

Declaration Control Number (DCN)

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IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.

Form 8453

U.S. Individual Income Tax Declaration for an IRS e-file Return

OMB No. 1545-0936

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

For the year January 1–December 31, 2004

2004

See instructions on back.

Use the IRS label. Otherwise, please print or type.

Labels for name, address, and social security numbers.

Part I Tax Return Information (Whole dollars only)

Table with 5 rows: Adjusted gross income, Total tax, Federal income tax withheld, Refund, Amount you owe.

Part II Declaration of Taxpayer (Sign only after Part I is completed.) Be sure to keep a copy of your tax return.

- 6a I consent that my refund be directly deposited...
6b I do not want direct deposit of my refund...
6c I authorize the U.S. Treasury and its designated Financial Agent to initiate an ACH electronic funds withdrawal entry...

If I have filed a balance due return, I understand that if the IRS does not receive full and timely payment of my tax liability, I will remain liable for the tax liability and all applicable interest and penalties.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined a copy of my electronic individual income tax return and accompanying schedules and statements for the tax year ending December 31, 2004, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Sign Here section with lines for signature and date.

Part III Declaration of Electronic Return Originator (ERO) and Paid Preparer (See instructions.)

I declare that I have reviewed the above taxpayer's return and that the entries on Form 8453 are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

ERO's Use Only section with fields for signature, date, EIN, and phone number.

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

Paid Preparer's Use Only section with fields for signature, date, EIN, and phone number.

General Instructions



Instead of filing Form 8453, the taxpayer may be able to sign the return electronically using a self-selected personal identification number (PIN). For details, go to the IRS website at www.irs.gov or see Pub. 1345.

Purpose of Form

Use Form 8453 to:

- Authenticate the electronic portion of Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ,
- Send any accompanying paper schedules or statements (Forms W-2, W-2G, or 1099-R should not be attached),
- Authorize the electronic return originator (ERO) to transmit via a third-party transmitter, and
- Provide the taxpayer's consent to directly deposit any refund and/or authorize an electronic funds withdrawal for payment of federal taxes owed and/or a payment of estimated tax.

When and Where To File

This form must be mailed to the applicable submission processing center within 3 business days after the ERO has received acknowledgment from the IRS that the return was accepted. The ERO should provide the taxpayer with the address which is contained in Pub. 1345A, Filing Season Supplement for Authorized IRS e-file Providers.

Line Instructions

Declaration control number (DCN). The DCN is a 14-digit number assigned by the ERO to each return. Clearly type or print the DCN in the top left corner of each Form 8453. Enter the number after the IRS has acknowledged receipt of the electronic return as follows:

Boxes	Entry
1-2	File identification number (always "00")
3-8	Electronic filer identification number (EFIN) assigned by the IRS
9-11	Batch number (000 to 999) assigned by the ERO
12-13	Serial number (00 to 99) assigned by the ERO
14	Year digit (for returns filed in 2005, the year digit is "5")

Example. The EFIN is 509325. The batch number is 000. The serial number is 56. The DCN is 00-509325-00056-5.

Name and address. If the taxpayer received a peel-off name and address label from the IRS, put the label in the name area. Cross out any incorrect information and print the correct information. Add any missing items, such as apartment number. If the taxpayer did not receive a label, print or type the information in the spaces provided.

P.O. box. Enter the box number only if the post office does not deliver mail to the taxpayer's home.

Note. The address must match the address shown on the electronically filed return.

Social security number (SSN). Be sure to enter the taxpayer's SSN in the space provided on Form 8453. If a joint return, list the SSNs in the same order as the first names.

Part I—Tax Return Information

Line 5. Do not include any payment with Form 8453. The method of payment depends on whether the taxpayer checks the box on line 6b or 6c. For details, see the instructions for Part II.

Part II—Declaration of Taxpayer

Note. The taxpayer must check all applicable boxes on line 6.

If there is an amount on line 5 and the taxpayer checks box 6b and is paying by check or money order, mail the payment by April 15, 2005, with Form 1040-V to the applicable address shown on that form.

If the taxpayer checks box 6c, the taxpayer must ensure that the following information relating to the financial institution account is provided in the tax preparation software.

- Routing number.
- Account number.
- Type of account (checking or savings).
- Debit amount.
- Debit date (date the taxpayer wants the debit to occur).

An electronically transmitted return will not be considered complete, and therefore filed, unless and until a Form 8453 signed by the taxpayer is received by the IRS. A Form 8453 signed by an agent must have a power of attorney attached that specifically authorizes the agent to sign the return. To do this, you can use Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative.

If the ERO makes changes to the electronic return after Form 8453 has been signed by the taxpayer but before it is transmitted, the ERO must have the taxpayer complete and sign a corrected Form 8453 if either of the following applies.

- The adjusted gross income on line 1 differs from the amount on the electronic return by more than \$50, or
- The total tax on line 2, the federal income tax withheld on line 3, the refund on line 4, or the amount owed on line 5 differs from the amount on the electronic return by more than \$14.

Form 8453 may be faxed between the taxpayer and the ERO. The ERO must receive the faxed signed Form 8453 prior to transmitting the return to the IRS. The completed Form 8453, with signatures, must be mailed to the IRS.

Part III—Declaration of Electronic Return Originator (ERO) and Paid Preparer

The IRS requires the ERO's signature. A paid preparer must sign Form 8453 in the space for *Paid Preparer's Use Only*. But if the paid preparer is also the ERO, do not complete the paid preparer's section. Instead, check the box labeled "Check if also paid preparer."

Note. If the paid preparer's signature cannot be obtained on Form 8453, you may attach a copy of Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ instead. Attach only pages 1 and 2, and enter "COPY—DO NOT PROCESS" on each page.

Refunds. After the IRS has accepted the return, the refund should be issued within 3 weeks. However, some refunds may be delayed because of compliance reviews to ensure that returns are accurate.

Refund information. You can check on the status of your 2004 refund if it has been at least 3 weeks from the date you filed your return. To check on the status of your 2004 refund, do one of the following:

- Go to www.irs.gov and click on *Where's My Refund*.
- Call 1-800-829-4477 for automated refund information and follow the recorded instructions.
- Call 1-800-829-1954.

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 and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

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 Internal Revenue Code section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is 15 minutes. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of this time estimate or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Internal Revenue Service, Tax Products Coordinating Committee, SE:W:CAR:MP:T:T:SP, 1111 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20224. Do not send the form to this address. Instead, see *When and Where To File* on this page.

