

A REVENUE PUBLICATION FOR THE TAX PROFESSIONAL

January 2006; Vol. 25, No. 1

Changes to 2005 Kentucky Individual Income Tax Forms

Form 8863-K, Education Tuition Tax Credit, has been revised. You may download a copy at the DOR Web site (*www.revenue.ky.gov*), obtain a copy at one of our local service centers or request a copy of the revised form by calling (502) 564-4581. This form replaces the Form 8863-K in the 740 booklets and Package K.

The form included in your tax booklet may be used by changing the form as follows: In Part III, mark through Column (e) Tentative Lifetime Credit. Add the Qualified Expenses on line 3, Column (d), and enter on line 4. Complete the rest of the form.

Form 740-NP Instructions, page 1, left column.

WHO MUST FILE FORM 740-NP—Form 740-NP must be used by full-year nonresidents who had income from Kentucky sources and by part-year residents who

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had income while a Kentucky resident or from Kentucky sources while a nonresident. These persons must file Form 740-NP if: (1) they had **any gross income** from Kentucky sources **and gross income from all sources** in excess of modified gross income for their family size; or (2) Kentucky gross receipts from self-employment in excess of modified gross income for their family size listed on page 2 in Chart A.

42A740-S4 (10-05), Instructions for Filing Estimated Tax Vouchers

The date in the upper right-hand corner should read 2006 on printed copies and in the Package K.

The corrected versions are posted on our Web site (*www.revenue.ky.gov*). We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused in completing your Kentucky return.

Homestead Exemption Remains at \$29,400

The maximum Homestead Exemption (HEX) on real estate owned by qualified persons remains at \$29,400 for the 2006 tax period. The amount of the Homestead Exemption is adjusted every two years in accordance with KRS 132.810 to compensate for changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. The amount was set in 2005 and remains in effect for 2006. The 2005–2006 exemption represents a \$1,400 increase over the 2003–2004 exemption of \$28,000.

To qualify for the Homestead Exemption, a person must be at least 65 years old during the tax period or have been classified as totally disabled by any public or private retirement system. The property must also be owned, occupied and maintained by the taxpayer as a personal residence on the January 1 assessment date. Disabled persons less than 65 years of age must make an application on an annual basis.

Employer Reporting Requirements

Methods of Submitting Wage and Tax Statements to DOR

Regulation 103 KAR 18:050 requires any employer who issues **100 or more** Form W-2s annually to utilize an acceptable form of electronic or magnetic media filing. Employers with **fewer than 100** Form W-2s are encouraged, but not required, to utilize electronic or magnetic media filing.

The methods listed below are acceptable and listed in order of preference:

- 1. Web Filing;
- 2. CD;
- 3. 3 ¹/₂" Diskette; and
- 4. Paper (for employers with fewer than 100 Form W-2s).

NOTE: MMREF-1 IS THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE FILE LAYOUT FOR WEB FILING AND CD/DISKETTE SUBMISSIONS. REFER TO http://revenue.ky.gov/business/whtax.htm FOR SPECIFICATIONS.

Methods other than Web Filing require a Transmitter Report for Filing Kentucky Wage Statements (Form 42A806) when filing Kentucky wage and tax information.

Completing Wage and Tax Statements (Form W-2/K-2)

In order to properly process W-2 forms, the following information must be provided on all W-2 forms submitted to DOR:

- 1. Employer's and employee's name and address
- 2. Employer's withholding account number
- 3. Employee's Social Security number
- 4. Total wages paid to employee
- 5. Federal income tax withheld
- 6. Kentucky tax withheld
- 7. Federal ID number
- 8. State abbreviation in box 15

The most common error found on W-2 forms is an incorrect or missing withholding tax number. This number is used to reconcile the employer's account. Failure to include the correct account number

creates delays in reconciling the account, as well as problems when employees file their individual income tax returns. If you are unsure of the correct account number, please call (502) 564-7287 prior to issuing wage and tax statements.

An extension of 30 days for filing W-2 forms may be granted if requested in writing prior to the January 31 due

date. The K-3 return and payment must be filed by January 31.

Filing Frequency Changes

An employer's filing frequency for withholding tax is updated each year based on the prior year's withholding tax amount. Letters are sent to affected taxpayers each January advising them of the change. Filing frequencies are based upon the amount of Kentucky income tax withheld annually.

Frequency	Tax Withheld
Annual Filer	less than \$400
Quarterly Filer	\$400-\$1,999
Monthly Filer	\$2,000-\$49,999
Twice-Monthly Filer	\$50,000 or more





DOR Sets 2006 Tax Interest Rate at 7 Percent

Pursuant to KRS 131.183(1), the 2006 tax interest rate charged by the Kentucky DOR on unpaid and delinquent taxes has been set at 7 percent. Where applicable, the same rate is paid on refunds issued by DOR.

The rate, effective Jan. 1, 2006, through Dec. 31, 2006, is based on the prime rate charged by Kentucky banks during October 2005. A recent survey of Kentucky banks showed that the average prime interest rate in October was 6.75 percent, which was rounded to the nearest whole percent (7 percent).

Gasoline Excise Tax Rate

Under KRS 138.210 and KRS 138.220, the DOR is responsible for establishing the average wholesale price (AWP) of gasoline for the purposes of calculating the gasoline excise tax rate. The current price calculation is based on sales data accumulated for the month of October 2005 and a



grade and formulation weighted average reflecting gasoline consumption patterns.

For the quarter commencing Jan. 1, 2006, the DOR has determined the AWP of gasoline remains at \$1.34. Therefore, the rate remains 18.5 cents per gallon for gasoline and 15.5 cents per gallon for special fuels and is inclusive of the 1.4 cents Petroleum Storage Tank Environmental Assurance Fee. Additionally, the rate for liquefied petroleum remains at 17.1 cents per gallon.



Use Tax Reminder

We would like to remind tax professionals and their clients of the use tax responsibilities. KRS 139.310 and 139.330 impose use tax on those outof-state purchases for storage, use or other consumption in Kentucky. Purchases of items



such as aircraft, boats, artwork, jewelry, furniture, clothing, software, sporting goods, electronics, computers, books and magazines are examples of personal items bought out of state that may be subject to Kentucky use tax.

Use tax purchases may be reported by individuals on line 27 of the Kentucky individual income tax return (740 and 740-NP) or line 9 (740EZ). Use tax may also be reported and paid on Form 51A113(O), available on the Web site. Businesses and entities registered for sales tax must report their use tax on line 23(a) of the Kentucky sales and use tax return. If you have any questions about use tax, please call the Division of Sales and Use Tax at (502) 564-5170.

Kentucky Tax Alert comments and suggestions should be addressed to the Office of Public Information, Finance Secretary's Office, Frankfort, Kentucky, (502) 564-9165, ext. 4500.

ERNIE FLETCHER, Governor

ROBBIE RUDOLPH, Secretary Finance and Administration Cabinet

MARK TREESH, Commissioner Department of Revenue

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The Kentucky Department of Revenue does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Department of Revenue can be found at www.revenue.ky.gov.

<i>NOTE:</i> January	If a return due date falls on a scheduled holiday or weekend, returns will be due the next working day. 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Half Est. (FY ending 7/31) 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 1/31) 17 Estimated Corporation Income Tax/One Fourth Est. (FY ending 4/30) 17 Estimated Tax/Individuals/One Fourth Est. 20 Coal Severance Tax Returns (December Payment) 20 Oil Production Tax Returns (December Payment) 20 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (December Payment) 20 Quarterly Sales Tax Returns 20 Annual Sales Tax Returns 20 Health Care Provider Tax Returns (December Payment) 20 Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (December Payment) 25 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (December Payment) 26 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (December Payment) 27 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (December Payment) 28 Monthly Motor Fuels Tax Returns (December Payment) 29 Monthly Sales Tax Returns (December Payment) 25 Monthly Returns/Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Filers/Annual Reconciliation 31 Income Tax Withholding Returns (December Payment and K-2s) 31 Quarterly Income Tax	
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2005 FEDERAL/KENTUCKY INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX DIFFERENCES

Kentucky income tax law is based on the federal income tax law in effect on December 31, 2004. The Department of Revenue generally follows the administrative regulations and rulings of the Internal Revenue Service in those areas where no specific Kentucky law exists.

The chart below provides a quick reference guide to the major federal/Kentucky differences. It is not intended to be all inclusive. Items not listed may be referred to the Department of Revenue to determine Kentucky tax treatment.

PROVISION	FEDERAL TAXTREATMENT	KENTUCKY TAXTREATMENT
1. Interest from Federal Obligations	Taxable	Exempt
2. Retirement Income from:		
Commonwealth of Kentucky Retirement Systems	Taxable	Partially exempt if retired after December 31, 1997; exempt if retired before
Kentucky Local Government Retirement Systems	Taxable	January 1, 1998; Schedule P may be required
Federal and Military Retirement Systems	Taxable	
3. Pensions and Annuities Starting After 7/1/86 and Before 1/1/90	3-year recovery rule eliminated	3-year recovery rule retained
4. Other Pension and Annuity Income	Taxable	100% excludable up to \$41,110; Schedule P may be required
5. Benefits from U.S. Railroad Retirement Board	May be taxable	Exempt; Schedule P may be required
6. Social Security Benefits	May be taxable	Exempt
7. Capital Gains on Sale of Kentucky Turnpike Bonds	Taxable	Exempt
8. Other States' Municipal Bond Interest Income	Exempt	Taxable
 Kentucky Local Government Lease Interest Payments Long-Term Care Insurance Premiums Paid With After-Tax Dollars 	Taxable Limited deduction as self-employed health insurance	Exempt 100% adjustment to gross income
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13. Election Workers—Income for Training or Working at Election Booths	Taxable	Exempt
14. Artistic Contributions	Noncash contribution allowed as itemized deduction	Appraised value allowed as itemized deduction or adjustment to income
15. State Income Taxes	Deductible	Nondeductible
16. Leasehold Interest—Charitable Contribution	May be deductible	Deductible; Schedule HH required
17. Kentucky Unemployment Tax Credit	No credit allowed	\$100 per certified employee; Schedule UTC required
18. Work Opportunity Credit (federal Form 5884)	Tax credit allowed; wage expense reduced by amount of credit	No credit allowed; entire wage expense is deductible
19. Welfare to Work Credit (federal Form 8861)	Tax credit allowed; wage expense reduced by amount of credit	No credit allowed; wage expense reduced by amount of federal credit
20. Child and Dependent Care Credit	Tax credit based on expenses	20% of federal credit
21. Family Size Tax Credit	No credit allowed	Decreasing tax credit allowed
22. Education Tuition Tax Credit	Tax credit based on expenses	25% of federal credit for Kentucky undergraduate studies
 Taxpayer who may be Claimed as Dependent on Another's Return (i.e., full-time student) 	May not claim self	May claim self
24. Child's Income Reported by Parent	Permitted; taxed at parent's rate	Not permitted
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