

## **State of New Jersey**

Department of the Treasury

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## Christie Administration Encourages Taxpayers to Take Advantage of Expanded Electronic Filing Options and Extra Help as April 15 Tax Filing Deadline Approaches

TRENTON – State Treasurer Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff is encouraging taxpayers to take advantage of expanded electronic filing options and the extended availability of telephone representatives at the Division of Taxation's Customer Service Center to meet the April 15 deadline for submitting their individual income tax returns and payments for 2012.

Returns and payments must be postmarked or electronically submitted by midnight on Monday, April 15, 2013, to avoid penalties and interest. This year's April 15 filing deadline for calendar year taxpayers corresponds with the date the Federal Form 1040 is due.

The Treasurer urged taxpayers who have not yet submitted their New Jersey returns to file electronically using New Jersey's "FastFile" options: NJ WebFile or NJ E-File. These easy-to-use systems enable taxpayers to submit paperless returns via the Internet or by using a computer software package. This year, NJWebFile is being made available to all taxpayers without regard to income level.

Taxpayers can get help with any outstanding questions about their 2012 returns by calling the Division of Taxation's Customer Service Center at 609-292-6400 or visiting its Regional Offices around the State. Through April 15, representatives at the Service Center will be available to take calls from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturday and Sunday, April 13 and 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

"Most individual income tax returns are now being filed electronically in New Jersey," the Treasurer said. Electronic filing offers taxpayers a fast, convenient and user-friendly alternative to completing and mailing a paper form. The Division of Taxation estimates that it takes three weeks to process refunds for returns filed electronically compared with six to eight weeks for those filed by mail. Electronic filers can also choose to receive their refunds by direct deposit, an option that is not available to those who file paper returns.

Taxpayers who have already filed their returns can use the Division of Taxation's online refund status service, available at <a href="https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/refinfo.shtml">www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/refinfo.shtml</a>, to monitor the status of their refunds.

The Treasurer also reminded taxpayers who owe tax not to overlook the advantages of making their payments electronically. "You can file now and pay at any time until midnight on April 15," he said. New Jersey's electronic payment methods include electronic check (e-check) and credit card. There is a credit card convenience fee that is paid directly to the payment processor.

In addition to contacting the Customer Service Center, taxpayers can also visit any of the Division's Regional Offices located throughout the State. Taxation representatives will be available to provide assistance as follows:

	Customer Service	Trenton	Other
	(Phone) Center	<b>Regional Office</b>	<b>Regional Offices</b>
April 8 – 12 (Mon–Fri)	8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
April 13 – 14 (Sat–Sun)	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Closed	Closed
April 15 (Monday)	8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## **Taxation Regional Offices are located at the following addresses:**

Camden	2 Riverside Drive, Suite 200
Fair Lawn	22-08 Rt. 208 South
Neptune	1828 West Lake Avenue, 3rd Floor
Newark	124 Halsey Street, 2nd Floor
Northfield	1915-A New Road (Rt. 9)
Somerville	75 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Suite 103
Trenton	50 Barrack Street, 1st Floor Lobby

Employees at each regional office can answer tax questions and assist with return preparation. The offices will also accept completed tax forms and supply blank forms. Directions to the offices are available at: <a href="https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ot1.shtml">www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ot1.shtml</a>

Taxpayers who are facing financial difficulties and struggling to meet their tax obligations can find information about available assistance on the Division of Taxation's Web site at <a href="https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/helpwithdebt.shtml">www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/helpwithdebt.shtml</a> or by calling 609-292-6400.

Taxpayers who need more time to file their 2012 returns can request an extension: six months for a resident (Form NJ-1040) or nonresident (Form NJ-1040NR) return, and five months for a fiduciary (Form NJ-1041) return.

To obtain an extension, the request must be filed by the original due date of the return (April 15 for most taxpayers). In addition, at least 80 percent of a filer's actual New Jersey income tax must be paid by the April 15 due date in order to receive an extension. Mailed extension applications must be postmarked on or before Monday, April 15, 2013; online extension requests can be submitted until midnight on the due date. Anyone making a payment of tax due with an online extension must pay by e-check or credit card.

"Taxpayers must remember that an extension of time to file an income tax return is *not* an extension of time to pay the tax due under the Gross Income Tax Act," the Treasurer explained. "Penalties and interest are imposed whenever tax is paid after the due date."

Extension requests can be submitted online through the Division of Taxation's Web site (<a href="www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/eservicesother.shtml#git">www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/eservicesother.shtml#git</a>) or by mail using the traditional paper form, Form NJ-630, Application for Extension of Time to File New Jersey Gross Income Tax Return, which can be printed from the Division of Taxation's Web site (<a href="www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/prntgit.shtml">www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/prntgit.shtml</a>).

Taxpayers who apply for an automatic extension of time to file their Federal returns may receive an extension for their New Jersey returns by including a copy of the Federal application when they submit their New Jersey income tax returns, provided they meet all other requirements (including the requirement that at least 80 percent of the actual New Jersey income tax liability be paid on or before the return due date). Taxpayers who file for a Federal extension but also need to make a payment of New Jersey tax by April 15 must submit Form NJ-630 with that payment or file and pay online.

The extension period for all resident and nonresident returns will end on October 15, 2013 (September 16, 2013, for fiduciary returns).

Below is a list of important contacts for New Jersey taxpayer information and assistance.

New Jersey Taxpayer Information & Assistance
Customer Service Center
Speak directly to a representative for income tax information and assistance,
Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., except holidays. Open 8 a.m. to
6:30 p.m. April 8 – 12 and April 15; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 13 – 14.
Division of Taxation Web Site
www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/
Electronic Filing
NJ WebFile
www.njwebfile.com
File State returns for free from a secure Internet site
Electronic Payment
Make payments of 2012 income tax or 2013 estimated tax by e-check or credit card
(Visa, American Express, MasterCard, or Discover)
• Online
www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/eservicesother.shtml#git
• Phone
E-check
6400
Credit Card 1-888-673-
7694
Income Tax Refund Information
Online
www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/refinfo.shtml
• Phone
4400
Earned Income Tax Credit Information
Text Telephone Service (TTY/TDD)
for Hard-of-Hearing Users 1-800-286-6613* or 609-984-
7300
These numbers are accessible only from TTY devices. Submit a text message on any tax
matter. Receive a reply through NJ Relay Services (711).
Automated Tax Information System
Touch-tone phone information and assistance including: refund inquiries, recorded tax
information, and a forms/publications request system
NJ TaxFax 609-826-

Request facsimile State tax returns and publications

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Speak directly to a representative for property tax reimbursement information and assistance, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., except holidays

<sup>\*</sup>Toll-free within NJ, NY, PA, DE, and MD