

March 12, 2015  
ADVISORY: ADV 2015-05

**Deadline is Monday for many Rhode Island business tax returns**  
*First installment of estimated payments also due Monday*

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Rhode Island Division of Taxation today issued a reminder about an important tax deadline next week for businesses.

Businesses that are treated as C corporations for federal income tax purposes, and that use a calendar year, must file their Rhode Island returns on or before Monday, March 16, 2015.

The usual deadline is March 15, but that falls on a Sunday this year. As a consequence, the deadline this year will be the following business day: March 16.

“Those preparing returns for calendar year 2014 may also find helpful the [guidance we issued involving the Section 179 expensing deduction](#),” said Rhode Island Tax Administrator David M. Sullivan.

Some other filings are also due on or before March 16, 2015. They include:

- the first corporate estimated tax payments for calendar year 2015;
- estimated payments for the bank deposits tax, bank excise tax, insurance gross premium tax, and public service corporation tax;
- the annual return for a political organization with \$100 or more of political organization taxable income; and
- the annual bank excise tax return.

**Filing an extension**

A corporation, LLC, or partnership seeking an automatic six-month extension of time for filing Form RI-1120C, RI-1120S, or RI-1065 should use Form RI-7004. Keep in mind that it is an extension of the time to file, not of the time to pay; payments are still due on or before March 16, 2015.

The Division of Taxation does not accept e-filed extensions; Form RI-7004 must be filed on paper. There is an exception: If you [make an extension payment online](#), you don't need to send in an extension form.

Also, the Division of Taxation on January 1, 2013, began enforcing Rhode Island's corporate tax e-file mandate. The mandate applies to paid preparers. It requires that returns on Form RI-1120C, RI-1120S, and Form RI-1065 be e-filed. However, because extension requests on Form RI-7004 must be made on paper, Rhode Island's corporate e-file mandate does not apply to extension requests. (Although the Division of Taxation does not accept e-filed extensions, the Division does accept – and encourage – e-filed returns, including e-filed returns that are made on extension.)

## Combined reporting - payments

The Division of Taxation also [reminds businesses that are subject to combined reporting about the March 16 deadline for estimated payments](#) – and rules regarding payment computation.

Businesses that are treated as C corporations for federal income tax purposes, are part of a combined group, and are engaged in a unitary business must take into account combined reporting, single sales factor apportionment, and the market-based sourcing method for purposes of calculating estimated payments.

A C corporation whose estimated tax for the taxable year is reasonably expected to exceed \$500 must file a declaration of estimated tax and make advance payments equal to 100% of the estimated tax. The first installment must be in the amount of 40% of the estimated tax; the second and last installment must be in the amount of 60% of the estimated tax. (For calendar-year filers, the first installment is due on or before March 16, 2015; the second is due on or before June 15, 2015.)

However, for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, any taxpayer required to file a combined report in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) § 44-11-4.1 must compute estimated payments for that tax year as follows:

- The installments must equal 100% of the tax due for the prior year plus any additional tax due to the combined reporting provisions under RIGL § 44-11-4.1; or
- The installments must equal 100% of the current year tax liability.

To help ensure that payment is properly credited, a combined group should make payment under the federal employer identification number (EIN) of the group's designated agent. (For information on choosing a designated agent and on a designated agent's responsibilities, see Rule 19 of the Division of Taxation's [draft regulation on combined reporting](#).)

## Consolidated forms reminder

The Division of Taxation reminds filers that extensions involving the political organization tax, bank excise tax, and public service corporation tax are now made on Form BUS-EXT.

Estimated payments for the political organization tax, insurance gross premium tax, public service corporation tax, bank excise tax, and bank deposits tax are now made on Form BUS-EST.

Form BUS-V is the business tax payment voucher form. It is used for making a payment for the political organization tax, insurance gross premium tax, surplus line broker gross premium, self-procurement insurance premiums tax, public service corporation tax, bank excise tax, and bank deposits tax.

For more information about business-related filings, payments, and deadlines, please call the Division of Taxation's Corporate Tax section at (401) 574-8935 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. business days. Note that estimated payments may be [made online](#).

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