Note: *The draft you are looking for begins on the next page.*

Caution: *DRAFT—NOT FOR FILING*

This is an early release draft of an IRS tax form, instructions, or publication, which the IRS is providing for your information. **Do not file draft forms**. We incorporate all significant changes to forms posted with this coversheet. However, unexpected issues occasionally arise, or legislation is passed—in this case, we will post a new draft of the form to alert users that changes were made to the previously posted draft. Thus, there are never any changes to the last posted draft of a form and the final revision of the form. Forms and instructions are subject to OMB approval before they can be officially released, so we post drafts of them until they are approved. Drafts of instructions and pubs usually have some additional changes before their final release. Early release drafts are at IRS.gov/DraftForms and remain there after the final release is posted at IRS.gov/LatestForms. Also see IRS.gov/Forms.

Most forms and publications have a page on IRS.gov: IRS.gov/Form1040 for Form 1040; IRS.gov/Pub501 for Pub. 501; IRS.gov/W4 for Form W-4; and IRS.gov/ScheduleA for Schedule A (Form 1040), for example, and similarly for other forms, pubs, and schedules for Form 1040. When typing in a link, type it into the address bar of your browser, not a Search box on IRS.gov.

If you wish, you can submit comments to the IRS about draft or final forms, instructions, or pubs at IRS.gov/FormsComments. Include “NTF” followed by the form or pub number (for example, “NTF1040”, “NTFW4”, “NTF501”, etc.) in the body of the message to route your message properly. We cannot respond to all comments due to the high volume we receive and may not be able to consider many suggestions until the subsequent revision of the product, but we will review each “NTF” message. If you have comments on reducing paperwork and respondent (filer) burden, with respect to draft or final forms, please respond to the relevant information collection through the Federal Register process; for more info, click here.

TREASURY/IRS AND OMB USE ONLY DRAFT

Instructions for Form 8928

(Rev. December 2025)

For Use With Form 8928 (Rev. December 2025)

Return of Certain Excise Taxes Under Chapter 43 of the Internal Revenue Code

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

Future Developments

For the latest information about Form 8928 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to *IRS.gov/Form8928*.

What's New

Direct deposit and electronic payments. If you have access to U.S. banking services or electronic payment systems, you should use direct deposit for any refunds. The IRS also recommends paying electronically whenever possible. Options to pay electronically include using your bank account with *Direct Pay*, your debit or credit card, your digital wallet, or your IRS Online Account. Go to *IRS.gov/Payments*, to see your payment options.

Increased failure-to-file penalty. The minimum penalty under section 6651(a) for the failure to file Form 8928 within 60 days of the due date has increased to the smaller of the tax due or $525.

General Instructions

Purpose of Form

File Form 8928 to report the tax due on the following failures by group health plans or employers.

- A failure to provide a level of coverage of the costs of pediatric vaccines (as defined in section 2612 of the Public Health Services Act) that is not below the coverage provided as of May 1, 1993.
- A failure to satisfy continuation coverage requirements under section 4980B.
- A failure to meet portability, access, renewability, and market reform requirements under sections 9801, 9802, 9803, 9811, 9812, 9813, 9815, 9816, 9817, 9818, 9819, 9820, 9822, 9823, 9824, and 9825.
- A failure to make comparable Archer medical savings account (MSA) contributions under section 4980E.
- A failure to make comparable health savings account (HSA) contributions under section 4980G.

Who Must File

Form 8928 must be filed by the following.

1. Any employer, group health plan, plan administrator, or plan sponsor liable for the tax under section 4980B for failure to provide the required level of pediatric vaccine coverage or to offer continuation coverage to a qualified beneficiary.

2. Any employer or group health plan liable for the tax under section 4980D for failure to meet portability, access, renewability, and market reform requirements for group health plans under sections 9801, 9802, 9803, 9811, 9812, 9813, 9815, 9816, 9817, 9818, 9819, 9820, 9822, 9823, 9824, and 9825.

3. Any employer liable for the tax under section 4980E for failure to make comparable Archer MSA contributions for all participating employees.

4. Any employer liable for the tax under section 4980G for failure to make comparable HSA contributions for all participating employees.

When To File

For a failure under section 4980B or section 4980D, if the failure is by an employer or other person responsible for providing or administering benefits under the plan (such as an insurer or third-party administrator), file Form 8928 on or before the due date for filing the person's federal income tax return.

If the failure under section 4980B or section 4980D is by a multiemployer or multiple employer plan, file Form 8928 on or before the last day of the seventh month following the end of the plan year.

For a failure under section 4980E or section 4980G, file Form 8928 on or before the 15th day of the 4th month following the calendar year in which the noncomparable contributions were made.

Extension. File Form 7004, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File Certain Business Income Tax, Information, and Other Returns, to request an automatic extension of time to file Form 8928. You must file Form 7004 on or before the regular due date of Form 8928. See the Instructions for Form 7004 for more information. Form 7004 does not extend the time to pay excise taxes due under Form 8928.

Where To File

Send Form 8928 to the following address.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service Center
Kansas City, MO 64999

Private delivery services (PDSs).

Filers can use certain PDSs designated by the IRS to meet the "timely mailing as timely filing/paying" rule for tax returns and payments. Go to *IRS.gov/PDS*, for the current list of PDSs.

The PDS can tell you how to get written proof of the mailing date.

For the IRS mailing address to use if you're using a PDS, go to *IRS.gov/PDSStreetAddresses*.

Note: PDSs can't deliver items to P.O. boxes. You must use the U.S. Postal Service to mail any item to an IRS P.O. box address.

Interest and Penalties

Interest. Interest is charged on taxes not paid by the due date even if an extension of time to file is granted. Interest is also charged on penalties imposed from the due date, including extensions, to the date of payment for failure to file, negligence,

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fraud, gross valuation overstatements, and substantial understatements of tax. The interest rate is determined under section 6621.

Penalty for late filing of return. If you do not file a return by the due date, including extensions, you may have to pay a penalty of 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 $525 or 100% of the tax due. This amount reflects the annual inflation adjustment for tax year 2025. The penalty will not be imposed if you can show that the failure to file on time was due to reasonable cause. If you file late, you must attach a statement to Form 8928 explaining the reasonable cause.

Penalty for late payment of tax. If you do not pay the tax when due, you may have to pay a penalty of 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 you can show that the failure to pay on time was due to reasonable cause.

Interest and penalties for late filing and late payment will be billed separately after the return is filed.

Claim for Refund or Credit/Amended Return

File an amended Form 8928 for any of the following.

- To claim a refund of overpaid taxes reportable on Form 8928.
- To receive a credit for overpaid taxes.
- To report additional taxes due within the same tax year of the filer if those taxes have the same due date as those previously reported.

File an amended return by writing "Amended Return" at the top of Form 8928 and completing the appropriate part.

If you file an amended return to claim a refund or credit, the claim must state in detail the reasons for claiming the refund. In order for the IRS to promptly consider your claim, you must explain why you are filing the claim and provide the appropriate supporting evidence. See Regulations section 301.6402-2 for more details.

Specific Instructions

Filer tax year. Enter the tax year of the employer, entity, or individual on whom the tax is imposed by using the plan year beginning and ending dates entered in Part I of Form 5500 or by using the tax year of the business return filed, if applicable.

Item A. Name and address of filer. Enter the name and address of the employer, individual, or other entity who is liable for the tax.

Include the suite, room, or other unit numbers after the street number. If the post office does not deliver mail to the street address and you have a P.O. box, show the box number instead of the street address.

If the entity has a foreign address, enter the information in the following order: city or town, state or province, and country. Follow the country's practice for entering the postal code. Do not abbreviate the country name.

Item C. Name of plan. Enter the formal name of the plan, name of the plan sponsor, or name of the insurance company or financial institution of the direct filing entity (DFE). In the case of a group insurance arrangement (GIA), enter the name of the trust or other entity that holds the insurance contract. In the case of a master trust investment account (MTIA), enter the name of the sponsoring employers.

If the plan covers only the employees of one employer, enter the employer's name or enough information to identify the plan. This should be the same name indicated on the Form 5500 series return/report if that form is required to be filed for the plan.

Item D. Name and address of plan sponsor. The term "plan sponsor" means:

1. The employer, for a group health plan established or maintained by a single employer;
2. The employee organization, in the case of a plan of an employee organization; or
3. The association, committee, joint board of trustees, or other similar group of representatives of the parties who establish or maintain the plan, if the group health plan is established or maintained jointly by one or more employers and one or more employee organizations, or by two or more employers.

Include the suite, room, or other unit numbers after the street number. If the post office does not deliver mail to the street address and you have a P.O. box, show the box number instead of the street address.

If the plan sponsor has a foreign address, enter the information in the following order: city or town, state or province, and country. Follow the country's practice for entering the postal code. Do not abbreviate the country name.

Item E. Plan sponsor's EIN. Enter the nine-digit employer identification number (EIN) assigned to the plan sponsor. This should be the same number used to file the Form 5500 series return/report.

Item F. Plan year ending. "Plan year" is defined in Regulations section 54.9801-2. Enter eight digits in month/date/year order. This number assists the IRS in properly identifying the plan and time period for which the Form 8928 is being filed. For example, a plan year ended March 31, 2025, should be shown as 03/31/2025.

Item G. Plan number. Enter the three-digit number that the employer or plan administrator assigned to the plan. This three-digit number is used with the EIN entered on line B and is used by the IRS, the Department of Labor, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation as a unique 12-digit number to identify the plan.

Note: If the plan number is not provided, this will cause a delay in processing your return.

Filer's signature. To reduce the possibility of correspondence and penalties, please sign and date the form. Also, enter a daytime phone number where you can be reached.

Paid preparer use only. A paid preparer must sign Form 8928 and provide the information in the "Paid Preparer Use Only" section at the end of the form if the preparer was paid to prepare the form and is not an employee of the filing entity. The preparer must give you a copy of the form in addition to the copy to be filed with the IRS.

If you are a paid preparer, enter your Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) in the space provided. Include your complete address. If you work for a firm, you also must enter the firm's name and the EIN of the firm. However, you cannot use the PTIN of the tax preparation firm in place of your PTIN.

You can apply for a PTIN online or by filing Form W-12, IRS Paid Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) Application and Renewal. For more information about applying for a PTIN online, visit the IRS website at *IRS.gov/PTIN*.

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Part I. Tax on Failure To Satisfy Continuation Coverage Requirements Under Section 4980B

Complete a separate Part I, Section A, lines 1 through 6, for each qualifying event for which one or more failures to satisfy continuation coverage requirements occurred during the reporting period as a result of failures due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. If multiple qualifying events occurred with different noncompliance periods, complete lines 1 through 6 on a separate Part I for each qualifying event. Then complete a "summary" Form 8928 with items A through G and enter the total amount of the excise tax on line 7 of that summary form and complete lines 8 through 11 for all qualifying events as a result of failures due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Complete a separate Part I, lines 12 through 14, for each qualifying event for which one or more failures to satisfy continuation coverage requirements occurred during the reporting period as a result of failures due to willful neglect or otherwise not due to reasonable cause. If multiple qualifying events occurred with different noncompliance periods, complete lines 12 through 14 on a separate Part I for each qualifying event. Then complete a "summary" Form 8928 with items A through G and enter the total amount of the excise tax on line 15 of that summary form for all failures that were due to willful neglect or otherwise not due to reasonable cause.

Write "Summary Form" at the top to indicate that this is a summary form and attach all copies to it.

Note: You may report all failures on the same form if the failures occurred during the same tax year.

For purposes of Part I, a qualifying event is any of the following.

- Death of the covered employee.
- Termination or reduction of hours of the covered employee's employment (other than for employee gross misconduct).
- Divorce or legal separation of the covered employee from the employee's spouse.
- Covered employee becoming entitled to Medicare benefits.
- Dependent child of the covered employee ceasing to be a covered child under the terms of the plan.
- Bankruptcy of the employer from whose employment the covered employee retired.

Waiver of excise tax. The Secretary of the Treasury may waive part or all of the excise tax under Part I, to the extent that payment of the tax would be excessive relative to the failure involved. This only applies to failures due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect.

Note: The tax under Part I will not apply to the following.

- Any failure of a group health plan if the qualifying event occurred during the calendar year immediately following a calendar year during which all employers maintaining the plan normally employed fewer than 20 employees on a typical business day.
- Any governmental plan under section 414(d).
- Any church plan under section 414(e).

Section A. Failures Due to Reasonable Cause and Not to Willful Neglect

If the failure or failures as a result of a particular qualifying event were due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, complete Part I, Section A, lines 1 through 11.

Line 1. Calculate the total number of days of noncompliance within the reporting period beginning on the date the failure first occurred and ending on the earlier of the date the failure is corrected or, at the latest, a date that is 6 months after the last day of the maximum continuation coverage period under the qualifying event that led to the failure.

Note: The noncompliance period may include portions of more than 1 plan year (in the case of an employee benefit plan) or 1 tax year (in the case of an employer or third-party administrator). In that case, only the portion of the noncompliance period falling within that plan year or tax year would be used to calculate the excise tax due for that year.

Line 4. No tax is due for any failure under Part I, Section A, if it is established to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that no one liable for the tax knew, or exercising reasonable diligence would have known, that the failure occurred. Additionally, no tax is due if the failure under Part I, Section A, was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect and the failure was corrected during the 30-day period beginning on the first date anyone liable for the tax knew, or exercising reasonable diligence should have known, that the failure existed.

For this purpose, a failure is treated as corrected if the failure is retroactively undone to the extent possible and the qualified beneficiary to whom the failure relates is placed in a financial position which is as good as such beneficiary would have been in had the failure not occurred.

Line 5. The minimum excise tax under Part I, Section A, is $2,500 for each qualified beneficiary for whom one or more failures occurred if the failure or failures were not corrected before the date a notice of examination of income tax liability was sent from the IRS, and the failure or failures continued during the examination period. The minimum excise tax under Part I, Section A, is $15,000 if the failure or failures are determined to be more than de minimis.

Line 7. If you had more than one qualifying event during the reporting period, complete lines 1 through 6 in a separate Part I, Section A, for each qualifying event and enter the total from line 6 from all copies of Part I, Section A, on line 7 of your summary form. See the discussion under Part I earlier.

Line 8. For a single employer plan, enter on line 8 the aggregate amount paid or incurred during the preceding tax year by the employer (or a predecessor) for its group health plan. For a multiemployer plan, enter on this line the amount paid or incurred during the current tax year to provide medical care, directly or through insurance or reimbursement.

Line 11. The maximum excise tax payable during a tax year by third-party administrators, HMOs, and insurance companies under Part I, Section A, is $2 million for all plans for failures due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. For those entities, do not enter more than $2 million on this line for such failures for all plans even if the aggregate excise tax owed for all failures under Part I, Section A, is more than $2 million.

Section B. Failures Due to Willful Neglect or Otherwise Not Due to Reasonable Cause

If the failure or failures as a result of a particular qualifying event were due to willful neglect or otherwise not due to reasonable cause, complete Part I, Section B, lines 12 through 15.

Line 12. Calculate the total number of days of noncompliance within the reporting period beginning on the date the failure first occurred and ending on the earlier of the date the failure is corrected or, at the latest, a date that is 6 months after the last day of the maximum continuation coverage period under the qualifying event that led to the failure.

Line 15. If you had more than one qualifying event during the reporting period, complete lines 12 through 14 in a separate Part I, Section B, for each qualifying event and enter the total from

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line 14 from all copies of Part I, Section B, on line 15 of your summary form. See the discussion under Part I earlier.

Part II. Tax on Failure To Meet Portability, Access, and Renewability Requirements Under Section 4980D

Complete a separate Part II, Section A, lines 17 through 23, for each failure to meet portability, access, and renewability requirements that occurred during the reporting period that was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect. If multiple such failures occurred with different noncompliance periods, complete lines 17 through 23 in a separate Part I, Section A, for each failure. Then complete a "summary" Form 8928 with items A through G and enter the total amount of the excise tax on line 24 of that summary form and complete lines 25 through 28 for all failures due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Complete a separate Part II, Section B, lines 29 through 33, for each failure to meet portability, access, and renewability requirements that occurred during the reporting period that was due to willful neglect or otherwise not due to reasonable cause. If multiple failures occurred with different noncompliance periods, complete lines 29 through 32 on a separate Part II, Section B, for each failure. Then complete a "summary" Form 8928 with items A through G and enter the total amount of the excise tax on line 33 of that summary form for all such failures.

Write "Summary Form" at the top to indicate that this is a summary form and attach all copies to it.

Waiver of excise tax. The Secretary of the Treasury may waive part or all of the excise tax under Part II, to the extent that payment of the tax would be excessive relative to the failure involved. This only applies to failures due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect.

Exception for certain insured small employer plans. If you are a small employer who provides health insurance coverage solely through a contract with a health insurance issuer, you will not be liable for the excise tax under Part II for any failure (other than a failure under section 9811) that is solely the result of the health insurance coverage offered by the issuer.

"Small employer" is generally defined as an employer who employed an average of at least 2 but not more than 50 employees on business days during the preceding calendar year, and who employs at least 2 employees on the first day of the current plan year. Special rules apply to employers not in existence in the preceding year. See section 4980D(d)(2)(B).

Section A. Failures Due to Reasonable Cause and Not to Willful Neglect

If the failure or failures were due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect, complete Part II, Section A, lines 17 through 28.

Line 17. Calculate the total number of days of noncompliance within the reporting period beginning on the date the failure first occurred and ending on the date the failure is corrected.

Note: The noncompliance period may include portions of more than 1 plan year (in the case of an employee benefit plan) or 1 tax year (in the case of an employer or third-party administrator). In that case, only the portion of the noncompliance period falling within that plan year or tax year would be used to calculate the excise tax due for that year.

Line 21. No tax is due for any failure under Part II, Section A, if it is established to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury that no one liable for the tax knew, or exercising reasonable diligence would have known, that the failure occurred. Additionally, no tax is due if the failure under Part II, Section A, was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect and the failure was corrected during the 30-day period beginning on the first date anyone liable for the tax knew, or exercising reasonable diligence would have known, that the failure existed.

For this purpose, a failure is treated as corrected if the failure is retroactively undone to the extent possible and the person to whom the failure relates is placed in a financial position which is as good as such person would have been in had the failure not occurred.

In the case of a church plan, the failure must be corrected before the close of the correction period, as defined under section 414(e)(4)(C).

Line 22. The minimum excise tax under Part II, Section A, is $2,500 for each individual to whom the failure relates if the failure or failures were not corrected before the date a notice of examination of income tax liability was sent from the IRS and the failure or failures continued during the examination period. The minimum excise tax under Part II, Section A, is $15,000 if the failure or failures are determined to be more than de minimis.

Exception for church plans. The $2,500 (or $15,000, if applicable) minimum excise tax does not apply to a church plan, as defined in section 414(e). If your plan meets the requirements for a church plan, enter "-0-" on this line and go to line 23.

Line 24. If you had more than one failure during the reporting period, complete lines 17 through 23 in a separate Part II, Section A, for each failure and enter the total from line 23 from all copies of Part II, Section A, on line 24 of your summary form. See the discussion under Part I earlier.

Line 25. For a single employer plan, enter on this line the aggregate amount paid or incurred during the preceding tax year by the employer (or a predecessor) for its group health plan. For a multiemployer plan, enter on this line the amount paid or incurred during the current tax year to provide medical care, directly or through insurance or reimbursement.

Section B. Failure Due to Willful Neglect or Otherwise Not Due to Reasonable Cause

If the failure or failures were due to willful neglect or otherwise not due to reasonable cause, complete Part II, Section B, lines 29 through 33.

Line 29. Calculate the total number of days of noncompliance within the reporting period beginning on the date the failure first occurred and ending on the date the failure is corrected.

Line 33. If you had more than one failure during the reporting period, complete lines 29 through 32 in a separate Part II, Section B, for each qualifying event and enter the total from line 32 from all copies of Part II, Section B, on line 33 of your summary form. See the discussion under Part I earlier.

Part III. Tax on Failure To Make Comparable Archer MSA Contributions Under Section 4980E

An employer is liable for tax under section 4980E if they fail to make comparable contributions to the Archer MSAs of all comparable participating employees for each coverage period during the calendar year.

"Comparable contributions" are contributions which are the same amount or which are the same percentage of the annual deductible limit under the high deductible health plan covering the employees.

"Comparable participating employees" are employees who are eligible individuals covered under any high deductible health plan of the employer, and who have the same category of coverage.

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To determine whether contributions are comparable, see Regulations sections 54.4980G-1 through 54.4980G-7.

Line 35. Enter the aggregate amount contributed to employees' Archer MSAs for tax years ending with or within the calendar year.

Waiver of excise tax. The Secretary of the Treasury may waive part or all of the excise tax under this part, to the extent that payment of the tax would be excessive relative to the failure involved. This only applies to failures due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Controlled group. For purposes of this part, all persons treated as a single employer under section 414(b), (c), (m), or (o) will be treated as one employer.

Part IV. Tax on Failure To Make Comparable HSA Contributions Under Section 4980G

An employer is liable for tax under section 4980G if they fail to make comparable contributions to the HSAs of all comparable participating employees for each coverage period during the calendar year.

Line 37. Enter the aggregate amount contributed to employees' HSAs for tax years ending with or within the calendar year.

Waiver of excise tax. The Secretary of the Treasury may waive part or all of the excise tax under this part, to the extent that payment of the tax would be excessive relative to the failure involved. This only applies to failures due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Controlled group. For purposes of this part, all persons treated as a single employer under section 414(b), (c), (m), or (o) will be treated as one employer.

Part V. Tax Due or Overpayment

Line 41—Tax Due

The IRS recommends paying electronically whenever possible. Options to pay electronically include any of the payment options below. Go to *IRS.gov/Payments* to see all of your payment options.

IRS direct pay. Pay taxes from your bank account. Direct pay is:
- Free and secure,
- No sign-in required,
- Change or cancel within 2 days of scheduled payment.

Debit card, credit card, or digital wallet. The IRS uses third-party payment processors for payments by debit and credit card. It's safe and secure; your information is used solely to process your payment. A fee is charged by these service providers.

Electronic funds withdrawal (EFW). EFW is an integrated *e-file/e-pay* option offered **only** when filing your federal taxes using tax preparation software or through a tax professional. Using this payment option, you may submit one or more payment requests for direct debit from your designated bank account.

Electronic federal tax payment system (EFTPS). Payment of the tax due may be submitted electronically through EFTPS. EFTPS is a free service of the Department of the Treasury.

To be considered timely, payments made through EFTPS must be completed no later than 8 p.m. eastern time the day before the due date. All EFTPS payments must be scheduled in advance of the due date and, if necessary, may be changed or canceled up to 2 business days before the scheduled payment date.

To get more information about EFTPS or to enroll in EFTPS, visit *EFTPS.gov* or call 800-555-4477. To contact EFTPS using Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, dial 711 and then provide the TRS assistant the 800-555-4477 number, above, or 800-733-4829. Additional information about EFTPS is available in Pub. 966, Electronic Federal Tax Payment System: A Guide to Getting Started.

Same-day wire. Payment of the tax due shown on Form 8928 may be submitted electronically through same-day wire from your financial institution. Contact your financial institution for availability, cost, and time frames.

What you need to know about making a same-day wire payment.
- You do not need to enroll to make a same-day wire payment, and no PIN is needed.
- Your financial institution may charge a fee for this service.
- The cutoff time to make a same-day wire payment is 5 p.m. eastern time. Your financial institution may have an earlier cutoff time.
- Download and complete page 1 of the Same-Day Taxpayer Worksheet, and provide pages 1 and 2 to your financial institution. See *How do I make an electronic payment?* under *Frequently asked questions on estate taxes*, on IRS.gov for the worksheet and more information.

Paying by cash. You may be able to pay your balance due with cash at participating retail stores. See *IRS.gov/PayYourTaxesWithCash*.

Line 42—Overpayment

To the extent permitted by law, the Secretary of the Treasury will cease issuing paper checks for all federal disbursements. Direct deposit is available for this form. If there is an overpayment when filing your return, complete Part V, lines 42b, 42c, and 42d to input your direct deposit information. If you qualify for an exception, an alternative payment option (paper check) may be permitted. See *Non-electronic federal disbursement exceptions*, later, for more information.

Why use direct deposit? You get your refund faster by direct deposit than you do by check. Payment is more secure. There is no check that can get lost or stolen. It is more convenient. You don't have to make a trip to the bank to deposit your check. It saves tax dollars. It costs the government less to refund by direct deposit. It's proven itself. Nearly 90% of social security and veterans benefits are sent electronically using direct deposit.

Account must be in your name. Don't request a deposit of your refund to an account that isn't in your name. The number of refunds that can be directly deposited to a single account or prepaid debit card is limited to three a year. After this limit is reached, paper checks will be sent instead. Learn more at *IRS.gov/DepositLimit*.

Line 42a. If line 42a is under $1, we will send a refund only on written request.

Line 42b. The routing number must be nine digits. The first two digits must be 01 through 12 or 21 through 32. Ask your financial institution for the correct routing number to enter on line 42b if:
- The routing number on a deposit slip is different from the routing number on your checks,
- Your deposit is to a savings account that doesn't allow you to write checks, or
- Your checks state they are payable through a financial institution different from the one at which you have your checking account.

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Line 42c. Check the appropriate box for the type of account. Don't check more than one box. You must check the correct box to ensure your deposit is accepted.

Line 42d. The account number can be up to 17 characters (both numbers and letters). Include hyphens but omit spaces and special symbols. Enter the number from left to right and leave any unused boxes blank. Don't include the check number.

If the direct deposit to your account is different from the amount you expected, you will receive an explanation in the mail about 2 weeks after your refund is deposited.

Reasons your direct deposit will be rejected. If any of the following apply, your direct deposit request will be rejected and a check will be sent instead.

- You are asking to have a joint refund deposited to an individual account, and your financial institution(s) won't allow this. The IRS isn't responsible if a financial institution rejects a direct deposit.
- The name on your account doesn't match the name on the refund, and your financial institution(s) won't allow a refund to be deposited unless the name on the refund matches the name on the account.
- Three direct deposits of tax refunds already have been made to the same account or prepaid debit card.
- You haven't given a valid account number.
- Any numbers or letters on lines 42b through 42d are crossed out or whited out.

Note: The IRS isn't responsible for a lost refund if you enter the wrong account information. Check with your financial institution to get the correct routing and account numbers and to make sure your direct deposit will be accepted.

Non-electronic federal disbursement exceptions. If you qualify for one of the exceptions below, a paper check may still be permitted as a federal disbursement option.

1. Individuals who do not have access to banking services or electronic payment systems.
2. Certain emergency payments where electronic disbursement would cause undue hardship, as contemplated in 31 C.F.R. Part 208.
3. National security- or law enforcement-related activities where non-EFT transactions are necessary or desirable.
4. Other circumstances as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, as reflected in regulations or other guidance.

Note: If you don't qualify for one of the exceptions above, the direct deposit information must be entered on lines 42b, 42c, and 42d. If you do qualify for an exception above, leave lines 42b, 42c, and 42d blank.

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Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. Taxpayers subject to the provisions of sections 4980B, 4980D, 4980E, and 4980G are required to provide the information requested on this form. Section 6109 requires you to provide your identifying number. If you fail to provide this information in a timely manner, you may be liable for penalties. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation, to other federal agencies as authorized by law, and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their tax laws. We may also disclose this information to other countries under a tax treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce federal nontax criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism.

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	12 hr., 40 min.
Learning about the law or the form	4 hr., 0 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS	6 hr., 47 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for the tax return with which this form is filed.

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