

# Special Alert

## IRS to Furlough 2/3 of Staff if Government Shuts Down

The IRS will furlough roughly two-thirds of its employees if Congress fails to reach a deal to keep the government open, according to the [contingency plan](#) the U.S. Treasury Department released late Thursday. During the first five business days following the shutdown, the IRS will keep 30,063 of its 89,944 employees at work.

### **What IRS activities will stop?**

A summary of significant IRS activities that will stop during the shutdown includes:

- All audit functions and return examinations
- Issuing non-automated refunds
- Non-automated collections
- Taxpayer services, such as responding to taxpayer questions outside of filing season
- Legal work on any actions paused during the shutdown
- Processing of non-disaster relief transcripts
- Most headquarters and administrative functions that are not related to the safety of life and protection of property

### **Which IRS activities will continue?**

The following is a brief list of the IRS functions that are expected to continue during the shutdown:

- Designing and printing forms for the upcoming tax season
- Mail processing
- Maintaining criminal law enforcement and undercover operations
- Completing and testing programs for the upcoming filing year
- Processing remittances, including Payment Perfection
- Taxpayer services during filing season
- Processing disaster relief transcripts
- Implementing initiatives included in the *Inflation Reduction Act* (not funded through appropriations)

We will continue to keep our members informed of shutdown-related operational changes at the IRS that may have an impact on their practices.

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