

2019 Tax Pros Refund Factsheet



Track Refund Progress 24/7

Visit tax.idaho.gov to get the most up-to-date information about individual income tax refunds. The refund status graphic tracks a return's progress through four stages.

Respond Rapidly for Faster Refund

Ask your clients to respond quickly to letters they get from us.

All income tax returns go through fraud detection reviews and accuracy checks before we issue any refunds. We might send your clients letters asking for more information.

Fraud detection. The Tax Commission uses a variety of methods to validate a taxpayer's identity and tax return to detect and combat tax identity theft. To help protect taxpayer information and keep taxpayer dollars from going to criminals, we might send:



- An Identity Verification letter that asks taxpayers to take a short online quiz, provide copies of documents to verify their identity, or state that they didn't file a return.
- A PIN letter that asks taxpayers to verify online whether they or someone they authorized filed the tax return we received.

Accuracy checks. We review all individual income tax returns each year for math errors or other errors. We find errors on about 25 percent of the returns. To be sure that a tax return correctly reflects the taxpayer's information and intent we might send:

- A Request For Information letter that asks for missing or extra information to support data reported on the tax return.
- A Tax Computation Change letter that provides an explanation of changes that we made to the return.

Speed Up Returns

You can help speed up your clients' refunds.

- Review the return for accuracy before sending it.
- Verify that the correct address is on the return.
- Check for the correct Social Security numbers.
- Make sure W-2 information is correct when e-filing.
- Provide a driver's license number when e-filing.
- Verify banking information when using direct deposit.

Understand Typical Refund Timeframes

- **E-filers:** E-filers can expect their refund about seven to eight weeks after they receive an acknowledgement that we have their tax return.
- **Paper filers:** Paper filers can expect their refund about 10 to 11 weeks after we receive the return. We must manually enter information from paper returns into our database.

Exceptions

- **First-time filers:** It takes about three weeks to enter new filers into our system. Until that time we'll report their return as "not entered in system." Add those three weeks to the estimates above to determine their refund timeframe.
- **Filers who received a letter asking for more information:** Their refund will be delayed until we get the requested information. It will then take about six more weeks to finish the process.

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