

**Information Return for Small Tax-Exempt  
Governmental Bond Issues, Leases, and Installment Sales**

(Rev. November 2000)

► Under Internal Revenue Code section 149(e)

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Caution:** If the issue price of the issue is \$100,000 or more, use Form 8038-G.

<b>Part I Reporting Authority</b>		Check box if <b>Amended Return</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
1 Issuer's name		2 Issuer's employer identification number	
3 Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address)		Room/suite	
4 City, town, or post office, state, and ZIP code		5 Report number 5	
6 Name and title of officer or legal representative whom the IRS may call for more information		7 Telephone number of officer or legal representative ( )	

<b>Part II Description of Obligations</b>		Check if reporting: a single issue <input type="checkbox"/> or on a consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/>	
8a Issue price of obligation(s) (see instructions)		8a	
b Issue date (single issue) or calendar year (consolidated) (see instructions) ►			
9 Amount of the reported obligation(s) on line 8a:		9a	
a Used to refund prior issue(s)		9b	
b Representing a loan from the proceeds of another tax-exempt obligation (e.g., bond bank)			
10 If the issuer has designated any issue under section 265(b)(3)(B)(i)(III) (small issuer exception), check this box			<input type="checkbox"/>
11 If any obligation is in the form of a lease or installment sale, check this box			<input type="checkbox"/>
12 If the issuer has elected to pay a penalty in lieu of arbitrage rebate, check this box			<input type="checkbox"/>

**Sign Here**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return and accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true, correct, and complete.

► _____ Issuer's authorized representative	_____ Date	► _____ Type or print name and title
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**General Instructions**

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

**Purpose of Form**

Form 8038-GC is used by the issuers of tax-exempt governmental obligations to provide the IRS with the information required by section 149(e) and to monitor the requirements of sections 141 through 150.

**Who Must File**

Issuers of tax-exempt governmental obligations with issue prices of less than \$100,000 must file Form 8038-GC.

Issuers of a tax-exempt governmental obligation with an issue price of \$100,000 or more must file **Form 8038-G**, Information Return for Tax-Exempt Governmental Obligations.

**Filing a separate return.** Issuers have the option to file a separate Form 8038-GC for any tax-exempt governmental obligation with an issue price of less than \$100,000.

An issuer of a tax-exempt bond used to finance construction expenditures must file a separate Form 8038-GC for each issue to give notice to the IRS that an election was made to pay a penalty in lieu of arbitrage rebate (see the line 12 instructions).

**Filing a consolidated return.** For all tax-exempt governmental obligations with issue prices of less than \$100,000 that are not reported on a separate Form 8038-GC, an issuer must file a consolidated information return including all such issues issued within the calendar year.

Thus, an issuer may file a separate Form 8038-GC for each of a number of small issues and report the remainder of small issues issued during the calendar year on one consolidated Form 8038-GC. However, a separate Form 8038-GC must be filed to give the IRS notice of the election to pay a penalty in lieu of arbitrage rebate.

**When To File**

To file a **separate return**, file Form 8038-GC on or before the 15th day of the second calendar month after the close of the calendar quarter in which the issue is issued.

To file a **consolidated return**, file Form 8038-GC on or before February 15th of the calendar year following the year in which the issue is issued.

**Late filing.** An issuer may be granted an extension of time to file Form 8038-GC under Section 3 of Rev. Proc. 88-10, 1988-1 C.B. 635, if it is determined that the failure to file on time is not due to willful neglect. Type or print at the top of the form, "This Statement Is Submitted in Accordance with Rev. Proc. 88-10." Attach to the Form 8038-GC a letter briefly stating why the form was not submitted to the IRS on time. Also indicate whether the obligation in question is under examination by the IRS. Do not submit copies of any bond documents, leases, or installment sale documents. See **Where To File** below.

**Where To File**

File Form 8038-GC, and any attachments, with the Internal Revenue Service Center, Ogden, UT 84201.

**Other Forms That May Be Required**

For rebating arbitrage (or paying a penalty in lieu of arbitrage rebate) to the Federal government, use **Form 8038-T**, Arbitrage Rebate and Penalty in Lieu of Arbitrage Rebate. For private activity bonds, use **Form 8038**, Information Return for Tax-Exempt Private Activity Bond Issues.

**Rounding to Whole Dollars**

You may show the money items on this return as whole-dollar amounts. To do so, drop any amount less than 50 cents and increase any amount from 50 to 99 cents to the next higher dollar.

**Definitions**

**Obligations.** This refers to a single tax-exempt governmental obligation if Form 8038-GC is used for separate reporting or to multiple tax-exempt governmental obligations if the form is used for consolidated reporting.

**Tax-exempt obligation.** This is a bond, installment purchase agreement, or financial lease, on which the interest is excluded from income under section 103.

**Tax-exempt governmental obligation.** A tax-exempt obligation that is not a private activity bond (see below) is a tax-exempt governmental obligation. This includes a bond issued by a qualified volunteer fire department under section 150(e).

**Private activity bond.** This includes an obligation issued as part of an issue in which:

- More than 10% of the proceeds are to be used for any private activity business use, and

• More than 10% of the payment of principal or interest of the issue is **either (a)** secured by an interest in property to be used for a private business use (or payments for such property) **or (b)** to be derived from payments for property (or borrowed money) used for a private business use.

It also includes a bond, the proceeds of which **(a)** are to be used to make or finance loans (other than loans described in section 141(c)(2)) to persons other than governmental units and **(b)** exceeds the lesser of 5% of the proceeds **or** \$5 million.

**Issue.** Generally, obligations are treated as part of the same issue only if they are issued by the same issuer, on the same date, and as part of a single transaction, or a series of related transactions. However, obligations issued during the same calendar year **(a)** under a loan agreement under which amounts are to be advanced periodically (a "draw-down loan") or **(b)** with a term not exceeding 270 days, may be treated as part of the same issue if the obligations are equally and ratably secured under a single indenture or loan agreement and are issued under a common financing arrangement (e.g., under the same official statement periodically updated to reflect changing factual circumstances). Also, for obligations issued under a draw-down loan that meets the requirements of the preceding sentence, obligations issued during different calendar years may be treated as part of the same issue if all of the amounts to be advanced under the draw-down loan are reasonably expected to be advanced within 3 years of the date of issue of the first obligation. Likewise, obligations (other than private activity bonds) issued under a single agreement that is in the form of a lease or installment sale may be treated as part of the same issue if all of the property covered by that agreement is reasonably expected to be delivered within 3 years of the date of issue of the first obligation.

**Arbitrage rebate.** Generally, interest on a state or local bond is not tax exempt unless the issuer of the bond rebates to the United States arbitrage profits earned from investing proceeds of the bond in higher yielding nonpurpose investments. See section 148(f).

**Construction issue.** This is an issue of tax-exempt bonds that meets both of the following conditions:

1. At least 75% of the available construction proceeds of the issue are to be used for construction expenditures with respect to property to be owned by a governmental unit or a 501(c)(3) organization, **and**

2. All of the bonds that are part of the issue are qualified 501(c)(3) bonds, bonds that are not private activity bonds, or private activity bonds issued to finance property to be owned by a governmental unit or a 501(c)(3) organization.

In lieu of rebating any arbitrage that may be owed to the United States, the issuer of a construction issue may make an irrevocable election to pay a penalty. The penalty is equal to 1½% of the amount of construction proceeds that do not meet certain spending requirements. See section 148(f)(4)(C) and the Instructions for Form 8038-T.

## Specific Instructions

In general, a Form 8038-GC must be completed on the basis of available information and reasonable expectations as of the date the issue is issued. However, forms that are filed on a consolidated basis may be completed on the basis of information readily available to the issuer at the close of the calendar year to which the form relates, supplemented by estimates made in good faith.

### Part I—Reporting Authority

**Amended return.** If this is an amended Form 8038-GC, check the amended return box. Complete Part I and only those lines of Form 8038-GC that are being amended. Do not amend estimated amounts previously reported once the actual amounts are determined. (See the Part II instructions below.)

**Line 1.** The issuer's name is the name of the entity issuing the obligations, not the name of the entity receiving the benefit of the financing. In the case of a lease or installment sale, the issuer is the lessee or purchaser.

**Line 2.** An issuer that does not have an employer identification number (EIN) should apply for one on **Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number**. This form may be obtained at Social Security Administration offices or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM. If the EIN has not been received by the due date for Form 8038-GC, write "Applied for" in the space for the EIN.

**Line 5.** After the preprinted 5, enter two self-designated numbers. Number reports consecutively during any calendar year (e.g., 534, 535, etc.).

### Part II—Description of Obligations

**Line 8a.** The issue price of obligations is generally determined under Regulations section 1.148-1(b). Thus, when issued for cash, the issue price is the price at which a substantial amount of the obligations are sold to the public. To determine the issue price of an obligation issued for property, see sections 1273 and 1274 and the related regulations.

**Line 8b.** For a single issue, enter the date of issue, generally the date on which the issuer physically exchanges the bonds that are part of the issue for the underwriter's (or other purchaser's) funds; for a lease or installment sale, enter the date interest starts to accrue. For issues reported on a consolidated basis, enter the calendar year during which the obligations were issued.

**Lines 9a and 9b.** For line 9a, enter the amount of the proceeds that will be used to pay principal, interest, or call premium on any other issue of bonds, including proceeds that will be used to fund an escrow account for this purpose. Both line 9a and 9b may apply to a particular obligation. For example, report on line 9a and 9b obligations used to refund prior issues which represent loans from the proceeds of another tax-exempt obligation.

**Line 11.** Check this box if property other than cash is exchanged for the obligation, e.g., acquiring a police car, a fire truck, or telephone equipment through a series of monthly payments. (This type of obligation is sometimes referred to as a "municipal lease.") Also check this box if real property is directly acquired in exchange for an obligation to make periodic payments of interest and principal. **Do not** check this box if the proceeds of the obligation are received in the form of cash, even if the term "lease" is used in the title of the issue.

**Line 12.** Check this box if the issue is a construction issue and an irrevocable election to pay a penalty in lieu of arbitrage rebate has been made on or before the date the bonds were issued. The penalty is payable with a Form 8038-T for each 6-month period after the date the bonds are issued. Do not make any payment of penalty in lieu of rebate with Form 8038-GC. See Rev. Proc. 92-22, 1992-1 C.B. 736, for rules regarding the "election document."

### Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form varies depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is:

**Learning about the law or the form** . . . . 1 hr., 58 min.

**Preparing the form** . . . . 3 hr., 3 min.

**Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS** . . . 16 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Tax Forms Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001. **Do not** send the form to this address. Instead, see **Where To File** on page 1.

