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## TAXPAYER *Tips*

### IRS Reminds Extension Filers of Oct. 17 Deadline

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (October 14, 2016) — Millions of taxpayers ask for an extra six months to file their taxes every year. The Internal Revenue Service says if you are one of them, then you should know that Monday, October 17, is the extension deadline in 2016. This is because October 15 falls on a Saturday. If you have not yet filed, here are some things to keep in mind about the extension deadline and your taxes:

- **Try IRS Free File or e-file.** You can still [e-file](#) your tax return for free through [IRS Free File](#). The program is available only on IRS.gov through Oct. 17. IRS e-file is easy, safe and the most accurate way to file your taxes.
- **Use Direct Deposit.** If you are due a refund, the fastest way to get it is to combine [direct deposit](#) and e-file. Direct deposit has a proven track record; eight out of 10 taxpayers who get a refund choose it.
- **Use IRS Online Payment Options.** If you owe taxes, the best way to pay them is with IRS [Direct Pay](#). It's the simple, quick and free way to pay from your checking or savings account. You also have other online payment options. Check them out by clicking on the "Payments" tab on the IRS.gov home page.
- **Refunds.** As you prepare to file your 2015 return, keep in mind next year's taxes. IRS is urging taxpayers to check their tax withholding as the year winds down. New factors may delay tax refunds in 2017. For more on what you can do now, see our Aug. 31 [news release](#).
- **Don't Overlook Tax Benefits.** Be sure to claim all the tax breaks you are entitled to. These may include the [Earned Income Tax Credit](#) and the [Saver's Credit](#). The [American Opportunity Tax Credit](#) can help offset college costs.
- **Keep a Copy of Your Return.** Be sure to keep a copy of your tax return and supporting documents for at least three years. Among other things, this will make filing next year's return easier. When you e-file your 2016 return, for example, you will often need the adjusted gross income (AGI) amount from your 2015 return.
- **File On Time.** If you owe taxes, file on time to avoid a potential late filing penalty. If you owe and can't pay all of your taxes, pay as much as you can to reduce interest and penalties for late payment. You might also consider an [installment agreement](#) where you can pay over time.

- **More Time for the Military.** Military members and those serving in a combat zone generally [get more time to file](#). If this applies to you, you typically have until at least 180 days after you leave the combat zone to both file returns and pay any taxes due.
- **More Time in Disaster Areas.** If you have an extension and live or work in a disaster area, you often have more time to file. Currently, taxpayers in parts of Louisiana and West Virginia have additional extensions beyond Oct. 17. See the [disaster relief](#) page on IRS.gov for details.
- **Try Easy-to-Use Tools on IRS.gov.** Use the [EITC Assistant](#) to see if you're eligible for the credit. Use the [Interactive Tax Assistant](#) tool to get answers to common tax questions. The [IRS Tax Map](#) gives you a single point to get tax law information by subject. Find them all [here](#).

For more information, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

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