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| **Tax refunds**Over 383,000 refunds have already gone out to taxpayers for this filing season. In general, taxpayers should anticipate a refund within 4-6 weeks after filing online, and 8-10 weeks after filing a paper return. [Where’s My Refund](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D0d5352f6ad-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=S-gHtg7beWxbLKzmsl-M7mIEZYSIuqOxUB8zI531_9o&e=)[?](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D1787212141-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=fIlLRJzMxlAevGrv9pJOAzOo6s3hJaUglaDfQSYjII0&e=) gives taxpayers the status of their refund. If taxpayer information has changed from last year, such as address or bank account information, additional steps may be taken for verification and could add some time to the wait for a refund. **Third parties may now register for client’s energy exemption**A third party, with access rights to a client’s MassTaxConnect account for at least one tax type, can now register for the small business energy exemption on behalf of the client. The certificate will be mailed to the client. Only the client will be able to obtain a copy of the exemption certificate or view the certificate through MassTaxConnect. Learn more about the [small business energy exemption](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3De7197002b1-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=7sN25FeCtjA1o8oNfIYOUNXB1RUkA-v_hdPpw9FfZfU&e=). **Short-term rental room occupancy excise**Legislation was signed late last year that expanded the application of the room occupancy excise to short-term rentals as of July 1, 2019. We have posted information that includes [detailed frequently asked questions](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D61f41a08bb-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=HkBE80xJdDaXmCsvMS6A7xOaK0yCoIRGF_e580i_KjQ&e=) and a link to the [draft technical information release](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D7447411d67-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=Dz638j4o0FChB5awCvzD3WZx-JekvVl_w1k_lIxO6Zg&e=). Be sure to check back for updates. **Paid Family Medical Leave**We provided some information on this last month, and will continue to push out news on this important initiative to you. The [draft regulations](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D77b93e5c74-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=xdjVu-ml48khMSgah8piUUeZ8_3f_C8BJvh9Nfj4vnU&e=) have now been posted on the DFML website and two additional [listening sessions](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D8898942a82-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=MWHxq3XlMCzaRWjMcIgOGScCrc0nR0kMwUPyrNbUvOA&e=) were added. **Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Grants Awarded**DOR recently awarded grants for low income taxpayer clinics to Greater Boston Legal Services, Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School in Jamaica Plain, and Springfield Partners LITC in Springfield. These clinics offer assistance to qualified taxpayers with collection issues, audits, appeals and responses to DOR notices. They do not prepare current year tax returns. Check our [Find a Tax Professional page](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D03dd9c1daa-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=QDigX6E5Vyqhr3gYKWHMo_d8EjwV2SH6ZkByBwJ6QmY&e=) for contact information. **Circuit Breaker**Criteria for sending out notices for more information on the [Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D9c416e8ab1-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=96_Np9ccmwA6W0lzNzAbA1ZhOeKbHM5ktemfiK9yl74&e=) got a long hard look over the summer and we expect to reduce the number of requests for more information this tax season. Taxpayers who file for this credit for the first time may be asked for a real estate tax bill, so tax professionals may want to give clients a heads-up. You’ll find information on the webpage about the most common mistakes when filing for this credit. **Make payments electronically**It’s safe and secure, there’s instant confirmation, you can choose a bank account or credit card payment and you will eliminate 4-6 weeks of paper check processing. If a paper check is submitted separately from the tax return, be sure to use a current updated payment voucher for efficiency. **Fillable forms**Taxpayers asked for [fillable forms](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__mass.us11.list-2Dmanage.com_track_click-3Fu-3D0e9e2209abd5f7062568d9a19-26id-3D36fe45d318-26e-3D2a7ed48087&d=DwMFaQ&c=Xhn9KFvv0VrhnMFbYtQjTGdTU13Xl3cIMh34YNGAA48&r=znZheQL4dwmzTjySvgY3yrYA6gXooZqN9NJaTVXHH-8&m=YN_H443F-qGgVxy7fCECK5ZfXt-BWkJh-JuvkpSAGqY&s=XUF_er6qtoNlJ0D9_IGqObDfIgsB-5JSh13BDUUjKHM&e=) as an online filing choice for Massachusetts and that option is now available for this filing season. An initial hiccup in the submission of fillable forms was resolved. |

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| **DOR News - February 2019**  |

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