

## NEWS

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### Tax Commissioner Advises Taxpayers on 2020 Income Tax Season

Today, the federal government extended the IRS income tax filing and payment deadline from April 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020, to provide relief during the COVID-19 situation.

Commissioner Ryan Rauschenberger today announced a waiver of income tax penalty and interest to provide relief. Individuals or businesses who are unable to file an income tax return or pay the tax by the April 15th deadline, can file and make payment through July 15, 2020, without penalty and interest.

"We continue to urge taxpayers to e-file and choose direct deposit or electronic payment to help improve the accuracy, security and timeliness of return and refund processing, or chose to mail their return before April 15th," Rauschenberger said. "However, there are many directly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and this waiver allows all taxpayers 90 days of relief without fear of penalty or interest. It is the right thing to do and helps lift all who are facing financial hardships during the COVID-19 situation."

[Guidance for North Dakota Taxpayers During COVID-19 Precautions \(https://www.nd.gov/tax/covid-19-tax-guidance/\)](https://www.nd.gov/tax/covid-19-tax-guidance/) can be found at [www.nd.gov/tax](http://www.nd.gov/tax) (<http://www.nd.gov/tax>).

Rauschenberger reminds that his staff is ready to assist by phone or email to help taxpayers with any issues. As a North Dakota taxpayer, you have the ability to request additional time if you believe you will be unable to file a return or pay any other taxes in a timely manner because of a COVID-19 related situation, please contact the [Office of State Tax Commissioner \(https://www.nd.gov/tax/about/contact-us\)](https://www.nd.gov/tax/about/contact-us).

Many North Dakotans are eligible to e-file their taxes for free, depending on income and age. By answering a few questions online using the ND Free File tool at [www.nd.gov/tax/NDFreeFile](http://www.nd.gov/tax/NDFreeFile) ([www.nd.gov/tax/NDFreeFile](http://www.nd.gov/tax/NDFreeFile)), taxpayers can easily see if they qualify to file their federal and state returns for free with certain tax software companies.

Taxpayers may also e-file by purchasing tax preparation software, by working with a tax professional, or by using the Office of State Tax Commissioner's stand-alone free ND Fillable Forms option (for ND return only).

Rauschenberger continues to encourage taxpayers to file early to help prevent fraudsters from claiming their refund. Taxpayers may use the Where's My Refund? tool found at [www.nd.gov/tax/refund](http://www.nd.gov/tax/refund) ([www.nd.gov/tax/refund%20](http://www.nd.gov/tax/refund%20)) to help track the status of their state refund.

North Dakota tax booklets, forms and payment vouchers may be found on the Office of State Tax Commissioner's website at [www.nd.gov/tax/forms](http://www.nd.gov/tax/forms) ([www.nd.gov/tax/forms](http://www.nd.gov/tax/forms)). IRS forms may be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

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