

Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (324 word count)

Customize and post the following article about needing more time to file an income tax return on your websites or other communication vehicles

Need more time to file your taxes? Consider an extension

These days, life can really be hectic and something is bound to be forgotten in the shuffle, even filing your income tax return. If you can't get it completed by April 15, you can file for an automatic extension of time to file to give yourself something very precious — time.

[Tax-filing extensions](#) are available if you need more time to finish your return. Remember, this is an extension of time to file, not an extension of time to pay. However, taxpayers who are having trouble paying what they owe usually qualify for payment plans and other relief.

Either way, you'll avoid stiff penalties if you file either a regular income tax return or a request for a tax-filing extension by this year's April 15 deadline. You should file, even if you can't pay the full amount due. Here are further details on the options available to file an extension.

More Time to File

If you haven't finished filling out your return, the fastest, easiest and free way to get an automatic six-month extension is through the [Free File](#) link on IRS.gov. In a matter of minutes, anyone, regardless of income, can use this free service to electronically request an automatic tax-filing extension on [Form 4868](#).

Filing this form gives you until Oct. 15 to file a return. To get the extension, you must estimate your tax liability on this form and pay any amount due.

By properly filing this form, you'll avoid the late-filing penalty, normally five percent per month based on the unpaid balance that applies to returns filed after the deadline. In addition, any payment made with an extension request reduces or eliminates interest and late-payment penalties that apply to payments made after April 15.

Besides Free File, you can choose to request an extension through a paid tax preparer, using tax-preparation software or filing a paper Form 4868, available on [IRS.gov](#).

Details on all filing and payment options are on IRS.gov.

NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are links to helpful information about filing an extension on IRS.gov.

[Topic 304](#) - Extensions of Time to File Your Tax Return

On Twitter? Send these tweets.

#IRS: Unable to file your #tax return by April 15? File for an auto 6 month extension through Oct. 15
<http://go.usa.gov/1ax> #taxes

Have you put off filing your #taxes? Listen to this #IRStaxtip to learn about filing for an #extension and more: <http://go.usa.gov/1ax> #IRS