



Instructions for Form 1120-SF (Rev. December 2001)

U.S. Income Tax Return for Settlement Funds

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Changes To Note

- If the fund wants to allow the IRS to discuss its tax return with the paid preparer who signed it, check the "Yes" box in the area where the officer of the fund signed the return. See below for details.
- The tax rate applicable to settlement funds has been reduced. See the instructions for line 16 on page 4 for details.

How To Get Forms and Publications

Personal computer. You can access the IRS Web Site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at www.irs.gov to:

- Download forms, instructions, and publications.
- See answers to frequently asked tax questions.
- Search publications on-line by topic or keyword.
- Send us comments or request help by e-mail.
- Sign up to receive local and national tax news by e-mail.

You can also reach us using file transfer protocol at [ftp.irs.gov](ftp://ftp.irs.gov).

CD-ROM. Order **Pub. 1796**, Federal Tax Products on CD-ROM, and get:

- Current year forms, instructions, and publications.
- Prior year forms, instructions, and publications.
- Frequently requested tax forms that may be filled in electronically, printed out for submission, and saved for recordkeeping.
- The Internal Revenue Bulletin.

Buy the CD-ROM on the Internet at www.irs.gov/cdorders from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) for \$21 (no handling fee) or call **1-877-CDFORMS** (1-877-233-6767) toll free to buy the CD-ROM for \$21 (plus a \$5 handling fee).

By phone and in person. You can order forms and publications 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by calling **1-800-TAX-FORM** (1-800-829-3676). You can also get most forms and publications at your local IRS office.

General Instructions

Purpose of Form

Form 1120-SF, U.S. Income Tax Return for Settlement Funds, is used by designated and qualified settlement funds to report transfers received, income earned, deductions claimed, tax due, and distributions made.

Who Must File

All section 468B designated and qualified settlement funds must file an annual income tax return on Form 1120-SF.

When To File

Generally, a fund must file its income tax return by the 15th day of the 3rd month after the end of the fund's tax year.

If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the fund may file on the next business day.

Private delivery services. Funds can use certain private delivery services designated by the IRS to meet the "timely mailing as timely filing/paying" rule for tax returns and payments. The most recent list of designated private delivery services was published by the IRS in October 2001.

The list includes only the following:

- Airborne Express (Airborne): Overnight Air Express Service, Next Afternoon Service, Second Day Service.
- DHL Worldwide Express (DHL): DHL "Same Day" Service, DHL USA Overnight.
- Federal Express (FedEx): FedEx Priority Overnight, FedEx Standard Overnight, FedEx 2Day.
- United Parcel Service (UPS): UPS Next Day Air, UPS Next Day Air Saver, UPS 2nd Day Air, UPS 2nd Day Air A.M., UPS Worldwide Express Plus, and UPS Worldwide Express.

The private delivery service can tell you how to get written proof of the mailing date.

Extension. File **Form 7004**, Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File Corporation Income Tax Return, to request a 6-month extension of time to file.

Who Must Sign

The return must be signed and dated by the administrator of the fund.

If an employee of the fund completes Form 1120-SF, the paid preparer spaces should remain blank. In addition, anyone who prepares Form 1120-SF but does not charge the fund should not complete that section. Generally, anyone who is paid to prepare the return must sign it and fill in the "Paid Preparer's Use Only" area.

The **paid preparer** must complete the required preparer information and:

- Sign the return, by hand, in the space provided for the preparer's signature (signature stamps and labels are not acceptable).
- Give a copy of the return to the administrator.

Paid Preparer Authorization

If the fund wants to allow the IRS to discuss its tax return with the paid preparer who signed it, check the "Yes" box in the signature area of the return. This authorization applies only to the individual whose signature appears in the "Paid Preparer's Use Only" section of the fund's return. It does not apply to the firm, if any, shown in that section.

If the "Yes" box is checked, the fund is authorizing the IRS to call the paid preparer to answer any questions that may arise during the

processing of its return. The fund is also authorizing the paid preparer to:

- Give the IRS any information that is missing from the return,
- Call the IRS for information about the processing of the fund's return or the status of any related refund or payment(s), and
- Respond to certain IRS notices that the fund has shared with the preparer about math errors, offsets, and return preparation. The notices will not be sent to the preparer.

The fund is not authorizing the paid preparer to receive any refund check, bind the fund to anything (including any additional tax liability), or otherwise represent the fund before the IRS. If the fund wants to expand the paid preparer's authorization, see **Pub. 947**, Practice Before the IRS and Power of Attorney.

The authorization cannot be revoked. However, the authorization will automatically end no later than the due date (without regard to extensions) for the filing of the fund's tax return for the following year.

Assembling the Return

Attach schedules in alphabetical order and other forms in numerical order after Form 1120-SF.

Complete every applicable entry space on Form 1120-SF. Do not write "See Attached" instead of completing the entry spaces. If more space is needed on the forms or schedules, attach separate sheets using the same size and format as on the printed forms. If there are supporting statements and attachments, arrange them in the same order as the schedules or forms they support and attach them last. Show the totals on the printed forms. Also, be sure to enter the fund's name and employer identification number (EIN) on each supporting statement or attachment.

Where To File

File Form 1120-SF with the Internal Revenue Service Center, Philadelphia, PA 19255.

Tax Year and Accounting Method

A qualified settlement fund's tax year is the calendar year and the fund must use the accrual method of accounting.

Rounding Off to Whole Dollars

The fund may show amounts on the return and accompanying schedules as whole dollars. To do so, drop any amount less than 50 cents and increase any amount from 50 cents through 99 cents to the next higher dollar.

Recordkeeping

Keep the fund's records as long as they may be needed for the administration of any provision of the Internal Revenue Code. Usually, records that support an item of

income, deduction, or credit on the return must be kept for 3 years from the date the return is due or filed, whichever is later. Keep records that verify the fund's basis in property as long as they are needed to figure the basis of the original or replacement property.

The Fund should keep copies of any returns filed. They help in preparing future and amended returns.

Depository Method of Tax Payment

The fund must pay the tax due in full no later than the 15th day of the 3rd month after the end of the tax year. The two methods of depositing fund income taxes are discussed below.

Electronic Deposit Requirement

The fund must make electronic deposits of all depository taxes (such as employment tax, excise tax, and fund income tax) after December 31 of the calendar year following any calendar year in which the fund deposited more than \$200,000 of such taxes. Once the fund is required to use the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS), it must continue to use EFTPS in all later years.

If the fund is required to use EFTPS and fails to do so, it may be subject to a 10% penalty. If the fund is not required to use EFTPS, it may participate voluntarily. To enroll in or get more information about EFTPS, call 1-800-555-4477 or 1-800-945-8400. To enroll online, visit www.eftps.gov.

Depositing on time. For EFTPS deposits to be made timely, the fund must initiate the transaction at least 1 business day before the date the deposit is due.

Deposits With Form 8109

If the fund does not use EFTPS, deposit fund income tax payments (and estimated tax payments) with **Form 8109**, Federal Tax Deposit Coupon. If you do not have a preprinted Form 8109, use Form 8109-B to make deposits. You can get this form by calling 1-800-829-1040. Be sure to have your EIN ready when you call.

Do not send deposits directly to an IRS office; otherwise, the fund may have to pay a penalty. Mail or deliver the completed Form 8109 with the payment to an authorized depository (i.e., a commercial bank or other financial institution authorized to accept Federal tax deposits). Make checks or money orders payable to that depository.

To help ensure proper crediting, write the fund's EIN, the tax period to which the deposit applies, and "Form 1120-SF" on your check or money order. Be sure to darken the "1120" box on the coupon. Records of these deposits will be sent to the IRS.

If the fund prefers, it may mail the coupon and payment to: Financial Agent, Federal Tax Deposit Processing, P.O. Box 970030, St. Louis, MO 63197. Make the check or money order payable to "Financial Agent."

For more information on deposits, see the coupon booklet (Form 8109) and **Pub. 583**, Starting a Business and Keeping Records.



If the fund owes tax when it files Form 1120-SF, do not include the payment with the return. Instead, mail or deliver the payment with Form 8109 to a qualified depository, or use EFTPS, if applicable.

Estimated Tax Payments

Generally, the following rules apply to the fund's payments of estimated tax.

- A fund must make installments of estimated tax if it expects its total tax for the year (less applicable credits) to be \$500 or more.
- The installments are due by the 15th day of the 4th, 6th, 9th, and 12th months of the tax year. If any date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the installment is due on the next business day.
- Use **Form 1120-W**, Estimated Tax for Corporations, as a worksheet to compute estimated tax. The following instructions refer to the 2002 Form 1120-W. Enter expected modified gross income (see instructions for line 15 on page 4) on line 1 of Form 1120-W and skip lines 2 through 21 of Form 1120-W. Multiply estimated modified gross income by the applicable tax rate for the tax year this return is being filed and enter the result on line 22.

For tax year...	The tax rate is...
2001	39.1%
2002 and 2003	38.6%
2004 and 2005	37.6%
2006 and later	35%

Complete the rest of Form 1120-W in accordance with its instructions.

- If the fund does not use EFTPS, use the deposit coupons (Forms 8109) to make deposits of estimated tax.

For more information on estimated tax payments, including penalties that apply if the fund fails to make required payments, see the instructions for line 18 on page 4.

Overpaid estimated tax. If the fund overpaid estimated tax, it may be able to get a quick refund by filing **Form 4466**, Corporation Application for Quick Refund of Overpayment of Estimated Tax. The overpayment must be at least 10% of the fund's expected income tax liability and at least \$500. File Form 4466 before the 16th day of the 3rd month after the end of the fund's tax year but before the fund files its income tax return. Do not file Form 4466 before the end of the fund's tax year.

Interest and Penalties

Interest. Interest is charged on taxes paid late even if an extension of time to file is granted. Interest is also charged on penalties imposed for failure to file, negligence, fraud, gross valuation overstatements, and substantial understatements of tax from the due date (including extensions) to the date of payment. The interest charge is figured at a rate determined under section 6621.

Penalty for late filing of return. A fund that does not file its tax return by the due date, including extensions, may be penalized 5% of the unpaid tax for each month or part of a month the return is late, up to a maximum of 25% of the unpaid tax. The minimum penalty for a return that is more than 60 days late is the smaller of the tax due or \$100. The penalty will not be imposed if the fund can show that the failure to file on time was due to reasonable cause. Funds that file late must attach a statement explaining the reasonable cause.

Penalty for late payment of tax. A fund that does not pay the tax when due may be penalized 1/2 of 1% of the unpaid tax for each month or part of a month the tax is not paid, up to a maximum of 25% of the unpaid tax. The penalty will not be imposed if the fund can

show that the failure to pay on time was due to reasonable cause.

Trust fund recovery penalty. This penalty may apply if certain excise, income, social security, and Medicare taxes that must be collected or withheld are not collected or withheld, or these taxes are not paid. These taxes are generally reported on Forms 720, 941, 943, or 945. (See **Other Forms That May Be Required** below.) The trust fund recovery penalty may be imposed on all persons who are determined by the IRS to have been responsible for collecting, accounting for, and paying over these taxes, and who acted willfully in not doing so. The penalty is equal to the unpaid trust fund tax. See the Instructions for Form 720 or **Pub. 15** (Circular E), Employer's Tax Guide, for details, including the definition of responsible persons.

Other penalties. Other penalties can be imposed for negligence, substantial understatement of tax, and fraud. See sections 6662 and 6663.

Other Forms That May Be Required

The fund may have to file some of the following. See the form for more information.

Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement, and **Form W-3**, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements. Use these forms to report wages, tips, and other compensation, and withheld income, social security, and Medicare taxes for employees.

Form 940 or **Form 940-EZ**, Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment (FUTA) Tax Return. The fund may be liable for FUTA tax and may have to file Form 940 or Form 940-EZ if either of the following applies:

1. It paid wages of \$1,500 or more in any calendar quarter during the current calendar year or the preceding calendar year or
2. It had at least one employee who worked for the fund for some part of a day in any 20 or more different weeks during the current calendar year or 20 or more different weeks in the preceding calendar year.

Form 941, Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return. Employers must file this form quarterly to report income tax withheld, and employer and employee social security and Medicare taxes. Also see **Trust fund recovery penalty** above.

Form 945, Annual Return of Withheld Federal Income Tax. File Form 945 to report tax withholding from nonpayroll distributions or payments including pensions, annuities, IRAs, gambling winnings, and backup withholding.

See **Trust fund recovery penalty** above.

Form 1096, Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns.

Forms 1099-DIV, INT, and MISC. These information returns are for reporting dividends and distributions, interest income, and miscellaneous income.

When reporting taxable distributions to claimants, use the appropriate information return to report the distribution. For example, if the distribution is for wages, report the distribution on Form W-2.

For more information, see the Instructions for Forms 1099, 1098, 5498, and W-2G, and Regulations section 1.468B-2(i).

Definitions

Administrator. An administrator, which may include a trustee if the qualified settlement fund is a trust, is (in order of priority):

- The person designated or approved by the governmental authority that ordered or approved the fund.
- The person designated in the escrow agreement, settlement agreement, or other similar agreement governing the fund.
- The escrow agent, custodian, or other person in possession of the fund's assets.
- The transferor or, if there are multiple transferors, all of the transferors unless an agreement is signed by all of the transferors that designates a single transferor as the administrator.

Transferor. A transferor is a person who transfers (or on whose behalf an insurer or other person transfers) money or property to a settlement fund to resolve or satisfy claims against that person.

Related person. A related person is any person who is related to the transferor within the meaning of section 267(b) or section 707(b)(1).

Qualified Settlement Fund

A fund, account, or trust ("a fund") is a qualified settlement fund if it meets the governmental order or approval requirement, the resolve or satisfy requirement, and the segregation requirement. These requirements are discussed below.

Governmental order or approval requirement. To meet this requirement, the fund must be established under an order of, or must be approved by, the United States, any state, including the District of Columbia, territory, possession, or political subdivision thereof, or any agency or instrumentality (including a court of law) of any of the foregoing, and is subject to the continuing jurisdiction of that governmental authority.

A fund is ordered by or approved by a governmental authority when the authority issues its initial or preliminary order to establish, or grants its initial or preliminary approval of, the fund even if that order or approval may be subject to review or revision. Generally, a governmental authority's order or approval has no retroactive effect and does not permit a fund to be a qualified settlement fund prior to the date the order is issued or the approval is granted. However, see **Relation-back rule** below.

Arbitration panels. An arbitration award that orders the establishment of, or approves, a fund is an order or approval of a governmental authority if:

- The arbitration award is judicially enforceable.
- The arbitration award is issued following a bona fide arbitration proceeding in accordance with rules approved by a governmental authority (such as self-regulatory organization-administered arbitration proceedings in the securities industry).
- The fund is subject to the continuing jurisdiction of the arbitration panel, the court of law that has jurisdiction to enforce the arbitration award, or the governmental authority that approved the rules of the arbitration proceedings.

Resolve or satisfy requirement. To meet this requirement, a fund must be established to resolve or satisfy one or more contested or uncontested claims that have resulted, or may result, from an event (or a series of related events) that has occurred and that has given rise to at least one claim asserting liability:

- Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended,
- Arising out of a tort, breach of contract, or violation of law, or

- Designated by the IRS in a revenue ruling or revenue procedure.

Generally, a fund does not meet the resolve or satisfy requirement if it is established to resolve or satisfy a liability to provide property or services unless the transferor's obligation to provide property or services is extinguished by a transfer or transfers to the fund. An exception exists for liabilities to provide property or services if the liabilities are under CERCLA.

Segregation requirement. To meet this requirement, the fund must **(a)** be a trust under applicable state law or **(b)** keep its assets segregated from other assets of the transferor (and related persons). For example, cash held by a transferor in a separate bank account satisfies the segregation requirement.

Classification of fund prior to meeting all three requirements. If a fund meets the resolve or satisfy requirement, the assets of the fund are treated as owned by the transferor of those assets until the fund also meets the governmental order and the segregation requirements. On the day the fund meets all three requirements, the transferor is treated as transferring the assets to a qualified settlement fund.

Relation-back rule. If a fund meets the resolve or satisfy requirement and the segregation requirement before it meets the governmental order or approval requirement, the transferor and the administrator (defined on page 2) may jointly elect the relation-back election (defined below) to treat the fund as coming into existence as a qualified settlement fund on the later of **(a)** the date the fund meets the resolve or satisfy requirement and the segregation requirement or **(b)** January 1 of the calendar year in which all three requirements are satisfied.

If a relation-back election is made, the assets held by the fund on the date the qualified settlement fund is treated as coming into existence are treated as transferred to the qualified settlement fund on that date.

Relation-back election. Make the relation-back election by attaching a copy of the election statement to Form 1120-SF for the tax year in which the qualified settlement fund is treated as coming into existence. The statement must be signed by each transferor and the administrator. File Form 1120-SF and the election statement by the due date of Form 1120-SF, including extensions. The election statement must contain the following:

- The words "Regulations section 1.468B-1 Relation-Back Election" at the top of the first page.
- The name, address, and identifying number of each transferor.
- The name, address, and EIN of the qualified settlement fund.
- The date on which the qualified settlement fund is treated as coming into existence.
- A schedule describing each asset treated as transferred to the fund on the date the fund is treated as coming into existence. The schedule of assets does not have to identify the amount of cash or the property transferred by a particular transferor.

Qualified settlement fund treated as a corporation. Except as otherwise provided in Regulations section 1.468B-5(b), for purposes of subtitle F of the Internal Revenue Code, a qualified settlement fund is treated as a corporation and any tax imposed under Regulations section 1.468B-2(a) is treated as a tax imposed by section 11. See Regulations section 1.468B-2(k) for more information.

Designated Settlement Fund

A fund, account, or trust is a designated settlement fund if it meets the following requirements:

- It is established by a court order and completely extinguishes the taxpayer's tort liability.
- No amounts may be transferred to it other than in the form of a qualified payment (defined below).
- It must be administered by persons, a majority of whom are independent of the taxpayer.
- It is established for the principal purpose of resolving and satisfying present and future claims against the taxpayer arising out of personal injury, death, or property.
- The taxpayer may not hold any beneficial interest in the income or corpus of it.
- The taxpayer elects to have it treated as a designated settlement fund.

A **qualified payment** is any money or property that is transferred to a designated settlement fund under a court order other than:

- Any amount that may be transferred from the fund to the taxpayer (or any related person).
- The transfer of any stock or indebtedness of the taxpayer (or any related person).

Note. A designated settlement fund is taxed in the same manner as a qualified settlement fund. In addition, if a fund does not meet the requirements of a designated settlement fund but does meet the requirements of a qualified settlement fund, the fund is treated as a qualified settlement fund.

Specific Instructions

Period Covered

A qualified settlement fund's tax year is the calendar year.

Address

Include the suite, room, or other unit number after the street address. If the Post Office does not deliver mail to the street address and the fund or the administrator has a P.O. box, show the box number instead of the street address.

Employer Identification Number (EIN) of Fund

Enter the fund's EIN. If the fund does not have an EIN, it must apply for one on **Form SS-4**, Application for Employer Identification Number. If the fund has not received its EIN by the time the return is due, write "Applied for" in the space provided for the EIN. See Pub. 583 for details.

Final Return, Name Change, Address Change, and Amended Return

Indicate a final return, name change, address change, or amended return by checking the appropriate box. Use **Form 8822**, Change of Address, to notify the IRS of the new address.

Part I. Income and Deductions

Income

Note. Amounts transferred to the fund by or on behalf of a transferor are generally excluded from income.

Line 1. Taxable interest. Enter total taxable interest received or accrued during the tax year, including original issue discount. Do not include any tax-exempt interest here. Report tax-exempt interest as an item of information under **Additional Information**, on page 2, line 2.

Do not offset interest expense against interest income.

Line 3. Capital gain net income. Every sale or exchange of a capital asset must be reported in detail on **Schedule D (Form 1120)**, Capital Gains and Losses, even if there is no gain or loss.

Line 5. Other income. Enter other taxable income not reported on lines 1 through 4. List the type and amount of income on an attached schedule. If the fund has only one item of other income, describe it in parentheses on the dotted line next to the entry space for line 5.

Deductions

Note. Do not deduct:

- Expenses allocable to tax-exempt income (see section 265).
- Payments of claims made by the fund.
- Expenses incurred by, or on behalf of, claimants or transferors.

Line 11. Items of loss, deduction, or credit from a partnership interest. For tax years ending before 2003, a fund that holds a partnership interest it acquired before February 15, 1992, is allowed a deduction for its distributive share of that partnership's items of loss, deduction, or credits, described in section 702(a) that would be deductible in determining taxable income (in the case of a tax credit, the income tax liability) of a corporation. The deduction is allowed only to the extent of the fund's distributive share of that partnership's items of income and gains described in section 702(a) for that tax year. If the fund has an interest in more than one partnership, attach a schedule showing each partnership's items of loss, deduction, and credit, and that partnership's items of income or gain. Credits against tax are treated as deductions by dividing the amount of the credit by the fund's tax rate. See the instructions for line 16 below for the fund's tax rate for the year.

Note. Limitations on changes in partnership agreement and capital contribution and changes in a qualified settlement fund's distributive share of items of income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit are disregarded if:

- They result from a change in the terms of the partnership agreement after December 17, 1992, or from a capital contribution to the

partnership after December 17, 1992, unless the partnership agreement as in effect prior to December 18, 1992, requires the contribution, and

- A principal purpose of the change in the partnership agreement or capital contribution is to circumvent the limitations on deductions.

Line 12. Other deductions. Enter the total of other deductions not entered on lines 7 through 11. List the type and amount of deduction on an attached schedule. If the fund has only one item of other deduction, describe it in parentheses on the dotted line next to the entry space for line 12.

Line 13. Net operating loss deduction (NOL). Enter the total NOL carryovers from prior tax years, but do not enter more than the fund's taxable income. See **Pub. 536**, Net Operating Losses, and Regulations section 1.468B-2(b)(4) for more details.

Part II. Tax Computation

Line 15. Modified gross income. Modified gross income of a qualified settlement fund is its gross income, as defined in section 61, computed with certain modifications. See Regulations section 1.468B-2(b) for more information.

Line 16. Total tax. To determine the fund's tax, multiply the amount on line 15 by the tax rate for the tax year that the return is being filed. Enter the result on line 16.

For tax year...	The tax rate is...
2001	39.1%
2002 and 2003	38.6%
2004 and 2005	37.6%
2006 and later	35%

Line 17. Credits and payments. No credits or payments are allowed other than those on lines 17a through 17e.

Line 18. Estimated tax penalty. A fund that does not make estimated tax payments when due may be subject to an underpayment penalty for the period of underpayment. Generally, a fund is subject to the penalty if its tax liability is \$500 or more, and it did not timely pay the smaller of:

- Its current year tax liability or
- Its prior year's tax.

See section 6655 for details and exceptions, including special rules for large funds.

Use **Form 2220**, Underpayment of Estimated Tax by Corporations, to see if the fund owes a penalty and to figure the amount of the penalty. Generally, the fund does not have to file this form because the IRS can figure the amount of any penalty and bill the fund for it.

If Form 2220 is attached, check the box on line 18 and enter the amount of any penalty on that line.

See Form 2220 for other information that may apply.

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.

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 section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is:

Recordkeeping 18 hr., 39 min.

Learning about the law or the form 2 hr., 43 min.

Preparing the form 5 hr., 0 min.

Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS 32 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Tax Forms Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001.

Do not send the tax form to this address. Instead, see **Where To File** on page 1.