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Extension deadline for filing an individual tax return quickly approaching

Taxpayers should work with tax pros to take full advantage of one-time credits, deductions for 2021 returns

APPLETON, Wis. (Sept. 26, 2022) – Taxpayers or their tax professional who filed Form 4868, *Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return*, by April 18, 2022, for more time to file, are reminded that their returns must be filed by Monday, Oct. 17. If someone did not file by April 18, 2022, and did not request an extension, they will likely face a failure to file penalty.

However, just because a taxpayer was granted an extension to file their return does not mean they received an extension of time to pay their tax bill. Taxpayers should have already made the appropriate estimated payments and will receive a refund when they file if they overpaid their tax liabilities.

Preparers and taxpayers filing by mail should have their envelope properly addressed, postmarked and deposited in the mail by Oct. 17, 2022.

According to the IRS, the average refund due reported on returns filed in 2021 for 2020 income was more than \$2,800. Due to the number of new and expanded credits and deductions available for 2021 returns, including the earned income tax credit, child tax credit, child and dependent care credit and the recovery rebate credit, NATP suggests taxpayers should work with a qualified tax professional to take full advantage of their specific financial situation.

“Our members said some of their clients received much larger refunds than they have in the past due to the new and expanded credits,” said NATP Director of Tax Content and Government Relations Tom O’Saben. “Taxpayers who work with a qualified, educated tax professional have the benefit of knowing their full financial situation is being considered.”

Special rules may apply to those serving in a combat zone or living in a presidentially declared disaster area.

Taxpayers in specific cities impacted by a natural disaster may be granted a longer extension to file. Some of those include:

- Nov. 15, 2022: Arizona storm victims’ extended deadline
- Nov. 15, 2022: Missouri storm and flooding victims’ extended deadline
- Nov. 15, 2022: Kentucky storm, flooding, landslide and mudslide victims’ extended deadline



As of Aug. 19, 2022, the IRS reported it had a backlog of 8.7 million returns. In June 2022, the service said it thought it would get through all pandemic-induced backlog of federal tax returns filed in 2022 by the end of the month.

To speak further with someone on this topic, please contact Nancy Kasten or Samantha Strong.

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About NATP: The National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP) is the largest association dedicated to equipping tax professionals with the resources, connections and education they need to provide the highest level of service to their clients. 23,000 members rely on NATP to deliver professional connections, content expertise and advocacy that provides them with the support they need to best serve their clients. The NATP headquarters is located in Appleton, WI. To learn more, visit www.natptax.com.

Looking for a tax expert? Tom O'Saben, EA, is the director of tax content and government relations at the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP). Tom is available for phone or video interviews to discuss federal tax topics including tax law change and its implications, taxpayer issues, tax preparer regulation and more. To schedule an interview with O'Saben, contact nkasten@natptax.com.