (EIN) or Social Security number. Also, although payment for the annual renewal is due in February, the Division typically mails out sales permits in June.

The Rhode Island Division of Taxation office is at One Capitol Hill in Providence, R.I., diagonally across from the Smith Street entrance of 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.