

Individual Income Tax E-file/Electronic Payment

Overview

The information contained in this guide is located throughout the Nebraska Department of Revenue's (DOR) website in more detail. Links to the information are centralized here for ease of reference.

Electronic Filing (E-file)

Taxpayers and tax preparers have several options, detailed below, for e-filing Nebraska individual income tax returns.

Electronic Payments

If you have a balance due for the current tax year, or for a prior tax year, electronic payment options offer a variety of secure options to pay your individual income tax balance due.

This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on the Nebraska Department of Revenue (DOR) until amended. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of DOR and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.

This guidance document may change with updated information or added examples. DOR recommends you do not print this document. Instead, sign up for the [subscription service](#) at revenue.nebraska.gov to get updates on your topics of interest.

Terms

E-file. E-file is the electronic filing of a tax return. Tax data is submitted to a taxing authority or an agent of a taxing authority in a computer file format.

Electronic Funds Withdrawal (EFW). An EFW is an electronic payment option chosen at the time your return is e-filed by including bank information with a specified debit date and amount in the e-file record.

E-pay. E-pay is an electronic payment option available through a link on DOR's website used to schedule direct debits from your bank account. You will be asked for your bank information, the debit date, and the amount of payment.

The Benefits of E-filing or Electronically Paying

E-file

E-filing your individual income tax return is easy, reliable, secure, and saves tax dollars and time. You may receive your refund faster if you choose to e-file. You may e-file using approved software or a tax professional's services.

E-file Options

Federal/State Combined Filing. This is a convenient way to file both your federal and state income tax returns in one transmission to the IRS. The federal and state returns are first sent to the IRS. The IRS will send a federal acknowledgment indicating if the federal return is accepted. When the federal return is accepted by the IRS, the Nebraska return is forwarded to DOR. DOR will send a separate state acknowledgment indicating if the Nebraska return is accepted for processing. Federal/State combined filing uses private software to file your returns and most taxpayers are charged a fee. Some software offers free filing for low to moderate income taxpayers. Please review the software fees, limitations, and features before filing.

NebFile for Individuals. NebFile allows most Nebraska residents to e-file their Nebraska individual income tax returns for FREE. NebFile is for state returns only and there are no limitations on income. However, if you claim certain credits, certain Nebraska Schedule I increasing or decreasing adjustments, or have income from a state other than Nebraska, you cannot use NebFile. See [Individual Income Tax Electronic Filing FAQs](#) for additional information regarding NebFile eligibility. You must complete your federal return before using the NebFile program.

"Free File" allows free e-filing the federal return for households with qualified Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). If you use Free File, you may be charged a fee to file the state return. Taxpayers who qualify, can avoid this fee by using the [NebFile](#) program to file your Nebraska return for FREE after using Free File to file your federal return.

Electronic Payments

Individual taxpayers have the following options for electronically paying current or prior-year final payments and individual estimated income tax payments:

EFW

With this payment option, you provide your payment information within your electronically-filed return. Your payment will automatically be withdrawn from your bank account. This option is available when using software to file a Federal/State combined return or when filing using DOR's NebFile for Individuals filing program. To cancel a scheduled EFW payment, contact our Taxpayer Assistance office at 800-742-7474 (NE or IA) or 402-471-5729 before 4:00 pm Central Time two business days prior to your scheduled payment date.

Nebraska e-pay

Nebraska e-pay is DOR's web-based electronic payment system. You enter your payment and bank account information, and choose a date (up to a year in advance) to have your account debited. You will receive an email confirmation for each payment scheduled. You may cancel a payment scheduled through Nebraska e-pay by logging into the e-pay program from DOR's website and selecting "cancel payment." You will receive a cancellation email confirmation.

Credit Card

Secure credit card payments can be initiated through Official Payments at [officialpayments.com](https://www.officialpayments.com); via phone at 800-272-9829; or by downloading the OPAY app from your smart phone's app store. Eligible credit cards include American Express, Discover, MasterCard, and VISA. A convenience fee (2.35% of the tax payment, \$1 minimum) is charged to the card you use. This fee is paid to the credit card vendor, not the state, and will appear on your credit card statement separately from the tax payment. At the end of your transaction, you will be given a confirmation number. Keep this number for your records. If you are making your credit card payment by phone, you will need to provide the Nebraska Jurisdiction Code, which is 3700. To cancel a credit card payment, contact Official Payments.

Payment Plan

If you are unable to pay the full amount of tax due, you should file your Nebraska income tax return and pay as much as you can by the filing date. See our website for information on [payment plan options](#). Interest will accrue on any unpaid balance until it is fully paid.

Information for Tax Preparers

Mandate: [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-1784](#) requires that any person or business paid to prepare and file more than 25 Nebraska individual income tax returns in the prior year must e-file all individual income tax returns they prepare in the current year. Penalties may apply to tax professionals who are required to file returns electronically and fail to do so. A hardship waiver from this mandate requirement may be available in limited circumstances. Additionally, taxpayers who do not want their return filed electronically may opt out of this requirement. DOR's website offers additional information:

- ❖ [Individual Income Tax E-file Requirement for Tax Preparers](#);
- ❖ [Tax Preparer E-file Mandate](#);
- ❖ [Nebraska Handbook for Electronic Filers of Individual Income Tax Returns, Publication 1345N-MeF](#);
- ❖ [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-1784](#); and
- ❖ [Nebraska E-file Opt-Out Record for Individuals](#).

Information for Software Developers

[Specifications and other information for software developers](#) are available on DOR's website.

Associated Forms/Publications

To submit a check or money order after e-filing, use [Nebraska Individual Income Tax Payment Voucher, Form 1040N-V](#).

revenue.nebraska.gov

800-742-7474 (NE and IA) or 402-471-5729

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