



# Instructions for Form 1120-W

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

## Future Developments

For the latest information about developments affecting Form 1120-W and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to [IRS.gov/Form1120W](https://www.irs.gov/Form1120W).

## General Instructions

### Who Must Make Estimated Tax Payments

- Corporations must generally make estimated tax payments if they expect their estimated tax (income tax less credits) to be \$500 or more.
- S corporations must make estimated tax payments for certain taxes. S corporations should see the Instructions for Form 1120-S, U.S. Income Tax Return for an S Corporation, to figure their estimated tax payments.
- Tax-exempt corporations, tax-exempt trusts, and domestic private foundations must make estimated tax payments for certain taxes. These entities should see the instructions for their tax return to figure the amount of their estimated tax payments.

### When To Make Estimated Tax Payments

The installments are generally due by the 15th day of the 4th, 6th, 9th, and 12th months of the tax year. If any due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the installment is due on the next regular business day.

### Underpayment of Estimated Tax

A corporation that does not make estimated tax payments when due may be subject to an underpayment penalty for the period of underpayment. Use Form 2220, Underpayment of Estimated Tax by Corporations, to see if the corporation owes a penalty and to figure the amount of the penalty. See Form 2220 and the Instructions for Form 2220.

### Overpayment of Estimated Tax

A corporation that has overpaid its estimated tax may apply for a quick refund if the overpayment is at least 10% of its expected income tax liability and at least \$500. To apply, file Form 4466, Corporation Application for Quick Refund of Overpayment of Estimated Tax, after the end of the tax year and before the corporation files its income tax return. See the Instructions for Form 4466.

### Methods of Tax Payment

Some corporations (described below) are required to electronically deposit all depository taxes, including estimated tax payments.

### Electronic Deposit Requirement

Corporations must use electronic funds transfer to make all federal tax deposits (such as deposits of employment, excise,

and corporate income tax). This includes installment payments of estimated tax. Generally, electronic funds transfer is made using the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS). However, if the corporation does not want to use EFTPS, it can arrange for its tax professional, financial institution, payroll service, or other trusted third party to make electronic deposits on its behalf. Also, it may arrange for its financial institution to initiate a same-day tax wire payment (discussed below) on its behalf. EFTPS is a free service provided by the Department of the Treasury. Services provided by a tax professional, financial institution, payroll service, or other third party may have a fee.

To get more information about EFTPS or to enroll in EFTPS, visit [eftps.gov](https://www.eftps.gov).

**Depositing on time.** For deposits made by EFTPS to be on time, the corporation must submit the deposit by 8 p.m. Eastern time the day before the date the deposit is due. If the corporation uses a third party to make deposits on its behalf, they may have different cutoff times.

**Same-day wire payment option.** If the corporation fails to submit a deposit transaction on EFTPS by 8 p.m. Eastern time the day before the date a deposit is due, it can still make the deposit on time by using the Federal Tax Collection Service (FTCS). Before using the same-day wire payment option, the corporation will need to make arrangements with its financial institution ahead of time. Please check with the financial institution regarding availability, deadlines, and costs. To learn more about the information the corporation will need to provide its financial institution to make a same-day wire payment, visit [IRS.gov/SameDayWire](https://www.irs.gov/SameDayWire).

**Foreign corporations.** If a foreign corporation maintains an office or place of business in the United States, it must use electronic funds transfer (as discussed above) to make installment payments of estimated tax.

If the foreign corporation does not maintain an office or place of business in the United States, it may pay the estimated tax by EFTPS if it has a U.S. bank account. The foreign corporation may also arrange for its financial institution to submit a same-day payment on its behalf or can arrange for either a qualified intermediary, tax professional, payroll service, or other trusted third party to make a deposit on its behalf using a master account.

In addition, the foreign corporation has the option to pay the estimated tax due by check or money order, payable to the "United States Treasury." To ensure proper crediting, enter the foreign corporation's EIN, "Form 1120-F (or 1120-FSC, if applicable) estimated tax payment," and the tax period to which the payment applies on the check or money order. The payments must be sent to the Internal Revenue Service Center, P.O. Box 409101, Ogden, UT 84409.

### Refiguring Estimated Tax

If, after the corporation figures and deposits estimated tax, it finds that its tax liability for the year will be more or less than originally estimated, it may have to refigure its required installments. If earlier installments were underpaid, the corporation may owe a penalty.

An immediate catchup payment should be made to reduce the amount of any penalty resulting from the underpayment of any earlier installments, whether caused by a change in estimate, failure to make a deposit, or a mistake.

## Specific Instructions



All line references on Form 1120-W are references to Form 1120, U.S. Corporation Income Tax Return. All other entities must determine their estimated tax liability by using the applicable line from their income tax return and the maximum rate that is in effect for their applicable tax year.

### Lines 1 and 2

Corporations, including qualified personal service corporations and members of a controlled group, are taxed at a flat rate of 21% of taxable income. Multiply the expected taxable income from line 1 by 21%. Enter this amount on line 2.

### Line 3. Tax Credits

For information on tax credits the corporation can take, see the Instructions for Form 1120, Schedule J, Part I, lines 5a through 5e, or the instructions for the applicable lines and schedule of other income tax returns.

### Line 5. Other Taxes

Other taxes include the base erosion minimum tax amount and any recaptured tax credits. For information on other taxes the corporation may owe, see the Instructions for Form 1120, Schedule J, Part I, line 9, or the instructions for the applicable line and schedule of other income tax returns.

### Line 7. Credit for Federal Tax Paid on Fuels and Other Refundable Credits

See Form 4136, Credit for Federal Tax Paid on Fuels, to find out if the corporation qualifies to take this credit. Also include on line 7 any other refundable credit, including any credit the corporation is claiming under section 4682(g)(2) for tax on ozone-depleting chemicals. For information on other refundable credits, see the Instructions for Form 1120, Schedule J, or the instructions for the applicable line or schedule of other income tax returns.

### Line 9a. 2019 Tax

Figure the corporation's 2019 tax in the same way that line 8 of this worksheet was figured, using the taxes and credits from the 2019 income tax return. See the instructions for the 2019 Form 1120. Large corporations, see the instructions for line 11 below.

If a return was not filed for the 2019 tax year showing a liability for at least some amount of tax or the 2019 tax year was for less than 12 months, do not complete line 9a. Instead, skip line 9a and enter the amount from line 8 on line 9b.

### Line 10. Installment Due Dates

**Calendar-year taxpayers:** Enter 4-15-2020, 6-15-2020, 9-15-2020, and 12-15-2020, respectively, in columns (a) through (d). If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, enter the next business day.

**Fiscal-year taxpayers:** Enter the 15th day of the 4th, 6th, 9th, and 12th months of your tax year in columns (a) through (d). If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, enter the next business day.

### Line 11. Required Installments

Payments of estimated tax should reflect any 2019 overpayment that the corporation chose to credit against its 2020 tax. The

overpayment is credited against unpaid required installments in the order in which the installments are required to be paid.

If the corporation uses the annualized income installment method and/or the adjusted seasonal installment method, or is a "large corporation," see the instructions below.

**Annualized income installment method and/or adjusted seasonal installment method.** If the corporation's income is expected to vary during the year because, for example, it operates its business on a seasonal basis, it may be able to lower the amount of one or more required installments by using the annualized income installment method and/or the adjusted seasonal installment method. For example, a ski shop, which receives most of its income during the winter months, may be able to benefit from using one or both of these methods in figuring one or more of its required installments.

To use one or both of these methods, complete Schedule A. If Schedule A is used for any payment date, it must be used for all payment due dates. To get the amount of each required installment, Schedule A automatically selects the smallest of (a) the annualized income installment (if applicable), (b) the adjusted seasonal installment (if applicable), or (c) the regular installment under section 6655(d)(1) (increased by any recapture of a reduction in a required installment under section 6655(e)(1)(B)).

**Large corporations.** A large corporation is a corporation that had, or whose predecessor had, taxable income of \$1 million or more for any of the 3 tax years immediately preceding the 2020 tax year, or if less, the number of years the corporation has been in existence. For this purpose, taxable income is modified to exclude net operating loss and capital loss carrybacks or carryovers.

Large corporations figure the amount to enter on line 11 as follows. If Schedule A is used, also follow these instructions to figure the amounts to enter on Schedule A, Part III, line 35.

- If line 8 is smaller than line 9a: Enter 25% of line 8 in columns (a) through (d) of line 11.
- If line 9a is smaller than line 8: Enter 25% of line 9a in column (a) of line 11. In column (b), determine the amount to enter as follows:
  1. Subtract line 9a from line 8,
  2. Add the result to the amount on line 8, and
  3. Multiply the result in 2 above by 25% and enter the result in column (b). Enter 25% of line 8 in columns (c) and (d).

### Schedule A

If only the adjusted seasonal installment method (Part I) is used, complete Parts I and III of Schedule A. If only the annualized income installment method (Part II) is used, complete Parts II and III. If both methods are used, complete all three parts. Enter in each column on page 1, Part I, line 11, the amounts from the corresponding column of line 38. If Schedule A is used for any payment date, it must be used for all payment dates.



Do not figure any required installment until after the end of the month preceding the due date for that installment.

**Extraordinary items.** Generally, under the annualized income installment method, extraordinary items must be taken into account after annualizing the taxable income for the annualization period. Similar rules apply in determining taxable income under the adjusted seasonal installment method. An extraordinary item includes:

- Any item identified in Regulations section 1.1502-76(b)(2)(ii) (C)(1), (2), (3), (4), (7), and (8);
- A net operating loss carryover;
- A section 481(a) adjustment; and

- Net gain or loss from the disposition of 25% or more of the fair market value of the corporation's business assets during the tax year.

These extraordinary items must be accounted for in the appropriate annualization period. However, a net operating loss deduction and a section 481(a) adjustment (unless the corporation makes the alternative choice under Regulations section 1.6655-2(f)(3)(ii)(C)) are treated as extraordinary items occurring on the first day of the tax year in which the item is taken into account in determining taxable income.

**De minimis rule.** Extraordinary items identified above that are less than \$1,000,000 (other than a net operating loss carryover or a section 481(a) adjustment) may be annualized using the general rules of Regulations section 1.6655-2(f), or if the corporation chooses, may be taken into account after annualizing the taxable income for the annualization period.

For more information regarding extraordinary items, see Regulations section 1.6655-2(f)(3)(ii) and the examples in Regulations section 1.6655-2(f)(3)(vii). Also see Regulations section 1.6655-3(d)(3).

## Part I. Adjusted Seasonal Installment Method

Complete this part only if the corporation's base period percentage for any 6 consecutive months of the tax year equals or exceeds 70% (0.70). Figure the base period percentage using the 6-month period in which the corporation normally receives the largest part of its taxable income. The base period percentage for any period of 6 consecutive months is the average of the three percentages figured by dividing the taxable income for the corresponding 6-consecutive-month period in each of the 3 preceding tax years by the taxable income for each of their respective tax years.

**Example.** An amusement park with a calendar year as its tax year receives the largest part of its taxable income during the 6-month period from May through October. To compute its base period percentage for this 6-month period in 2020, the amusement park figures its taxable income for each May–October period in 2017, 2018, and 2019. It then divides the taxable income for each May–October period by the total taxable income for that particular tax year. The resulting percentages are 69% (0.69) for May–October 2017, 74% (0.74) for May–October 2018, and 67% (0.67) for May–October 2019. Because the average of 69%, 74%, and 67% is 70%, the base period percentage for May through October 2020 is 70%. Therefore, the amusement park qualifies for the adjusted seasonal installment method.

### Line 2

If the corporation has certain extraordinary items, special rules apply. Do not include on line 2 the de minimis extraordinary items that the corporation chooses to include on line 9b. See [Extraordinary items](#) above.

### Line 9b

If the corporation has extraordinary items of \$1,000,000 or more, a net operating loss deduction, or a section 481(a) adjustment, special rules apply. Include these amounts on line 9b for the appropriate period. Also include on line 9b the de minimis items that the corporation chooses to exclude from line 2. See [Extraordinary items](#) above.

### Line 10

Figure the tax on the amount on line 9c by following the same steps used to figure the tax on Form 1120-W, page 1, line 2.

## Line 15. Reserved

## Line 16. Other Taxes

For the same taxes used to figure page 1, Part I, line 5, figure the amounts for the months shown in the column headings above line 1.

## Line 18. Credits

Enter the credits to which the corporation is entitled for the months shown in the column headings above line 1.

## Part II. Annualized Income Installment Method

### Line 20. Annualization Periods

Enter in the space on line 20, columns (a) through (d), respectively, the annualization periods that the corporation is using, based on the options listed below. For example, if the corporation elects Option 1, enter on line 20, the annualization periods 2, 4, 7, and 10, in columns (a) through (d), respectively.



**CAUTION** Use Option 1 or Option 2 only if the corporation elected to use one of these options by filing Form 8842, Election To Use Different Annualization Periods for Corporate Estimated Tax, on or before the due date of the first required installment payment. Once made, the election is irrevocable for the particular tax year.

	1st Installment	2nd Installment	3rd Installment	4th Installment
Standard option	3	3	6	9
Option 1 . . . . .	2	4	7	10
Option 2 . . . . .	3	5	8	11

### Line 21. Taxable Income

If a corporation has income includible under section 951(a) (controlled foreign corporation income), special rules apply.

Amounts includible in income under section 951(a) must generally be taken into account in figuring the amount of any annualized income installment as the income is earned. The amounts are figured in a manner similar to the way in which partnership income inclusions are taken into account in figuring a partner's annualized income installments as provided in Regulations section 1.6654-2(d)(2).

**Safe harbor election.** Corporations may be able to make a prior-year safe harbor election. Under the election, an eligible corporation is treated as having received ratably during the tax year items of income under section 951(a) equal to 115% (100% for a noncontrolling shareholder) of the amounts shown on the corporation's return for the first preceding tax year (the second preceding tax year for the first and second required installments).

For more information, see section 6655(e)(4)(B) and Regulations section 1.6655-2(f)(3)(v)(B)(2).

**Extraordinary items.** If the corporation has extraordinary items, special rules apply. Do not include on line 21 the de minimis extraordinary items that the corporation chooses to include on line 23b. See [Extraordinary items](#), earlier.

### Line 22. Annualization Amounts

Enter the annualization amounts for the option used on line 20. For example, if the corporation elects Option 1, enter on line 22,

the annualization amounts 6, 3, 1.71429, and 1.2, in columns (a) through (d), respectively.

	1st Installment	2nd Installment	3rd Installment	4th Installment
Standard option	4	4	2	1.33333
Option 1 . . . . .	6	3	1.71429	1.2
Option 2 . . . . .	4	2.4	1.5	1.09091

**Line 23b**

If the corporation has certain extraordinary items of \$1,000,000 or more, a net operating loss deduction, or a section 481(a) adjustment, special rules apply. Include these amounts on line 23b. Also include on line 23b the de minimis extraordinary items that the corporation chooses to exclude from line 21. See [Extraordinary items](#), earlier.

**Line 24**

Figure the tax on the amount in each column on line 23c by following the same steps used to figure the tax on Form 1120-W, page 1, line 2.

**Line 25. Reserved**

**Line 26. Other Taxes**

For the same taxes used to figure line 5 of Form 1120-W, figure the amounts for the months shown on line 20.

**Line 28. Credits**

Enter the credits to which the corporation is entitled for the months shown in each column on line 20. Do not annualize any credit. However, when figuring the credits, annualize any item of income or deduction used to figure the credit.

**Part III. Required Installments**

**Line 33**

Before completing line 33 in columns (b) through (d), complete lines 34 through 38 in each of the preceding columns. For

example, complete lines 34 through 38 in column (a) before completing line 33 in column (b).

**Line 35**

“Large corporations,” see the instructions for page 1, line 11, for the amount to enter.

**Line 38. Required Installments**

For each installment, enter the smaller of line 34 or line 37 on line 38. Also enter the result on page 1, Part I, line 11.

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.** Your use of this form is optional. It is provided to aid the corporation in determining its tax liability.

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 will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated burden for business taxpayers filing this form is approved under OMB control number 1545-0123 and is included in the estimates shown in the instructions for their business income tax return.

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 send us comments through [IRS.gov/FormComments](https://www.irs.gov/FormComments). Or you can write to the Internal Revenue Service, Tax Forms and Publications Division, 1111 Constitution Ave. NW, IR-6526, Washington, DC 20224. Do not send the tax form to this office. Instead, keep the form for your records.

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