

**MassTaxConnect will shut down Friday at 5:00**
The upgrade for MassTaxConnect will take place this weekend. As of 5:00 pm on Friday, January 15, MassTaxConnect will shut down and open again at 6:00 am on Tuesday, January 19. Submit estimated payments before the shutdown and if you scheduled a payment for withdrawal on the 15th, it will be considered made on time. [More information](https://mailchi.mp/73e5542f24f5/get-ready-for-the-masstaxconnect-upgrade-on-january-19-2021) on relief and what to expect.

**It’s that time of year – again – 1099s and W-2s**
Catch up on 1099 filing requirements. Review the latest information about filing requirements to report interest, dividends and other taxable income on the [1099 information page](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/view-filing-requirements-for-form-1099). You can also refresh your knowledge on [W-2 responsibilities for an employer.](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/annual-wage-and-tax-statement-form-w-2)

**Soft opening for filing season**
We expect the IRS will open near the end of January, as they did last year. We will follow suit. Reminder that we conduct testing initially, so it could be a few days before we confirm receipt of the returns filed that first week. Electronic filing is the answer to the question - What’s the best way to get a return to DOR safely, securely and quickly? Help us get to 100% of returns filed electronically – we’re so close.

**Online forms are the latest and greatest**
Just a reminder that the printed forms and instructions represent information at the time of printing. If any changes are made, generally only to instructions, they will be made to the online versions. Check the [DOR website](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/dor-tax-forms-and-instructions) for the most current information. Always worth a reminder – do not file a form with a watermark – it’s a draft and cannot be accepted.

**Collection issues? Talk to us.**
If your clients are experiencing collection issues, we recommend reaching out to us for a conversation. Don’t let the issue get too far down the road before contacting us. You’ll find lots of information [here](https://www.mass.gov/guides/frequently-asked-questions-regarding-dor-collections#-what-if-i-am-unable-to-make-any-payments-towards-my-liability), including the contact number, and we recently updated the FAQs on [hardship](https://www.mass.gov/guides/frequently-asked-questions-regarding-dor-collections#-what-does-it-mean-to-be-approved-for-hardship-status?-).