



# Filing for a tax extension

A federal tax extension allows you extra time to file your taxes. You can request an extension for any reason and receive an additional six months to complete your return. Here's what you need to know.



You must request an extension before your filing deadline. Don't delay or you risk a penalty.

Fill out the *Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return* available at [irs.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

Submit the form via mail or electronically by your regular tax return deadline, usually April 15th.

To avoid any potential penalties, pay estimated taxes at the time you submit the form.

If you cannot pay what you owe, you can request a payment plan. Visit the IRS website to learn more.

Use the extra time to file your return. The IRS does not allow a second extension, so don't let the time slip away.