

THE Wisconsin Accountant

2011 Seminars

May 13
Technology
by Bob Jennings
Green Bay
Radisson Hotel
(800) 333-3333

June 23 - 24
Summer Seminar
Estates & Trusts
by Bob Jennings
Madison
Sheraton Hotel
(608) 251-2300

September 18 - 20
WAA Annual Convention
Waukesha
Marriott Milwaukee West
(877) 651-7666

October 3 - 4
Bob Jennings
Business Entities
Wisconsin Dells
Kalahari Resort
(877) 254-5466

October 24 - 25
Federal Tax Update
Wausau
Stoney Creek Inn
(715) 355-6858

November 7 - 8
Gear Up 1040
Waukesha
Country Springs Hotel
(800) 247-6640

November 28 - 29
Bob Jennings
1040 Update
Wisconsin Dells
Kalahari Resort
(877) 254-5466

December 5 - 6
Gear Up 1040
Hudson
Hudson House Inn
(715) 386-2394

Wisconsin Association of Accountants ■ 1-800-237-4080 - 715-425-0482 - www.wiassociationofaccountants.com

2011 Treatment of Health Savings Accounts

Submitted by Wisconsin Department of Revenue

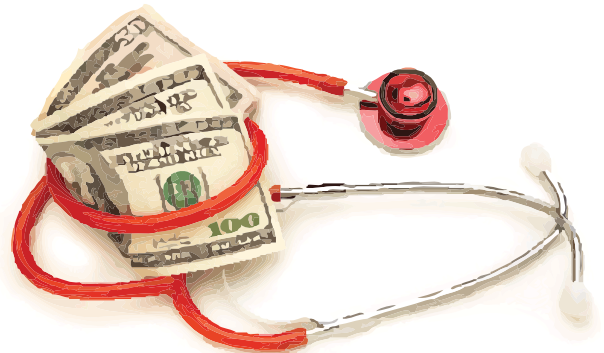
2011 Wisconsin Act 1 adopted the federal treatment of health savings accounts (HSAs) for Wisconsin. The Wisconsin treatment of HSAs will be the same as the federal treatment, effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2011.

For example:

- A deduction is allowed for the amount contributed to an HSA by an individual.
- The amounts contributed by an employer to an HSA (including contributions made through a cafeteria plan) are not taxable wages to the employee.
- The interest or other earnings on the assets in the HSA are tax free.
- Amounts distributed from the HSA are not taxable if used to pay qualified medical expenses.
- Rollovers from an Archer medical savings account or qualified distributions from a health flexible spending account or a health reimbursement arrangement to an HSA are not included in income.
- Amounts distributed from an HSA that are not used to pay qualified medical expenses must be included in income and are subject to a penalty.

For federal tax purposes for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, there is an additional 20% tax on distributions not used for qualified medical expenses (except in the case of disability, reaching age 65, or death). If an individual is subject to this federal penalty, there is a Wisconsin penalty equal to 33 percent of the federal penalty.

Information on the 2010 treatment of HSAs and on how individuals should report the differences between the federal and Wisconsin law is available on the department's web site at www.revenue.wi.gov/taxpro/news/080212.html. ■



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Executive Corner . . .



**Byron Dopkins,
Executive Director**

The end of tax season is near. I trust yours is going well and you will finish on time!

Please take a moment to review our two seminar offerings to be held in May and June. Look for your Spring/Summer registration brochure in the mail at the end of March. The seminar information is also on our website. Please check it out -www.wiassociationofaccountants.com

Byron L Dopkins, EA, ABA
WAA Executive Director

From the President . . .



**Thomas Adler,
President**

Wherever you turn, you find another tax return. Our season is here. Hopefully you quickly adjusted into preparing business and individual tax returns with ease. The first ones go slower, but you pick up your speed and confidence quickly. Remember you have your seminar books to help you and can contact other association members for help with challenging situations.

Listen to your clients for additional fee opportunities after tax season and make a list of additional service possibilities as you prepare their returns. Your clients appreciate your interest in helping them.

Be sure to take some time off to rest and spend with your family and friends. A refreshed body and rested mind can produce lots of work.

Thomas M. Adler, CPA, ATA, ATP
WAA President

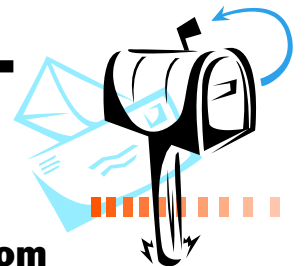
WATCH YOUR MAIL

for your Spring/Summer Seminar

Registration Brochure or go to

www.wiassociationofaccountants.com

for a complete listing of seminar information.



WAA Benefits

- Seminars and Educational Forums
- Accreditation
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- Insurance Programs
- Accountants Protection Plan

WAA Objectives

- To raise professional standards and improve the practice of accountancy.
- To strive for excellence in the profession.
- To encourage accountants in a continuing program of professional development.
- To foster increased recognition for the professional in the public, private and educational sectors of our state.
- To initiate legislative action and provide government liaison between the accounting profession and government leaders.
- To provide meetings and fellowship for accountants.
- To promote the highest standard of ethical conduct among its member.

Treasury Launches Pilot Program of Prepaid Debit and Payroll Cards for Fast, Safe and Convenient Tax Refunds

Submitted by IRS

WASHINGTON – Timed for tax season, the U.S. Department of the Treasury launched a pilot today to offer taxpayers a safe, convenient and low-cost financial account for the electronic delivery of their federal tax refunds. The new account card option provides everyday money-saving conveniences and consumer protection features for Americans with limited or no access to traditional banking services.

“This pilot program will provide low- and moderate-income Americans with a low-cost option for faster delivery of their federal tax refund,” said Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Neal Wolin. “This innovative card can be used for everyday financial transactions, such as receiving wages by direct deposit, withdrawing cash, making purchases, paying bills and building savings safely and conveniently, giving users more control over their financial futures.”

As the next step in this pilot, originally announced in September, Treasury will mail letters next week to 600,000 low- and moderate-income individuals nationwide. The letters will invite these taxpayers to consider activating a MyAccountCard Visa® Prepaid Debit Card in time to have their 2010 federal tax refund direct deposited to the card. Compared to paper checks, direct deposit provides a safer, faster and more convenient way to receive a federal tax refund as well as other regular income.

Also this week, Treasury began a companion pilot to encourage tens of thousands of current and potential payroll card users to direct deposit their 2010 federal tax refund onto existing payroll cards. Nationwide, more than 1.7 million workers use payroll cards to receive and access their wages, often because they do not have bank accounts. Working with ADP, a provider of payroll services, Treasury will highlight the safety, ease and convenience of direct deposit onto payroll cards through tax season communications, including materials distributed with pay statements.

The letters mailed to taxpayers about MyAccountCard contain information about the card’s features, including free services and the fee structure for optional services. Many of the features, including free point-of-sale transactions, free online bill pay, free ATM cash withdrawals at more than 15,000 ATM machines nationwide, and free cash back at participating retail stores, will help cardholders limit the costs of using the card. The information also explains how to sign up, and how to use the card to receive a federal tax refund and conduct everyday financial transactions.

As part of the pilot, Treasury will randomly offer several different variations of MyAccountCard in order to evaluate which product features, fee structures and marketing messages generate the greatest positive response from taxpayers. The results of the pilot will help determine the benefits and feasibility of a card account as an integrated part of the tax filing and refund process.

The Visa ® branded MyAccountCard will be issued by Bonneville Bank, acting as Treasury’s financial agent and pursuant to a license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc., with additional services provided by Bonneville Bank through its program manager, Green Dot® Corporation, a prepaid financial services company. Bonneville Bank, Visa® and Green Dot® will offer MyAccountCard cardholders a wide variety of card features, reliable customer service support by telephone and Internet, and a large nationwide reload network.

Continued on page 4

Treasury Launches Pilot Program of Prepaid Debit and Payroll Cards for Fast, Safe and Convenient Tax Refunds

Continued from page 3

The tax-time pilots build on the Obama Administration's continuing efforts to increase electronic payments and to empower Americans to make informed financial decisions. For example, those who receive Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and other types of federal benefits already have the choice to get their payments through the Direct Express® Debit MasterCard® card, which was designed for federal benefit recipients and is recommended by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

More information about MyAccountCard can be found at www.myaccountcard.gov. ■



Reminder of Attachments for Adoption Credit Claims

Submitted by Ashwaubenon Tax Professionals

Just in case you missed or forgot the requirements relating to filing tax returns having the adoption credit, IRS Notice 2010-66 states these returns have to be paper filed. It also states all adoption credit claims must have substantiation documents attached. There are documents relating to the finalization of the adoption, taxpayer in the process of adopting, and taxpayers who adopted a special needs child. The Notice covers the requirements quite well, so we have copied it into this email article. It does not specifically say whether the requested documentation applies to adoptions from prior years that are carried to the current year, but we are recommending the documentation be attached in an effort to help avoid unnecessary delays. Here is the portion of the Notice on substantiation.

Substantiation Requirements

A taxpayer must provide a copy (unless otherwise specified) of the applicable documents described in paragraph a. or b. below to substantiate the taxpayer's adoption or attempted adoption of an eligible child. A taxpayer also must comply with paragraph c. below for a special needs adoption. The taxpayer attaches the document(s) to the taxpayer's income tax return for the taxable year that the taxpayer claims the credit, beginning after December 31, 2009.

a. Domestic and foreign adoptions that have been finalized

(1) For a domestic or foreign adoption finalized in the United States, an adoption order or decree.

(2) For a foreign adoption governed by the Hague Convention and finalized in another country:

- A. A Hague Adoption Certificate (Immigrating Child),
- B. An IH-3 visa, or
- C. A foreign adoption decree, translated into English.

(3) For a foreign adoption from a country that is not party to the Hague Convention:

- A. A foreign adoption decree, translated into English, or
- B. An IR-2 or IR-3 visa.

b. Domestic adoptions that are not final

(1) An adoption taxpayer identification number, obtained by the taxpayer for the child, included on the taxpayer's income tax return (instead of attaching a document),

(2) A home study completed by an authorized placement agency,

(3) A placement agreement with an authorized placement agency,

(4) A document signed by a hospital official authorizing the release of a newborn child from the hospital to the taxpayer for legal adoption,

(5) A court document ordering or approving the placement of a child with the taxpayer for legal adoption, or

(6) An original affidavit or notarized statement signed under penalties of perjury from an adoption attorney, government official, or other person, stating that the signor:

- A. Placed or is placing a child with the taxpayer for legal adoption, or
- B. Is facilitating the adoption process for the taxpayer in an official capacity, summarizing the facilitation.

Continued on page 5

Reminder of Attachments for Adoption Credit Claims

Continued from page 4

c. Adoptions of special needs children

In addition to the documentation required under paragraph 2.a. of this notice, a taxpayer claiming the adoption credit for a child with special needs must attach a copy of the state determination of special needs to the taxpayers income tax return for the taxable year that the taxpayer claims the adoption credit for a child with special needs.

d. Information to be included in documentation

An order or decree must include information that establishes that the taxpayers adoption of the eligible child has been finalized and the date finalized, and a special needs determination must include information that establishes that the state has made a determination of special needs for the eligible child. A taxpayer may redact sensitive personal information from an adoption order or decree or a special needs determination. However, the Internal Revenue Service may require the taxpayer to provide an unredacted copy of the document if needed to substantiate the claim for the credit.

The entire Notice 2010-66 can be found at www.irs.gov/pub/ under irs-drop and clicking on n-10-66. ■



Why Employees and Retirees may see Changes in 2011 Payments and Withholding

Submitted by IRS

Special Edition Tax Tip 2011-01, February 10, 2011

The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization and Job Creation Act of 2010, enacted on December 17, 2010, included several changes impacting workers' take-home pay and retirees' net pension checks for 2011. The Tax Relief Act extended for two years the income tax rates that were scheduled to expire at the end of 2010; that extension prevented a large increase in federal income tax withholding.

However, the new law did not extend the Making Work Pay (MWP) credit that had been available for tax years 2009 and 2010. While most workers qualified for the maximum MWP credit, pension recipients did not qualify for any MWP credit unless they also had wages or other earned income.

In December 2010, the IRS published new federal income tax withholding information to reflect the impact of the Tax Relief Act. The fact that the MWP credit expired, by itself, would have resulted in increased withholding for most taxpayers. However, under the Tax Relief Act, withholding for social security tax for all wage earners was reduced from 6.2% to 4.2% (withholding for Medicare, at 1.45%, did not change). For most employees, the net effect of these two changes will result in less total tax being withheld from their checks. The social security tax reduction does not affect pension payments.

Due to the late enactment of these tax law changes, the IRS asked employers and plan administrators to adjust their systems as soon as possible but not later than January 31, 2011. This means employees and pension recipients may not have seen the full impact of these changes until their first paycheck in February, 2011.

Once employers implement the changes, there will be a net increase in take-home pay for most employees (excluding the impact of any other withholding amounts, such as withholding for health insurance, state income taxes, etc.).

Once pension plan administrators implement the 2011 changes, the retirement check payments for some pensioners may be lower depending upon the method that their plan administrators used to calculate withholding in 2010. Because the MWP credit did not apply to pensioners, the IRS published a table for 2009 and 2010 giving plan administrators the option of increasing withholding for their pension recipients. Not all plan administrators made the optional adjustment and instead allowed pensioners to make the adjustment when they filed their tax returns. Since the 2011 withholding tables do not reflect the expired credit, pension recipients in this situation are likely to see the withholding for their 2011 pension payments increase by approximately \$7 to \$50 per payment, depending on filing status, the amount of the payment, and how often the payment is made.

IRS encourages both employees and pensioners to review their withholding every year using the withholding calculator on IRS.gov and, if necessary, fill out a new W-4 or W-4P form and give it to their employer or pension plan administrator. ■

Links:

[IRS Withholding Calculator](#)

[Form W-4P, Withholding Certificate for Pension or Annuity Payments](#)

[Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate](#)

[Making Work Pay Credit](#)

INTEREST RATES INCREASE FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2011

Submitted by IRS

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today announced that interest rates for the calendar quarter beginning April 1, 2011, will increase by one percentage point. The rates will be:

- four (4) percent for overpayments (three (3) percent in the case of a corporation);
- four (4) percent for underpayments;
- six (6) percent for large corporate underpayments; and one and one-half (1.5) percent for the portion of a corporate overpayment exceeding \$10,000.

Under the Internal Revenue Code, the rate of interest is determined on a quarterly basis. For taxpayers other than corporations, the overpayment and underpayment rate is the federal short-term rate plus 3 percentage points.

Generally, in the case of a corporation, the underpayment rate is the federal short-term rate plus 3 percentage points and the overpayment rate is the federal short-term rate plus 2 percentage points. The rate for large corporate underpayments is the federal short-term rate plus 5 percentage points.

The rate on the portion of a corporate overpayment of tax exceeding \$10,000 for a taxable period is the federal short-term rate plus one-half (0.5) of a percentage point. Additionally, the rate for determining the addition to tax for failure to pay estimated tax for the first 15 days in April 2011 is the 4 percent rate that applied to underpayments of tax during the first calendar quarter in 2011.

The interest rates announced today are computed from the federal short-term rate during January 2011 to take effect February 1, 2011, based on daily compounding.

Revenue Ruling 2011-5, announcing the rates of interest will appear in Internal Revenue Bulletin No. 2011-13, dated March 28, 2011.

IRS Begins Processing Tax Forms Affected by Late Tax Changes; Taxpayers can e-File Immediately

Submitted by IRS

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service announced today it has started processing individual tax returns affected by legislation enacted in December and reminded taxpayers that they can begin filing electronically immediately.

On Monday, IRS systems began to accept and process both e-file and paper tax returns claiming itemized deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A, as well as deductions for state and local sales tax, higher education tuition and fees and educator expenses.

“The IRS is now accepting all the 1040 forms,” IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman said. “We worked hard to update our systems and get the changes in place as quickly as possible. We appreciate the patience of those impacted by the delay. We urge taxpayers to use e-file with direct deposit, and they can get their refunds within days.”

In late December 2010, the IRS announced it would delay processing of some tax returns in order to update processing systems to accommodate the late tax law changes. These tax law provisions were extended by the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization and Job Creation Act of 2010, which became law on Dec. 17.

For the vast majority of taxpayers, the filing season this year began on time in January. Most taxpayers claiming itemized deductions and the other delayed forms file later in the year.

The IRS urged taxpayers who haven't filed yet to use e-file instead of paper tax forms to ensure accuracy and to get refunds fast. Taxpayers can do their taxes for free through Free File, which is brand-name software or online fillable forms. Free File is available exclusively at www.irs.gov/freefile. Anyone who makes \$58,000 or less can use Free File software. There are no income limits to online fillable forms. Both Free File software and Free File Fillable Forms allow taxpayers to prepare and e-file their federal returns for free.

The IRS worked closely with the tax software industry and the tax professional community during the reprogramming process to minimize disruptions for taxpayers and ensure a smooth tax season.

As a result of these efforts, many major software providers and paid tax preparers started accepting impacted returns before the Feb. 14 start date, which they held and started submitting after the IRS systems opened.

Due to the expected increase in tax return volumes being transmitted this week, the IRS cautioned a small number of taxpayers may experience a brief delay in receiving their e-file acknowledgement, which is normally provided within 24-48 hours. The IRS continues working with the software industry to minimize any impact to taxpayers.

Business taxpayers who use the 1040 series can file now as well. However, the Feb. 14 start date does not apply to non-1040 business tax forms (add link) affected by the recent tax law changes. The IRS will announce a specific date in the near future when it can begin processing those impacted business tax forms.

Updated information has been posted on IRS.gov, including Schedule A and updated state and local sales tax tables. For a complete list of affected individual tax forms and business tax forms visit www.IRS.gov. ■

IRS Announces New Effort to Help Struggling Taxpayers Get a Fresh Start; Major Changes Made to Lien Process

Submitted by NSA

WASHINGTON — In its latest effort to help struggling taxpayers, the Internal Revenue Service today announced a series of new steps to help people get a fresh start with their tax liabilities.

The goal is to help individuals and small businesses meet their tax obligations, without adding unnecessary burden to taxpayers. Specifically, the IRS is announcing new policies and programs to help taxpayers pay back taxes and avoid tax liens.

“We are making fundamental changes to our lien system and other collection tools that will help taxpayers and give them a fresh start,” IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman said. “These steps are good for people facing tough times, and they reflect a responsible approach for the tax system.”

Today’s announcement centers on the IRS making important changes to its lien filing practices that will lessen the negative impact on taxpayers. The changes include:

- Significantly increasing the dollar threshold when liens are generally issued, resulting in fewer tax liens.
- Making it easier for taxpayers to obtain lien withdrawals after paying a tax bill.
- Withdrawing liens in most cases where a taxpayer enters into a Direct Debit Installment Agreement.
- Creating easier access to Installment Agreements for more struggling small businesses.
- Expanding a streamlined Offer in Compromise program to cover more taxpayers.

“These steps are in the best interest of both taxpayers and the tax system,” Shulman said. “People will have a better chance to stay current on their taxes and keep their financial house in order. We all benefit if that happens.”

This is another in a series of steps to help struggling taxpayers. In 2008, the IRS announced lien relief for people trying to refinance or sell a home. In 2009, the IRS added new flexibility for taxpayers facing payment or collection problems. And last year, the IRS held about 1,000 special open houses to help small businesses and individuals resolve tax issues with the Agency.

Today’s announcement comes after a review of collection operations which Shulman launched last year, as well as input from the Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council and the National Taxpayer Advocate.

Tax Lien Thresholds

The IRS will significantly increase the dollar thresholds when liens are generally filed. The new dollar amount is in keeping with inflationary changes since the number was last revised. Currently, liens are automatically filed at certain dollar levels for people with past-due balances.

The IRS plans to review the results and impact of the lien threshold change in about a year.

A federal tax lien gives the IRS a legal claim to a taxpayer’s property for the amount of an unpaid tax debt. Filing a Notice of Federal Tax Lien is necessary to establish priority rights against certain other creditors. Usually the government is not the only creditor to whom the taxpayer owes money.

Direct Debit Installment Agreements and Liens

A lien informs the public that the U.S. government has a claim against all property, and any rights to property, of the taxpayer. This includes property owned at the time the notice of lien is filed and any acquired thereafter. A lien can affect a taxpayer’s credit rating, so it is critical to arrange the payment of taxes as quickly as possible.

“Raising the lien threshold keeps pace with inflation and makes sense for the tax system,” Shulman said. “These changes mean tens of thousands of people won’t be burdened by liens, and this step will take place without significantly increasing the financial risk to the government.”

Tax Lien Withdrawals

The IRS will also modify procedures that will make it easier for taxpayers to obtain lien withdrawals.

Liens will now be withdrawn once full payment of taxes is made if the taxpayer requests it. The IRS has determined that this approach is in the best interest of the government.

In order to speed the withdrawal process, the IRS will also streamline its internal procedures to allow collection personnel to withdraw the liens. **Continued on page 8**

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IRS Announces New Effort to Help Struggling Taxpayers Get a Fresh Start; Major Changes Made to Lien Process Continued from page 7

The IRS is making other fundamental changes to liens in cases where taxpayers enter into a Direct Debit Installment Agreement (DDIA). For taxpayers with unpaid assessments of \$25,000 or less, the IRS will now allow lien withdrawals under several scenarios:

- Lien withdrawals for taxpayers entering into a Direct Debit Installment Agreement.
- The IRS will withdraw a lien if a taxpayer on a regular Installment Agreement converts to a Direct Debit Installment Agreement.
- The IRS will also withdraw liens on existing Direct Debit Installment agreements upon taxpayer request.

Liens will be withdrawn after a probationary period demonstrating that direct debit payments will be honored.

In addition, this lowers user fees and saves the government money from mailing monthly payment notices. Taxpayers can use the Online Payment Agreement application on IRS.gov to set-up with Direct Debit Installment Agreements.

“We are trying to minimize burden on taxpayers while collecting the proper amount of tax,” Shulman said. “We believe taking away taxpayer burden makes sense when a taxpayer has taken the proactive step of entering a direct debit agreement.”

Installment Agreements and Small Businesses

The IRS will also make streamlined Installment Agreements available to more small businesses. The payment program will raise the dollar limit to allow additional small businesses to participate.

Small businesses with \$25,000 or less in unpaid tax can participate. Currently, only small businesses with under \$10,000 in liabilities can participate. Small businesses will have 24 months to pay.

The streamlined Installment Agreements will be available for small businesses that file either as an individual or as a business. Small businesses with an unpaid assessment balance greater than \$25,000 would qualify for the streamlined Installment Agreement if they pay down the balance to \$25,000 or less.

Small businesses will need to enroll in a Direct Debit Installment Agreement to participate.

“Small businesses are an important part of the nation’s economy, and the IRS should help them when we can,” Shulman said, “By expanding payment options, we can help small businesses pay their tax bill while freeing up cash flow to keep funding their operations.”

Offers in Compromise

The IRS is also expanding a new streamlined Offer in Compromise (OIC) program to cover a larger group of struggling taxpayers.

This streamlined OIC is being expanded to allow taxpayers with annual incomes up to \$100,000 to participate. In addition, participants must have tax liability of less than \$50,000, doubling the current limit of \$25,000 or less.

OICs are subject to acceptance based on legal requirements. An offer-in-compromise is an agreement between a taxpayer and the IRS that settles the taxpayer’s tax liabilities for less than the full amount owed. Generally, an offer will not be accepted if the IRS believes that the liability can be paid in full as a lump sum or through a payment agreement. The IRS looks at the taxpayer’s income and assets to make a determination regarding the taxpayer’s ability to pay. ■

More Taxpayers Are Filing From Home in 2011, Free File Options Abound

Submitted by IRS

WASHINGTON — Almost 19 million tax returns have been filed with the IRS from home computers so far this year, an increase of almost 6 percent compared to the number of returns from the same time last year.

IRS reminds taxpayers that everyone can use Free File to prepare and e-file their tax returns for free, either by using brand name software or Free File Fillable Forms, which is the electronic version of IRS paper forms. Individuals or families with 2010 adjusted gross incomes of \$58,000 or less can use Free File software. Using Free File Fillable Forms has no income restrictions.

Free File software is a product of a public-private partnership between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, LLC. The Alliance is a consortium of approximately 20 tax software providers who make versions of their products available exclusively on line. All Free File members must meet certain security requirements and use the latest in encryption technology to protect taxpayers' information.

The easiest way to locate a software provider is to use the online tool that, with a little of a taxpayer's personal information, can identify matching products. Or, taxpayers can review all providers and their offers. Some software providers also offer state income tax preparation for free or for a fee.

This is the third year that the Free File Alliance has provided the Free Fillable Forms program, which is like completing a Form 1040 online, except the program performs some math calculations and provides links to some IRS publications. However, it does not use the familiar question-and-answer format used by tax preparation software. It also does not support state income tax returns. Taxpayers can e-file the forms for free. Taxpayers must access the tax products through IRS.gov to avoid any charges for preparing or e-filing a federal tax return.

The total number of individual income tax returns that have been e-filed this year is 46.9 million, an increase of 2 percent from the same time last year. E-file includes both returns filed from home computers and returns e-filed by professional tax return preparers.

2011 FILING SEASON STATISTICS

Cumulative through the weeks ending 02/26/10 and 02/25/11

Individual Income Tax Returns	2010	2011	% Change
Total Receipts	53,556,000	51,927,000	-3.0%
Total Processed	49,751,000	49,278,000	-1.0%
E-filing Receipts:			
TOTAL	45,873,000	46,868,000	2.2%
Tax Professionals	28,048,000	27,983,000	-0.2%
Self-prepared	17,826,000	18,885,000	5.9%
Web Usage:			
Visits to IRS.gov	98,691,224	107,028,830	8.5
Total Refunds:			
Number	45,544,000	45,077,000	-1.0%
Amount	\$143.417 Billion	\$141.054 Billion	-1.6%
Average refund	\$3,149	\$3,129	-0.6%
Direct Deposit Refunds:			
Number	39,569,000	39,821,000	0.6%
Amount	\$130.774 Billion	\$129.684 Billion	-0.8%
Average refund	\$3,305	\$3,257	-1.5%