Process Accelerated Refunds

Process

KEY ON-LINE ACCELERATED REFUNDS

Effective Date

01/01/2025

Purpose

This task is performed to create accelerated refunds for customers. The Commissioner of the Revenue's Office Locality representative typically performs this task when a customer has met specific accelerated refund processing criteria.

Special Notes

- The **Submitted Date for returns and payments** is the postmark date if they are mailed to the local office or hand-stamped date if they are hand-delivered to the Commissioner of the Revenue.
- The **Submitted Date for accelerated refunds** is the date keyed.
- This task can be performed on current year Form 760 Handprint returns and Form 760CG (with/without a 2D barcode) refund returns for Individual Income Tax returns <u>only</u>.
- The following should be separated out and <u>not</u> keyed for an Accelerated Refund:
 - Form 760CG returns (with/without a 2D barcode) which bear the XXXXX e-file indicator in the upper right portion of the return (beside the Vendor ID field). These returns should be sent to Virginia Tax as Direct-file and accompanied by a LAP-Sort 2 Form. (Refer to FORM: <u>LAP-SORT 2</u>.)
 - Amended returns. These returns should be sent to Virginia Tax as Direct-file and accompanied by a LAP-SORT 2 Form. (Refer to FORM: <u>LAP-SORT 2</u>.)
 - Prior year returns. These returns should be sent to Virginia Tax as Direct-file and accompanied by a LAP-SORT 2 Form. (Refer to FORM: <u>LAP-SORT 2</u>.)
 - Returns for deceased customers.
 - Returns with a Name Change, Filing Status Change, and/or Address Change.
- Flat Form 760:
 - There is a LAR bubble in the bottom **left** margin which should be filled-in to identify a successfully <u>processed</u> local accelerated refund.
 - There is a DLAR bubble in the bottom **left** margin which should be filled-in to identify a <u>denied</u> local accelerated refund.
- Form 760CG (with/without a 2D barcode):
 - There is a LAR line in the bottom margin which should be completed with an "X" to identify a *successfully* processed local accelerated refund.
 - There is a DLAR line in the bottom margin which should be completed with an "X" to identify a *denied* local accelerated refund.
- Groups of Accepted Accelerated Refunds must be accompanied by a **completed GREEN** <u>Local Accepted On-</u> <u>Line Accelerated Refund Group Control Document</u>.

• Groups of Denied Accelerated Refunds must be accompanied by a **completed PINK** <u>Local Denied On-Line</u> <u>Accelerated Refund Group Control Document</u>.

Procedure

Responsibility

Commissioner of the Revenue's Office Locality Representative

Steps

- 1. Obtain a group of **Category 1** returns identified in Mail Opening which may be eligible for an accelerated refund.
- 2. Sort the returns into three (3) groups as follows:
 - Group 1: Form 760 Handprint returns
 - Group 2: Form 760CG returns with a 2D barcode
 - Group 3: Form 760CG returns without a 2D barcode
- 3. Access IRMS and begin the processing of a new group of Accelerated Refund returns by selecting "Tax Information: Accelerated Return: Create".

NOTE: Detailed data related to the Creation/Processing of Accelerated Refunds is found in Chapter 13-Create and View Accelerated Refund Returns in the <u>IRMS User Guide for Localities</u>.

Once the "Tax Information: Accelerated Return: Create" is chosen, the <u>Create New Group</u> window opens and displays the eight-digit **Group Number** of the new group.

- 4. Obtain a blank LOCAL AR-**GREEN** Online Accelerated Refund-Accepted Group Control Document and complete the form as follows: (Please refer to <u>On-line Accelerated Refund Accepted Group Control Document</u>.)
 - A. Enter the name of the locality in the **Locality Name:** box in the upper left-hand corner of the document.
 - B. Enter the locality's **FIPS Code** in the FIPS Code: block in the upper right-hand box on the sheet.
 - C. Write the **Group Control Number** displayed on the **Create New Group** window on the sheet in the **Group Control Number** block.
 - D. Circle the **Form Type** associated with the Group being keyed.
 - E. Enter the name and i.d. of the person keying the returns in the **Online Operator Name and I.D.** box.
 - F. Enter the date the group was keyed in month, day, and year sequence it the **Date Keyed:** box.
- 5. Compare the Group Number shown on the screen to the number written on the header sheet and make any corrections as needed.
- 6. Place the completed GREEN Accepted Group Control Document aside.
- 7. Key the required group information in the **Create New Group** window.
 - **NOTE**: The Submitted Date and the Received Date default to the current date.
 - A. Change the **Submitted Date**, as necessary.
 - B. Change the Received Date, as necessary.
 NOTE: Several elements on the screen such as the Return Source, Return Detail Type, Tax Year, Source Locality, and Locality/Tax Rep fields will be pre-populated by the system.
 - C. Select **CREATE** to open the **Accelerated Refund Return Entry** window.
- 8. Obtain a return from the group and review the document.

NOTE: Prior review of returns in Mail Opening should have identified amended returns, prior year returns, returns for deceased customers, returns with a name and/or address change, incomplete returns, etc. which are **not eligible** for Accelerated Refunds. **STEPS 8A – 8E** are performed in the event that these returns were not removed.

A. If the amended checkbox is marked or "**Amended**" is written on the return, place the return aside in the stack to be handled as a **Direct File** return with a LAP-SORT 2 form. (Refer to FORM: <u>LAP-SORT 2</u>.)



- B. If the return is for a **prior tax year**, place the return aside in the stack to be handled as a **Direct File** return with a LAP-SORT 2 form. (Refer to FORM: <u>LAP-SORT 2</u>.)
- C. If the return shows a **name and/or address change**, place the return aside in the stack to be processed **without an accelerated refund**.
- D. If the **deceased** checkbox is marked, place the return aside in a stack to be processed <u>without an</u> <u>accelerated refund</u>.
- E. If the return is missing information necessary for processing, place the return aside in the "Miscellaneous" stack to be researched.
 NOTE: Examples of missing information include Page 2 of return is missing, return data is illegible/missing, return does not indicate a refund, etc.
- F. If the return is complete with all necessary documents, continue to **STEP 9**.
- Review Page 1 and Page 2 of the return to ensure that only <u>one</u> return has been picked up.
 NOTE: Pick up each return individually before keying to prevent mixing the information from two customers.
- 10. Enter the following customer information from the return in the **Create Accelerated Refund Return** window, using the TAB key to navigate from one field to another.
 - Filing Status. Valid entry codes include the following:
 - o S (Single)
 - J (Married Filing Joint)
 - P (Married Filing Separate)
 - **Primary SSN** the 9-digit social security number of the primary taxpayer shown on the return.
 - **Primary Name** the first 4 characters of the primary taxpayer's **last** name.
 - The birthday of the primary taxpayer in MM/DD/YYYY sequence in the **Primary Birthday** field.
 - Secondary SSN the 9-digit social security number of the secondary taxpayer shown on the return, if applicable.

NOTE: This field is **required** if the filing status is *Married Filing Joint*. This field **should not be keyed** if the filing status is *Married Filing Separate*.

- Secondary Name the first 4 characters of the secondary taxpayer's last name, if applicable.
 NOTE: This field is required if the Secondary Last Name is different from the Primary Last Name. This field should not be keyed if the filing status is Married Filing Separate.
- The birthday of the secondary taxpayer in MM/DD/YYYY sequence in the **Secondary Birthday** field, if applicable.
- The 7-digit alphanumeric Personal Identification Number associated with the taxpayer in the **PIN** field, if applicable.
- 11. Select FIND to display the customer's address information found in IRMS.
 - A. If the displayed address is the same as the address on the tax return, go to **STEP 12**.
 - B. If the displayed address is not the same as the address on the tax return,
 - 1) Clear the return by selecting CLEAR.
 - 2) Place the return aside in a "**First Pass**" group to be processed *without* an accelerated refund.
 - 3) Go to **STEP 8** and select another return.
- 12. Enter the following from the return:
 - A. Enter the Refund Amount (First Time) in dollars and cents, including the decimal point.
 - B. Enter the Refund Amount (Second Time) in dollars and cents, including the decimal point.
- 13. View the direct deposit information on the return.
 - A. If the customer did not specify direct deposit, go to **STEP 14**.
 - B. If the customer did specify direct deposit,
 - 1) Enter "1" for Checking OR "2" for Savings, in the "Direct Deposit Account Type" field.
 - 2) Enter the Routing/Transit Number.
 - 3) Enter the Bank Account Number (First Time).



- 4) Enter the Bank Account Number (Second Time).
- 14. Compare your keyed entries to the information on the tax return.
 - A. If the entries were correctly keyed, go to **STEP 15**.
 - B. If the entries were not correctly keyed, repeat STEPS 10 -13, as needed, to correct the entries.
- 15. Save the accelerated return information by selecting NEXT.
 - **NOTE:** The fields clear if the validation is successful, but the system prompts you if:
 - Information is missing or invalid
 - Information is not complete
 - The criteria is not met and the Accelerated Refund is **DENIED**.
 - A. If the return is **ACCEPTED** by the system,
 - 1) Place an "X" on the **LAR** line/fill-in the bubble at the bottom of the return.
 - 2) Place the return aside in the **ACCEPTED** stack to be transmitted to Virginia Tax.
 - 3) Go **STEP 8** to handle the next return.

NOTE: The screen refreshes to blank fields.

- B. If the necessary entry window fields were not properly keyed,
 - 1) Select OK to close the message box and return to the entry window.
 - 2) Re-key the necessary fields.
 - 3) Save the information by selecting NEXT.
 - 4) Go to **STEP 8** to handle the next return.
- C. If the return is **DENIED** by the system,
 - 1) Place an "X" on the **DLAR** line/fill-in the bubble at the bottom of the return.
 - NOTE: It is NOT NECESSARY to document on the return/attach a note to the return stating the reason for the return to be denied.
 - 2) Place the return aside in the **DENIED** stack to be processed in a **DENIED** group. mn
 - 3) Select OK to close the message box and return to the entry window.
 - 4) Go to **STEP 8** to handle the next return.
- 16. Repeat **STEPS 8 15** for each return in the bundle.

NOTE: The system allows you to view the last 10 returns keyed by selecting "Return: View Last 10 Returns Keyed".

- 17. If the system prompts that 100 accepted returns have been keyed and returns the operator to the Create New Group window,
 - A. Retrieve the completed **GREEN** Accepted Group Control document from **STEP 4** and place it on top of the 100 **ACCEPTED** returns.
 - B. Enter "100" in the **# of Returns** box on the **GREEN** Accepted Group Control document.
 - C. Rubberband the documents together.
 - D. Place the bundle aside in the designated location to be screened and transmitted to Virginia Tax.
 - E. Return to **STEP 3** to continue keying the remaining work.
- 18. If fewer than 100 accepted returns have been keyed and the operator needs to exit the process,
 - A. Select "Return: End Current Group".
 - B. Count the number of returns in the accepted group.
 - C. Retrieve the completed **GREEN** Accepted Group Control document from **STEP 4** and place it on top of the **ACCEPTED** returns.
 - D. Enter the number of accepted returns in the **# of Returns** box on the **GREEN** Accepted Group Control document.
 - E. Rubberband/paperclip the documents together.
 - F. Place the bundle of **ACCEPTED** returns aside in the designated location to be screened and transmitted to Virginia Tax.
- 19. Gather the returns that were placed aside in earlier steps, working one stack at a time.



NOTE: These stacks include the following:

- Stack 1: "Amended" stack (from STEP 8A)
- Stack 2: "Prior Tax Year" stack (from STEP 8B)
- Stack 3: "Name/Address Change" stack (from STEP 8C)
- Stack 4: "Deceased" stack (from STEP 8D)
- Stack 5: "First Pass" stack (from STEP 11B)
- Stack 6: "Denied" stack (from STEP 15C)
- 20. Gather the returns from Stacks 1 and 2 that are to be sent to Virginia Tax as Direct File Items.
 - A. Obtain and complete a LAP-SORT 2 form.
 - B. Place the form on top of the associated returns.
 - C. Rubberband the returns together.
 - D. Place the bundle in the designated location to be transmitted to Virginia Tax.
- 21. Gather the returns from **Stacks 3 and 4** that were not eligible for processing as an accelerated refund.
 - A. Place a note on top of the returns indicating that the returns weren't eligible for processing as an accelerated refund.
 - B. Rubberband the returns together.
 - C. Place the bundle in the designated location to be screened.
- 22. Gather the returns from Stack 5 (FIRST PASS).
 - A. Place a note on top of the returns indicating the address on the return didn't match the information in IRMS so the return could not be processed as an accelerated refund.
 - B. Rubberband the returns together.
 - C. Place the bundle in the designated location to be screened.
- 23. Gather the returns from **Stack 6** (**<u>DENIED</u>** accelerated refunds).
- 24. Sort the returns from **Stack 6** into three *additional* groups as follows:
 - **DENIED** Group 1: 760 Handprint returns
 - **DENIED** Group 2: 760CG returns with a 2D barcode
 - **DENIED** Group 3: 760CG returns without a 2D barcode
- 25. Obtain **DENIED** Group 1: 760 Handprint returns.
- 26. Count the number of documents in the group.
- 27. Obtain a blank **PINK** <u>Local Denied On-Line Accelerated Refund Group Control Document</u> and complete the document as follows:
 - A. Enter the name of the locality in the upper left hand corner of the document.
 - B. Enter the locality's five-digit FIPS code in the upper right hand corner of the document.
 - C. Circle the form type associated with the returns in the DENIED group.
 - D. Enter the name and operator number of the individual keying the documents in the designated box.
 - E. Enter the date the group was keyed in month, day, and year sequence in the designated box.
 - F. Enter the number of returns in the group in the designated box.
- 28. Place the completed form on top of the returns and rubberband the group together.
- 29. Place the bundle in the designated location to be transmitted to Virginia Tax.
- 30. Repeat STEPS 25 through 29 until a **PINK** Local Denied On-Line Accelerated Refund Group Control Document has been completed for **DENIED Group 2** documents and **DENIED Group 3** documents.

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