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business tax returns and make tax payments.

Feb. 29, 2024



The Internal Revenue Service has given tax relief for individuals and businesses in parts of Washington state affected by wildfires that began on Aug. 18, 2023. These taxpayers now have until June 17, 2024, to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments.

Following the disaster declaration issued by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#), individuals and households that reside or have a business in Spokane County qualify for tax relief. The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain tax-filing and tax-payment deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a

business in the disaster area. For instance, certain deadlines falling on or after Aug.

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The June 17, 2024, deadline applies to individual income tax returns and payments normally due on April 15, 2024. For affected taxpayers, 2023 contributions to IRAs and health savings accounts are extended to June 17, 2024.

The tax relief also applies to quarterly estimated tax payments, normally due on Sept. 15, 2023, and Jan. 16, 2024, and April 15, 2024. Penalties on payroll and excise tax deposits due on or after Aug. 18, 2023, and before Sept. 5, 2023, will be abated as long as the tax deposits were made by Sept. 5, 2023.

Individuals who had a valid extension to file their 2022 return that ran out on Oct. 16, 2023, now have until June 17, 2024. The IRS noted, however, that because tax payments related to these 2022 returns were due on April 18, 2023, those payments are not eligible for this relief.

The June 17, 2024, deadline also applies to affected businesses:

- Quarterly payroll and excise tax returns normally due on Oct. 31, 2023, and Jan. 31 and April 30, 2024.
- Calendar-year partnerships and S corporations that had a valid tax-year 2022 extension that ran out on Sept. 15, 2023, or have a 2024 return normally due on March 15, 2024.
- Calendar-year corporation and fiduciaries that had a valid tax-year 2022 extension that ran out on Oct. 16, 2023, or have a 2023 return and payment normally due on April 15, 2024.
- Calendar-year tax-exempt organizations that had a valid tax-year 2022 extension that ran out on Nov. 15, 2023, or have a 2023 return normally due on May 15, 2024.

The IRS urges anyone who needs an additional tax-filing extension, beyond June 17, 2024, for their 2023 federal income tax return to request it electronically by April 15, 2024. Though a disaster-area taxpayer qualifies to request an extension between April 15, 2024, and June 17, 2024, a request filed during this period can only be

submitted on paper. Whether requested electronically or on paper, the taxpayer will

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applies filing and payment relief. But affected taxpayers who reside or have a business located outside the covered disaster area should call the IRS disaster hotline at [866-562-5227](tel:866-562-5227) to request this tax relief.

## Covered disaster area

The Washington county listed above constitutes a covered disaster area for purposes of Treas. Reg. §301.7508A-1(d)(2) and are entitled to the relief detailed below.

## Affected taxpayers

Taxpayers considered to be affected taxpayers eligible for the postponement of time to file returns, pay taxes and perform other time-sensitive acts are those taxpayers listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(d)(1), and include individuals who live, and businesses (including tax-exempt organizations) whose principal place of business is located, in the covered disaster area. Taxpayers not in the covered disaster area, but whose records necessary to meet a deadline listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c) are in the covered disaster area, are also entitled to relief. In addition, all relief workers affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization assisting in the relief activities in the covered disaster area and any individual visiting the covered disaster area who was killed or injured as a result of the disaster are entitled to relief.

Under section 7508A, the IRS gives affected taxpayers until June 17, 2024, to file most tax returns (including individual, corporate, and estate and trust income tax returns; partnership returns, S corporation returns, and trust returns; estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax returns; annual information returns of tax-exempt organizations; and employment and certain excise tax returns), that have either an original or extended due date occurring on or after Aug. 18, 2023, and before June 17, 2024, are granted additional time to file through June 17, 2024

Affected taxpayers that have an estimated income tax payment originally due on or

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This relief also includes the filing of Form 5500 series returns that were required to be filed on or after Aug. 18, 2023, and before June 17, 2024, are postponed through June 17, 2024, in the manner described in section 8 of Rev. Proc. 2018-58. The relief described in section 17 of Rev. Proc. 2018-58, pertaining to like-kind exchanges of property, also applies to certain taxpayers who are not otherwise affected taxpayers and may include acts required to be performed before or after the period above.

Unless an act is specifically listed in Rev. Proc. 2018-58, the postponement of time to file and pay does not apply to information returns in the W-2, 1094, 1095, 1097, 1098 or 1099 series; to Forms 1042-S, 3921, 3922 or 8027; or to employment and excise tax deposits. However, penalties on deposits due on or after Aug. 18, 2023, and before Sept. 5, 2023, will be abated as long as the tax deposits were made by Sept. 5, 2023.

## Casualty losses

Affected taxpayers in a federally declared disaster area have the option of claiming disaster-related casualty losses on their federal income tax return for either the year in which the event occurred, or the prior year. Taxpayers choosing to claim their losses on their 2022 return have extra time, until Oct. 15, 2024, to make this election. See [Publication 547, Casualties, Disasters, and Thefts](#) for details. Individuals may deduct personal property losses that are not covered by insurance or other reimbursements. For details, see [Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts](#)PDF and its [instructions](#)PDF. Affected taxpayers claiming the disaster loss on their return should put FEMA disaster declaration number, **4759-DR** on any return. See [Publication 547](#) for details.

## Other relief

The IRS will waive the usual fees and requests for copies of previously filed tax

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repair or replacement of its contents. See [Publication 525](#) for details.

Additional relief may be available to affected taxpayers who participate in a retirement plan or individual retirement arrangement (IRA). For example, a taxpayer may be eligible to take a special disaster distribution that would not be subject to the additional 10 percent early distribution tax and allows the taxpayer to spread the income over three years. Taxpayers may also be eligible to make a hardship withdrawal. Each plan or IRA has specific rules and guidance for their participants to follow.

The IRS may provide additional disaster relief in the future.

Income Tax • Taxes

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