



Note: *The draft you are looking for begins on the next page.*

Caution: DRAFT—NOT FOR FILING

This is an early release draft of an IRS tax form, instructions, or publication, which the IRS is providing for your information. **Do not file draft forms** and do **not** rely on draft forms, instructions, and publications for filing. We do **not** release draft forms until we believe we have incorporated all changes (except when explicitly stated on this coversheet). However, unexpected issues occasionally arise, or legislation is passed—in this case, we will post a new draft of the form to alert users that changes were made to the previously posted draft. Thus, there are never any changes to the last posted draft of a form and the final revision of the form. Forms and instructions generally are subject to OMB approval before they can be officially released, so we post only drafts of them until they are approved. Drafts of instructions and publications usually have some changes before their final release.

Early release drafts are at [IRS.gov/DraftForms](https://www.irs.gov/DraftForms) and remain there after the final release is posted at [IRS.gov/LatestForms](https://www.irs.gov/LatestForms). All information about all forms, instructions, and pubs is at [IRS.gov/Forms](https://www.irs.gov/Forms).

Almost every form and publication has a page on IRS.gov with a friendly shortcut. For example, the Form 1040 page is at [IRS.gov/Form1040](https://www.irs.gov/Form1040); the Pub. 501 page is at [IRS.gov/Pub501](https://www.irs.gov/Pub501); the Form W-4 page is at [IRS.gov/W4](https://www.irs.gov/W4); and the Schedule A (Form 1040/SR) page is at [IRS.gov/ScheduleA](https://www.irs.gov/ScheduleA). If typing in a link above instead of clicking on it, be sure to type the link into the address bar of your browser, not a Search box.

If you wish, you can submit comments to the IRS about draft or final forms, instructions, or publications at [IRS.gov/FormsComments](https://www.irs.gov/FormsComments). We cannot respond to all comments due to the high volume we receive and may not be able to consider many suggestions until the subsequent revision of the product.

If you have comments on reducing paperwork and respondent (filer) burden, with respect to draft or final forms, please respond to the relevant information collection through the Federal Register process; for more info, click [here](#).

Future Developments

For the latest information about developments related to Form 8453-WH and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, visit www.irs.gov/Form8453WH.

General Instructions



Instead of filing Form 8453-WH, a withholding agent filing a return through an electronic return originator (ERO) can sign the return using a personal identification number (PIN). For details, see Form 8879-WH, E-file Authorization for Form 1042.

Purpose of Form

Use Form 8453-WH to:

- Authenticate an electronic Form 1042, Annual Withholding Tax Return for U.S. Source Income of Foreign Persons;
- Authorize the ERO, if any, to transmit via a third-party transmitter;
- Authorize the intermediate service provider (ISP) to transmit via a third-party transmitter if you are filing online (not using an ERO); and
- Provide consent to authorize an electronic funds withdrawal for payment of the balance due on Form 1042.

Who Must File

If you are filing a Form 1042 through an ISP and/or transmitter and you are not using an ERO, you must file Form 8453-WH with your electronically filed return. An ERO can use either Form 8453-WH or Form 8879-WH to obtain authorization to file Form 1042.

When and Where To File

File Form 8453-WH with your electronically filed return. Use a scanner to create a Portable Document Format (PDF) file of the completed form. Your tax preparation software will allow you to transmit this PDF file with the return.

Specific Instructions

Name. Print or type the withholding agent's name in the space provided.

Employer identification number (EIN). Enter the withholding agent's EIN in the space provided.

Part II. Declaration of Withholding Agent

Note: The withholding agent must check all applicable boxes on line 2.

If there is a balance due (Form 1042, line 69) and the withholding agent did not check box 2b, the withholding agent must make a timely payment using one of the methods described in the Instructions for Form 1042. For more information on depositing taxes, see the Instructions for Form 1042.

If the withholding agent checks box 2b, the withholding agent must ensure that the following information relating to the financial institution account is provided in the tax preparation software.

- Routing number.
- Account number.
- Type of account (checking or savings).
- Debit amount.
- Debit date (date the withholding agent wants the debit to occur).

An electronically transmitted return will not be considered complete, and therefore filed, unless either:

- Form 8453-WH is signed by a withholding agent, scanned into a PDF file, and transmitted with the return; or
- The return is filed through an ERO and Form 8879-WH is used to select a PIN that is used to electronically sign the return.

The withholding agent's signature allows the IRS to disclose to the ERO, transmitter, and/or ISP:

- An acknowledgment that the IRS has accepted the withholding agent's electronically filed return, and
- The reason(s) for any delay in processing the return or refund.

The Declaration of Withholding Agent must be signed and dated.

If the ERO makes changes to the electronic return after Form 8453-WH has been signed by the withholding agent, whether it was before it was transmitted or if the return was rejected after transmission, the ERO must have the withholding agent complete and sign a corrected Form 8453-WH if the gross amount on Form 1042, line 62c, differs from the amount on the electronic return.

Part III. Declaration of Electronic Return Originator (ERO) and Paid Preparer

Note: If the return is filed online through an ISP and/or transmitter (not using an ERO), do not complete Part III.

If the return is filed through an ERO, the IRS requires the ERO's signature. A paid preparer, if any, must sign Form 8453-WH in the "Paid Preparer Use Only" section of Part III. But if the paid preparer is also the ERO, do not complete the paid preparer section. Instead, check the box labeled "Check if also paid preparer."

Use of PTIN

Paid preparers. Anyone who is paid to prepare the return must enter their PTIN in Part III. For information on applying for and receiving a PTIN, see Form W-12, IRS Paid Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) Application and Renewal, or visit www.irs.gov/PTIN.

EROs who are not paid preparers. Only EROs who are not also the paid preparer of the return have the option to enter their PTIN or their social security number in the "ERO's Use Only" section of Part III. For information on applying for and receiving a PTIN, see Form W-12 or visit www.irs.gov/PTIN.

Refunds

After the IRS has accepted the return, the refund should be issued within 3 weeks. However, some refunds may be delayed because of compliance reviews to ensure that returns are accurate.

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax. Section 6109 requires EROs to provide their identifying numbers on the return.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by Internal Revenue Code section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated burden for withholding agents filing this form is approved under OMB control number 1545-0967 and is included in the estimates shown in the instructions for their return.

Comments. You can send us comments through www.irs.gov/FormComments. You can also send your comments to the Internal Revenue Service, Tax Forms and Publications Division, 1111 Constitution Ave. NW, IR-6526, Washington, DC 20224. Do not send the form to this address. Instead, see *When and Where To File*, earlier.