

**INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE**



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Dear 

We are responding to correspondence requesting automatic relief in order to establish 2001 as the effective taxable year for your S corporation election. The information forwarded to our office is insufficient for automatic relief. Although we are unable to respond to your request as submitted, this letter provides information relating to your request.

Announcement 97-4 (copy enclosed) provides guidance on seeking relief for late S corporation elections. Generally, to request relief for a late S corporation election you must request a private letter ruling from the National Office. The procedures for requesting a private letter ruling are set out in Revenue Procedure 2002-1 (copy enclosed). In addition, Rev. Proc. 2002-1 requires taxpayers to submit a user fee along with their ruling request. The standard user fee for a private letter ruling is \$6,000. However, taxpayers with gross income of less than \$1 million on their tax return for the most recent 12-month taxable year, qualify for a **reduced user fee** in the amount of \$500. If you qualify for the reduced fee, you must include a statement certifying your gross income for the last 12-month taxable year. Otherwise, the higher fee will apply.

In Revenue Procedure 97-48 (copy attached) the Internal Revenue Service provides special procedures that permit taxpayers in certain situations to obtain automatic (no fee) late S corporation relief instead of applying for a private letter ruling.

If you decide to submit a formal request for a private letter ruling, please review Appendix B of Rev. Proc. 2002-1, and be certain to include all required procedural statements. Also include the proper user fee and any documents that substantiate your intent to be an S corporation from inception. Please refer your request to our office by adding the following to the address:

Attn: CC:PA:T  
P.O. Box 7604  
Ben Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044

Direct to: CC:PSI:1  
Room 5002

In addition, the IRS has developed two new CD-ROMs to help educate small business owners on their tax responsibilities: (1) *Introduction to Federal Taxes for Small Business/Self-Employed*; and (2) *A Virtual Small Business Workshop*. These two CD-ROMs are free and can be ordered by calling 1-800-829-3676. The IRS also provides a special website, [www.irs.gov/smallbiz](http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz) which is dedicated to providing information to small business taxpayers.

Please keep this letter with your tax records and feel free to provide a copy of it to your authorized representative. We hope that the above information proves helpful.

Sincerely yours,

**/s/ Dianna K. Miosi**

DIANNA K. MIOSI  
Chief, Branch 1  
Associate Chief Counsel  
(Passthroughs and Special Industries)

Enclosures:

Announcement 97-4  
Rev. Proc. 2002-1  
Rev. Proc. 97-48