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request an automatic six-month extension to file.

Mar. 30, 2022

APRIL

TAX DEADLINE

18

2022

Taxpayers who are unable to file their tax return by this year's April 18 deadline have

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- They must file their extension no later than the regular due date of their return.

E-File an extension form for free

Individual tax filers, regardless of income, can use IRS Free File to electronically request an automatic tax-filing extension. The fastest and easiest way to get an extension is through [IRS Free File](#) on IRS.gov. Taxpayers can electronically request an extension on [Form 4868](#). Filing this form gives taxpayers until October 17 to file their tax return. To get the extension, taxpayers must estimate their tax liability on this form and should timely pay any amount due.

Get an extension when making a payment

Other fast, free and easy ways to get an extension include using IRS [Direct Pay](#), the [Electronic Federal Tax Payment System](#) or by paying with a [credit or debit card or digital wallet](#). There's no need to file a separate Form 4868 extension request when making an electronic payment and indicating it's for an extension. The IRS will automatically count it as an extension.

Check the rules for your state

Many states accept the federal extension without requesting that you file a separate extension form in the state. However, some states require that you file a state extension as well, so if you are planning on filing a federal extension, be sure to check the extension rules for your state as well. And of course, as with the federal tax, any state tax owing will need to be paid by the original due date of the return even if you extend the filing of the actual return.

Important reminders on extensions

The IRS reminds taxpayers that a request for an extension provides extra time to file a

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and the late-payment penalty is normally 0.5 percent per month.

The IRS will work with taxpayers who cannot pay the full amount of tax they owe. Other options to pay, such as getting a loan or paying by credit card, may help resolve a tax debt. Most people can set up a [payment plan](#) on IRS.gov to pay off their balance over time.

Other automatic extensions

Certain eligible taxpayers get more time to file without having to ask for extensions. These include:

- [U.S. citizens and resident aliens](#) who live and work outside of the United States and Puerto Rico get an [automatic 2-month](#) extension to file their tax returns. They have until June 15 to file. However, tax payments are still due April 18 or interest will be charged.
- Members of the military on duty outside the United States and Puerto Rico also receive an automatic two-month extension to file. Those serving in [combat zones](#) have up to 180 days after they leave the combat zone to file returns and pay any taxes due. Details are available in [Publication 3, Armed Forces' Tax Guide](#).
- When the President makes a disaster area declaration, the IRS can postpone certain taxpayer deadlines for residents and businesses in the affected area. People can find information on the most recent tax relief for [disaster situations](#) on the IRS [website](#).

The deadline to submit 2021 tax returns or an extension to file and pay tax owed this year falls on April 18, instead of April 15, because of the Emancipation Day holiday in the District of Columbia. Taxpayers in Maine or Massachusetts have until April 19, 2022, to file their returns due to the Patriots' Day holiday in those states.

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