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calendar year and, if taxes are owed, to pay that debt.

Apr. 17, 2018



Latest update: The IRS Direct Pay system is once again functioning, so payments can be made through the online service at <https://www.irs.gov/payments/direct-pay>. It appears the efile system is also working at this time.

Earlier: The IRS has issued this statement:

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It appears that the filing system is also at least partially down.

Today is the deadline for most Americans to report their income taxes for the last calendar year and, if taxes are owed, to pay that debt. It is unclear at this time whether the IRS internet outage is the result of a high volume of legitimate users, or is due to a coordinated external attack. The *Washington Post* is reporting that the IRS is planning to attempt a “hard reboot” of its system, hoping to get it up and running again.

Gail Perry, a CPA and editor-in-chief of this website, received the following message when attempting to make a payment for a tax client:

This service is temporarily unavailable. We are working to resolve the issue. Please come back later and try again, or you can visit the [Make a Payment](#) page for alternative payment methods. We apologize for any inconvenience.

The error message also occurs when trying to use the “Look Up Payment” function.

Many professionals and individuals rely on the IRS’ web-based Direct Pay to make those payments or estimated tax payments directly from their checking or savings accounts. The credit card payment systems available through the IRS website appear to be functioning, however there is a fee associated with making those payments.

If the website stays down, taxpayers are still responsible for making payment by midnight tonight. An obvious alternative is to head to the Post Office.

The IRS has asked that efilers continue to proceed with their efilings, even if returns aren’t being accepted in short order. According to the *Washington Post* report, IRS Acting Commissioner David J. Kautter has stated, “If we can’t solve it today we’ll

figure out a solution. Taxpayers would not be penalized because of a technical

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