

Federal Tax Day - Current, I.2, IRS Unveils People First Initiative to Counter COVID-19 Challenges (IR-2020-59), (Mar. 26, 2020)

Federal Tax Day - Current

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The IRS announced steps to provide relief on a variety of issues ranging from easing payment guidelines to postponing compliance actions. These measures were taken to help taxpayers with the challenges of Coronavirus (COVID-19) issues. They include (1) suspension of existing instalment agreements if payments are due between April 1 and July 15, 2020; (2) giving taxpayers the option of suspending all payments on accepted offers in compromise (OICs) until July 15, 2020; and (3) the IRS not defaulting an OIC for those taxpayers who are delinquent in filing their tax return for tax year 2018. More information can be accessed on the IRS's [website](#).

"The IRS is taking extraordinary steps to help the people of our country," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "In addition to extending tax deadlines and working on new legislation, the IRS is pursuing unprecedented actions to ease the burden on people facing tax issues. During this difficult time, we want people working together, focused on their well-being, helping each other and others less fortunate," he added.

Further, the Service stated that taxpayers who have not filed their return for tax years before 2019 should file their delinquent returns. Once delinquent returns have been filed, taxpayers with a tax liability should consider taking the opportunity to resolve any outstanding liabilities by entering into an installment agreement or an OIC with the IRS to obtain a "Fresh Start." Finally, in-person meetings regarding current field, office and correspondence examinations will be suspended. However, IRS examiners would continue their examinations remotely, where possible.

[IR-2020-59](#)