

News Release

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With August deadline approaching, Department of Revenue offers tips for property tax refund filers

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Revenue reminds homeowners and renters to file for their 2016 property tax refund before it expires on Aug. 15, 2018. Claims for 2017 property tax refunds can also be filed on or before Aug. 15, 2018, though those claims for refund do not expire until next August.

“Last year, we sent over \$645 million in property tax refunds to more than 875,000 eligible homeowners and renters in Minnesota. We know this is a valuable program for Minnesota families, and with an average refund of over \$892 for homeowners and over \$654 for renters, we want to make sure all eligible taxpayers are taking the opportunity to claim their refunds,” said Revenue Commissioner Cynthia Bauerly.

The department offers tips to property tax refund filers ahead of the August deadline.

- **Find out if you qualify for a property tax refund.** Renters and homeowners that meet certain household income requirements may be eligible. Visit our [website to see if you qualify](#) or type **property tax refund** into the Search box.
- **Homeowners can file for free.** Eligible homeowners can use the department’s electronic filing system to file their property tax refund for free. [Visit our website](#) to see if you qualify to use this free service.
- **Direct deposit.** Direct deposit is the most secure way to get your refund. Make sure your banking information is active and up-to-date when filing your return.
- **Processing and timing.** During processing, the department verifies your identity before checking the return for errors and giving it a final review. We may request information from you during this process. Returns may take longer to process because of the increase in attempted refund fraud due to scams, stolen personal information, and

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identity theft. After we complete a final review, we release the refund to you. Do not spend your refund until you see the money in your bank account.

- **Include the right information.** Renters should make sure to include their Certificate of Rent Paid form when filing their return. Homeowners should make sure to use the information from their property tax statements issued by their county each spring.
- **Track your refund.** You can track where your property tax refund is in the process by using our improved [Where's My Refund? system](#). The system will show you which of the four stages your refund is in and whether you need to take any action to allow us to complete the processing of your refund. You will see the date your refund was issued when it is finished processing.

Check out our short [tax tip video about filing for your property tax refund](#).

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