

Silver Advantage Tax Alert

IRS Changes Key Tax Deadlines. Don't Be Caught Unaware!

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Beginning with the 2016 tax return filing season, the IRS has changed some key due dates related to information returns. It is important to be aware of these changes as late return filings are subject to penalties. While the penalty rates vary for information returns, the penalties are assessed **per information return**, so the penalties can add up quickly.

Listed below are the forms and corresponding new due dates.

- **W-2 Forms**
 - Due to the government as well as to employees by January 31, 2017.
 - There is no automatic extension for filing W-2 forms. An extension can be requested by filing Form 8809 - Application for Extension of Time to File Information Returns, but will only be granted by the IRS if there are extenuating circumstances which prevented the taxpayer from filing by the due date.
- **1099-Misc. Forms that Report Non-employee Compensation (Box 7)**
 - Due to the IRS by January 31, 2017.
 - The new January deadline is applicable regardless of whether the returns are paper filed or electronically filed.
 - All other 1099 forms, including 1099-Misc forms that report information in any box other than Box 7 (such as rents), still have a deadline of February 28, 2017 if paper filed and March 31, 2017 if electronically filed.
 - A 30-day automatic extension of these deadlines is available for the 1099-Misc by filing Form 8809.
 - An additional 30-day extension can be requested by filing a second Form 8809 but requires IRS approval.
- **ACA Forms – Forms 1094-C, 1095-C, 1094-B, and 1095-B**
 - 2016 forms reporting ACA information must be furnished to the employees by January 31, 2017.
 - The forms must be filed with the IRS by February 28, 2017 if paper filed and by March 31, 2017 if electronically filed. The later due dates applicable for filing the 2015 forms were not extended to the 2016 tax forms.
 - A 30-day automatic extension of these deadlines is available by filing Form 8809.
 - An additional 30-day extension is available only under certain hardship conditions.

- Several forms of transitional relief, including penalty relief for employers with 50 to 100 full-time equivalents, were available to employers for 2015, but are not available for 2016. Other forms of transition relief continue to apply in 2016 on a limited basis. This is generally only available for non-calendar year plans and only for the months that fall within the 2015 plan year.

If you have any questions or need assistance in meeting the new tax filing deadlines, the tax experts at Michael Silver & Company are ready to assist you. Please contact us at 847-982-0333.

Laurie Kaplan, CPA has over 25 years of experience managing and addressing tax and accounting issues. She serves as the firm's key employee benefit plan specialist, consulting with and advising clients on plan selection, design, set-up, and administration. She also assists with the resolution of plan defects through self-correction; IRS or DOL voluntary compliance programs; handling employee benefit plan audits; and preparation of the required tax returns. Laurie also has broad experience in estate and gift taxation, as well as significant expertise regarding like-kind exchanges.