



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Distribution

**May 26, 2020**

### **NH Department of Revenue Offering Filing Tips Ahead of June 15 Tax Deadline**

**Concord, NH** – In response to conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration ([NHDRA](#)) granted automatic relief to qualifying Business Profits Tax (BPT), Business Enterprise Tax (BET) and Interest & Dividends Tax (I&D) taxpayers in March, extending the deadline to remit payment by two months, from April 15 to June 15, 2020. Ahead of the upcoming deadline, NHDRA is sharing a comprehensive list of tips for taxpayers to help reduce the likelihood of processing delays during a particularly busy filing period.

#### **Filing Tips for Business and I&D Taxpayers**

##### **Confirm Form is Current**

Taxpayers have often downloaded a previous year's version and have forgotten to update to the current year's version the following year. NHDRA updates its tax return forms annually to reflect any tax law, tax rate, or other changes. Ensure the correct tax year form is used and that all pages are present. Visit NHDRA's Forms Page online to find the correct version of all forms. To access forms and instructions by tax type, visit [revenue.nh.gov/forms](https://revenue.nh.gov/forms).

##### **Channel Your Inner Mathematician**

A simple miscalculation could result in delayed processing and the issuance of assessments, penalties and interest. Double-checking the math on a return will better equip taxpayers for avoiding an easily preventable mistake.

##### **Consistency with "Primary Taxpayer"**

Married taxpayers filing a joint Interest & Dividends (I&D) Tax return should ensure the same taxpayer is listed first on the return each year. Changing the order of the names listed could result in delayed processing.

##### **Don't Forget Attachments & Schedules**

Most of NHDRA's business tax and I&D tax return forms require additional attachments to be submitted with the return. Carefully read the form instructions to determine which additional

attachments and schedules must accompany a return in order for the return to be considered complete.

### **Electronic or Paper, Not Both**

Business tax and I&D tax returns can be filed through NHDRA's Modernized e-File (MeF) system. When a return is submitted electronically, there is no need to mail a paper copy to NHDRA. Submitting both may slow the process. Visit NHDRA's [e-File Page](#) to learn more about how to electronically file a New Hampshire tax return.

### **Include Payment with the Return**

If tax, penalties, or interest is owed, ensure payment accompanies the return to avoid the assessment of additional interest and penalties. Payments can be made by credit card or directly from a checking account. NHDRA is able to accept most major cards, including debit cards, credit cards, and some types of cryptocard. If the amount owed is not paid electronically, ensure a check accompanied by a payment coupon is mailed to NHDRA.

### **The Final Step**

Surprisingly, NHDRA sends back hundreds of returns during filing season for missing signatures. Taxpayers should make note of the important last step of signing the return before submitting.

### **Waiver of Interest & Penalties**

The waiver of interest and penalties is being applied automatically for taxpayers filing under the COVID-19 deadline extension, so they should not receive a tax notice assessing interest and penalties for filing by June 15, 2020. However, if a taxpayer does receive a tax notice that is believed to be in error, the taxpayer should call NHDRA.

“We understand taxpayers face a number of challenges during this period of uncertainty, which is why we have provided relief to protect taxpayers from penalties and interest they may have otherwise faced,” said NHDRA Commissioner Lindsey Stepp. “We encourage taxpayers to consider these tips as they prepare to file to help ensure accuracy and completeness, which will reduce the likelihood of processing delays. We are all-hands-on-deck during this time to support Granite Staters. Any taxpayer with questions is advised to contact the Department through our Taxpayer Services Division.”

Relief was made available for certain BPT, BET and I&D taxpayers who were unable to pay the amount due on April 15, 2020. Those qualifying taxpayers were given until June 15, 2020 to remit payment without typical penalties and interest. NHDRA extended the due date, in addition to expanding the qualifications for the automatic extension and the estimated payment safe harbor.

Taxpayers who qualified for this specific relief are Business Tax taxpayers who owed \$50,000 or less in taxes (total BPT and BET tax liability) for tax year 2018 and I&D taxpayers who owed \$10,000 or less in taxes for tax year 2018. These thresholds account for 98 percent of all BPT, BET and I&D taxpayers.

For a full overview of the automatic relief program for BPT, BET and I&D taxpayers, visit: [www.revenue.nh.gov/publications/press/documents/dra-covid-nineteen-tax-relief.pdf](http://www.revenue.nh.gov/publications/press/documents/dra-covid-nineteen-tax-relief.pdf).

NHDRA's Taxpayer Services Division is available to answer all filing questions. Contact the Taxpayer Services Division by phone at (603) 230-5000 (select option 2), Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

For taxpayer resources online, visit [revenue.nh.gov/assistance](http://revenue.nh.gov/assistance).

### **About the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration**

The New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA) is responsible for fairly and efficiently administering the tax laws of the State of New Hampshire. NHDRA collects approximately 80% of New Hampshire's general taxes. During Fiscal Year 2019, NHDRA collected \$2.15 billion in taxes, most of which went to the New Hampshire General Fund and Education Trust Fund. NHDRA also provides assistance to municipalities in budgeting, finance and real estate appraisal.

NHDRA administers and collects the following taxes at the state level: Business Enterprise Tax, Business Profits Tax, Communications Services Tax, Interest and Dividends Tax, Meals and Rooms Tax, Medicaid Enhancement Tax, Nursing Facility Quality Assessment, Tobacco Tax, Taxation of Railroads, Utility Property Tax, Real Estate Transfer Tax; and the following taxes at the local level: Property Tax, Excavation Tax, Timber Tax. To learn more about NHDRA, please visit [www.revenue.nh.gov](http://www.revenue.nh.gov).

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