

Alabama Department of Revenue

Office of the Commissioner
Media Affairs Section
Post Office Box 327001
Montgomery, Alabama 36132-7001

For Immediate Release

For More Information Contact:
Carla A. Snellgrove
or Carolyn Blackstock
Telephone: (334) 242-1390
FAX: (334) 242-0550
www.ador.state.al.us

State Accepts E-filed Returns Beginning Jan. 14

Montgomery, Jan. 14, 2000—Alabama’s electronic filing program officially kicks off Friday, Jan. 14, 2000, following the Internal Revenue Service’s announcement that it will begin accepting e-filed returns at noon on Jan. 14.

As one of 35 states participating in the Federal/State e-file program, Alabama should receive the first electronic transmission of state tax return information from the IRS on Sunday, announced State Revenue Commissioner George E. Mingle dorff III.

“Last year more than 200,000 Alabamians opted to file their state tax returns electronically. E-filing is the fastest way to file taxes and the quickest way for taxpayers to receive refunds. This year, Alabama expanded its e-filing program to accommodate more taxpayers by accepting additional tax schedules,” said Mingle dorff.

“Whether taxpayers choose to file electronically using a tax practitioner or file electronically using their own personal computer, e-filing offers many benefits for taxpayers to consider over the traditional paper return,” advised Mingle dorff.

E-filing is the quickest way to get tax refunds. Alabama returns filed electronically are processed within a five-day turnaround, regardless of when the return is filed during the filing season. There are two options for electronic filing. Individuals can use paid preparers, certified by the IRS as electronic return originators, to prepare and file their state and federal returns, or individuals who have Internet access and who are comfortable preparing their returns can log on to the department’s Web site at www.ador.state.al.us and choose the PC online filing option. Individuals may choose from several online service providers.

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E-filing provides for more accurate returns. Since the tax data is transmitted electronically from the taxpayer to the IRS and then to the Alabama Department of Revenue, tax preparation software eliminates mathematical and other errors frequently made by taxpayers. Equally important, e-filed returns provide for improved processing. Since the state tax return information is already in an electronic format, the information does not have to be data-entered, eliminating the potential for keying errors.

E-filing options provide proof of return filing. With e-filing, Alabama taxpayers can meet their state and federal tax filing obligations at the same time and know within 48 hours that their returns have been received by the department and the IRS.

“If you haven’t e-filed before, consider it this year. The benefits are clear: faster refunds, faster processing, greater accuracy of return information, and the peace of mind in knowing that within 48 hours of filing, your state and federal tax returns have been received,” advised Mingledorff.

For more information concerning Alabama individual income tax filing requirements, visit the department’s Web site at www.ador.state.al.us. The Web site also features a link with the IRS for federal tax information.