



Internal Revenue Service

Small Business/Self-Employed

IRS Stakeholder Partners Headliners ...and more

Volume 2

December 18, 2001

Welcome to our second addition of **"IRS Payroll and Professional Partners Headliners...and more**. In an effort to provide you with timely information on key topics the Taxpayer Education and Communication (TEC) of the Small Business/Self Employed (SBSE) Division will be developing information packages to be distributed to you on a continual basis through this newsletter. These packages will contain communication messages and topics pertinent to you as a tax professional and consist of "drop-in" news articles, talking points, frequently asked questions and/or fact sheets, and a PowerPoint presentation. We hope that you will share this with others within the tax professional community, as you deem appropriate.

If you need further assistance or require follow up please contact your local Taxpayer Education and Communication (TEC) office. The number is available in IRS Publication 3698A "Small Business/Self-Employed Taxpayer Education and Communication at a Glance": Form 3698a.

What is new at the Internal Revenue Service? It's News For You 2002

The IRS offers a sneak peak at some of the changes that will begin to take place since the agency began its reorganization. It represents a renewed effort to keep taxpayers and tax practitioners informed of the latest events. The "**News for You 2002**" contains 13 fact sheets that highlight changes to help individuals and businesses. This guide is just the beginning of more detailed releases of the upcoming services you will see from the IRS.

Here are the changes that will be taking place with direct links to them at www.irs.gov...

Beginning January 2, 2002, tax professionals will be able to call a new toll-free nationwide support line. This new **Practitioner Priority Service will replace the previous Practitioner Hotlines**.

What's New: Practitioner Priority Service

Third-party authorizations are being streamlined to offer simpler, faster, and more accurate service.

What's New: Third-Party Authorizations

Getting an EIN will now become easier. Beginning January 2, 2002, tax professionals and taxpayers can call a single toll-free telephone number to get an Employer Identification Number.

"Working to Put Service First"
www.irs.gov

What's New: Employer Identification Number

New filing locations for both businesses and individuals. Consolidated tax return processing means IRS can focus more on specific customer service needs. A complete listing of each location can be viewed at this site.

What's New: Filing Locations

The addresses for tax returns and payments.

What's New: Addresses for tax returns and payments

Toll-free phone assistance is changing its hours. We are matching toll-free customer service assistance to the times that taxpayers call the most.

What's New: Customer Focused-Phone Service

Combined Annual Wage Reporting is consolidated in five IRS Centers (now Campuses). Taxpayers and their representatives should respond to the address provided on the notice.

What's New: Combined Annual Wage Reporting

E-Filing and E-Payment options underway for the 2002 filing season.

What's New: e-file

What's New: e-payment Options

The Centralized Offer and Compromise Program (Application Form 656 has been revised). Offers will now be processed in only two locations.

What's New: Offers In Compromise

The Taxpayer Advocate Service can still be reached at (877) 777-4478.

What's New: Taxpayer Advocate Service

September 11, 2001 Disaster Assistance information on the filing and payment relief available to individuals and businesses affected by the 9/11 attacks continues to be available on the IRS Web under IRS Disaster Relief.

Disaster Relief

Help for Terrorism Victims. The IRS will not tax the income of any individual killed as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. "Killed in Terrorist action" must be written at the top of the return.

Disaster Relief

This entire document can be viewed at:

News For You 2002