

**General Information for Taxpayers Who File
Returns Electronically**

Thank you for taking part in the IRS Electronic Filing Program. Your federal income tax return for tax year _____ is being filed electronically with the _____ Service Center of the IRS by the services of _____. Since you are filing your return electronically, PLEASE DON'T SEND A PAPER COPY OF YOUR RETURN TO THE IRS. IF YOU DO, IT WILL DELAY THE PROCESSING OF THE RETURN.

If you Need to Make a Change to Your Return

If you need to change or correct the return you filed electronically, you should send a Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, to the IRS service center that processes paper returns for your area. The address is in your tax forms package, or you can call the IRS toll-free at 1-800-829-1040.

Direct Deposit of Your Tax Refund

If you are expecting a refund, you may have chosen to have it deposited directly into a savings or checking account. The Form 8453, U.S. Individual Income Tax Declaration for Electronic Filing, you signed when you filed your return authorizes IRS to deposit your refund directly instead of sending you a check. This form also authorizes IRS to tell your electronic filer if your direct deposit request will be honored and the reason(s) for any delay in processing your return or refund (**Note:** *These are the only authorizations you can make on Form 8453. It is not a power of attorney.*)

If your direct deposit request is not honored, it could be because you are a first time filer and are limited to a paper refund check, or you may owe the government other amounts such as:

- federal taxes for an earlier year,
- a student loan,
- child support, or
- payments to another federal (*or state*) agency.

We will also deny a direct deposit request if you file a tax year 1993 return showing a refund greater than \$300, AND, during the past 6 years, you have not filed at least one return. We will hold your refund and write to you asking about the unfiled return(s).

Also, some financial institutions do not allow direct deposit of a joint refund into an individual account.

If You Need to Ask About Your Refund

The IRS will notify your electronic filer when they accept your return, usually within 48 hours. If it has been more than three weeks since the IRS accepted your return and you have not received your refund, you can call the IRS toll-free Tele-Tax return information number, 1-800-829-4477, to check the status of your refund. You will need to tell us the first social security number shown on your return, your filing status, and the exact amount of the refund you expect. Tele-Tax should give you the date for mailing or depositing your refund. You should receive your refund check within 30 days of that date, or within one week of that date if you chose direct deposit. If you don't receive it by then, or if Tele-Tax does not give you refund information, call your local IRS office at 1-800-829-1040.

Refund Anticipation Loans

A refund anticipation loan is a loan made to you based on the refund you expect to receive. This loan is a contract between you and a lender. The IRS is not involved in this contract, can't grant or deny the loan, and can't answer any questions about it. **If you have any questions about a refund anticipation loan, contact your electronic filer or the lender.**

If You Owe Tax

If your electronically filed return showed tax due, you must pay the amount you owe by April 15. Use either the scannable payment voucher or the Tear-off Stub of the balance due reminder notice you will receive in the mail. Or you may use Form 9282, Form 1040 Electronic Payment Voucher, which you can get from your electronic filer. Mail Form 9282 or either payment voucher, with your payment, to the IRS service center where your electronic return was filed. If the IRS doesn't receive your payment by April 15, they will send you a notice that asks for full payment of the tax due **plus penalties and interest**. If you can't pay the amount you owe in full, please complete Form 9465, Installment Agreement Request. You can get the form by calling 1-800-829-3676. To avoid delays, you must send Form 9465 to the Service Center where you would normally file a paper return.