CPA Practice **Advisor**

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(TCJA) was enacted at the end of 2017. Supporters of the legislation, including ...

Ken Berry • Aug. 04, 2019

	me Tax Return		C married marg sep	0074 IRS Use Ori arate return Qualityin	in mountail	
Your first name and initial	Last name	Last name			Your social security number	
Standard deduction: Someone can claim	you as a dependent	You were bor	n before January 2, 1	954 🗌 You are bl	ind	
Spouse or qualifying person's first name and initial (see inst) La		Last name			Spouse's social security number	
Standard deduction: Someone can claim	your spouse as a depend		spouse was born be spouse itemizes on a	fore January 2, 1954 separate return or you w	ere dual-statu	s alien
Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions. Apt. no					Presidential Election Campaign. / if you want \$3 to go to this fund (see inst.) You Spouse	
City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, attach Schedule 6.					Full-year health care coverage (see instructions)	
Dependents (see instructions): (1) First name Las	(2) Soc	cial security number	(3) Relationship 1		(4) ✓ if qualifies for (see inst.): Child tax credit Credit for other dependents	
Sign Here Joint return? See instructions. Spouse's signature. If a joint return, both must sign.			ion of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all inform Your occupation		ation of which per If the IRS sent (PIN, enter it here (see inst.)	
Keep a copy for Spouse's signature. If a join your records.	return, troth must sign.	Cutty	opouse's occupant		PIN, enter it here (see inst.)	
Paid Print/Type preparer's name Preparers	Preparer's signal	ture	PTIN		Check it: 3rd Party Designee	
Firm's name				Firm's EIN 🕨		Self-employed

The IRS won't be getting any postcards from taxpayers this year.

It's not like the nation's tax collection agency was expecting pictures of scenic views of mountains and oceans or tourist attractions. But plans to provide taxpayers with a postcard-sized Form 1040 have been officially scrapped. The IRS is now working on a version that's shorter than the traditional 1040, but looks more like the typical tax return you're used to.

Proponents of tax simplification have bandied about the idea for a postcard-type 1040 for years. It came closer to fruition when the massive Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) was enacted at the end of 2017. Supporters of the legislation, including the Trump administration, bragged that taxpayers would be able to file a return on a

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schedules that would have to be inserted into an envelope. This could lead to additional complexity and confusion and, ultimately, more errors. What's more, the vast majority of taxpayers now file returns electronically, reducing the need for a postcard-sized 1040.

Taking its cue from the tax community, which generally objected to the prototype as being wasteful and inefficient, the IRS has announced that is abandoning its earlier effort and working on a new version that more closely resembles the traditional 1040. Some members of Congress doubted the viability of a postcard in the first place.

"Form changes are, for the most part, transparent to the vast majority of taxpayers because they file electronically. So far this year over 131 million taxpayers chose efile," said Bruce I. Friedland, IRS spokesman. "The IRS makes changes to tax forms every year. The IRS has proposed minor changes to the draft 2019 Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, and will continue to work with the tax community to finalize the form over the summer, so it can be used for 2019 tax returns filed in 2020. Based on feedback from both taxpayers and the tax community, some minor changes were made to the form, which continues to be less than 2 pages, and the supplemental schedules were reduced from six to three. The changes make it even easier for taxpayers to file their returns. The tax form continues to be shorter than the 2017 Form 1040."

The IRS is accepting public commentary on the new 1040 until August 15. It expects to have a final form in place by November.

"We never believed that it would be a postcard. Never. Not for a moment," House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal (D-MA) told Bloomberg News. "I heard that over and over again during my time and career and I think that makes more for a good photograph than it does for a good policy." Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

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