# STATE OF COLORADO

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE Taxpayer Service Division** 

Office of Public Information and Education 1375 Sherman St.
Denver, Colorado 80261



## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

#### Contacts:

Ro Silva, Public Information & Education Manager (303) 205-2961

Kathy Pugliese, Public Information Specialist (303) 205-8203

### Colorado Extension applies to filing the information, not to payment

Denver, CO, March 27, 2012 -- If you can't file your 2011 Colorado individual income tax return by Tuesday, April 17, 2012, you may take advantage of the state's automatic six-month extension of time to file. There is no form, paper or electronic, to fill out to notify the Department of Revenue that you are taking the extension.

#### There's no extension for tax due

The extension applies to filing Colorado income tax information, either on paper or electronically, not to any state income tax you may owe. **If you expect to get a refund this year** but do not make the April 17 filing deadline, you can still file your state income tax on or before Monday, Oct. 15, 2012.

But, **if you owe state income tax**, 90 percent of the tax liability must be paid on or before April 17 to avoid penalties. Any remaining balance due would be subject to interest only.

#### What are my payment options?

Pay Online. Visit Revenue Online, www.Colorado.gov/RevenueOnline Choose Individual. Look under AccessNow and choose Make a Payment. Through Revenue Online you can pay tax by credit card or echeck. The system will calculate the total tax owed, plus interest and penalty. The day you make the payment is noted in your account. No waiting for the department to process your check.

OR

Mail in a check with the "2011 Extension Payment Voucher for Colorado Individual Income Tax" (DR 158-I). The Colorado 104 income tax booklet is located on the Colorado Taxation Web site at <a href="https://www.TaxColorado.com">www.TaxColorado.com</a>.

To ensure your mailed payment is credited to your account, include your Social Security number(s) on the payment voucher. If you do not use the payment voucher, be sure to include your SSN(s) on the payment and indicate that the payment is for 2011 income tax. Otherwise, a nonfiler notice may be issued.

#### How to determine penalty and interest charges on tax owed

If you pay at least 90 percent of the tax owed by the April 17 deadline you will avoid penalty charges.

- Those who pay *less than the required 90 percent* of the amount due on or before April 17 will be charged interest and penalty on the unpaid balance.
- If the payment is *90 percent or more* of the amount owed you will be charged interest only -- no penalty as long as the return and balance owed are sent by the October 15 extension deadline.

#### What are the penalty and interest rates?

- Interest rate for 2011 is 6 percent on tax owed. A discounted rate of 3 percent is available if payment of tax, or agreement to pay, is made within 30 days of the April 17 deadline.
- Penalty is 5 percent of the balance due for the first month past the April 17 deadline plus 0.5 percent for each additional month up to a maximum of 12 percent.

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#### After tax season, use Revenue Online to monitor your tax account or make payments

You can create your own Login ID and Password to access your tax account any time of year, similar to online banking. Visit the Revenue Online site, <a href="www.Colorado.gov/RevenueOnline">www.Colorado.gov/RevenueOnline</a>, click the "Individual" button and select the "Sign Up" button to start the steps to access your account. Once you set up your Login ID and Password, you can use them to get into your account, view past year returns you've filed, get past year 1099-G amounts (refunds issued by the Department of Revenue), set up a payment plan if you owe income tax, amend your income tax returns online and upload documentation supporting any tax credits you are claiming.

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