

**Colorado Department of Revenue**

**Revision**

Taxpayer Service Division

January 13, 2026



## **E-Filers Handbook**

## **Individual Income Tax**

### **Tax Year 2025**

**(Processing Year 2026)**

**E-FILERS HANDBOOK 2025**  
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### **INTRODUCTION**

The Colorado Department of Revenue (DOR) has joined with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to provide for the electronic filing of federal and state income tax returns. The Federal/State Electronic Filing (FSEF) program in Colorado is an extension of the IRS's Modern e-file (MeF) program.

This handbook is an expansion of the IRS's Publication 1345. All specifications, requirements, and instructions defined in Publication 1345 apply to the Colorado FSEF program unless herein stated otherwise.

### **FSEF PROGRAM**

#### **How the FSEF/MeF Program Works**

Federally accepted Electronic Return Originators (EROs) and Transmitters will be able to file and/or transmit both the federal return and the Colorado return in one transmission to the appropriate IRS Service Center. The IRS will acknowledge to the Transmitter whether the federal return has been accepted and whether it has received the state data. After the federal and state returns are received and accepted by the IRS, the state return is then made available to Colorado by the IRS for electronic retrieval. Over 90% of Colorado taxpayers filed electronically for TY 2024.

#### **Acceptable Returns and Forms**

For TY2025, the DOR will accept the electronic transmission of tax due, zero tax, state only, refund returns, deceased returns, and the following forms:

- Individual Income Forms 104, 104AD, 104AMT, 104CH, 104CN, 104CR, 104EE, 104EP, 104PN, 104TN, 104X, 158-I, 204, 347, 1217 (**new**), and 1703
- C-Corporation Forms 112, 112CR, Schedule C, Schedule RF (formally known as Schedule SF), and 205
- S-Corp and Partnership Income Forms 106 Parts I-IV, and 106CR
- Fiduciary Income Form 105 and Schedules A-G
- Form 106K: Colorado K-1
- Form 289: Employer Contributions to Employee 529 Qualified State Tuition Program
- Form 348P: Remediation of Contaminated Land Credit Pass Through Schedule
- Form 348T: Remediation of Contaminated Land Credit Transfer Schedule
- Form 349: Remediation of Contaminated Land Credit Use Schedule
- Form 617: Innovative Motor Vehicle Credit
- Form 619: Assigned Innovative Motor Vehicle and Truck Credits and Electric Bicycle Credit Reconciliation Schedule
- Form 1305: Gross Conservation Easement Credit
- Form 1316: Colorado Source Capital Gain
- Form 1317: Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Certification
- Form 1330: Strategic Capital Tax Credit
- Form 1366: Enterprise Zone Credit
- Form 1370: Certified Economic Development Credit Schedule for Taxpayers with a Refund Certificate

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- Withholding Schedules: 1099B ([new](#)), 1099Div ([new](#)), 1099G, 1099Int, 1099K ([new](#)), 1099Nec, 1099Oid ([new](#)), 1099R, 1099Misc, W2, and W2G.

### **Return Processing Issues**

Failure to include the required information may cause a return to be delayed, and in some cases be rejected when submitted.

### **Refunds**

Refunds will be paid through the Colorado paper refund warrant system or by direct deposit. If refunds are issued by paper warrant, taxpayers who file electronically can expect the warrant to be mailed within 14 to 21 days from the date the Colorado DOR acknowledgement is received, unless one of the following conditions applies:

- The taxpayer owes a debt to the Colorado DOR, a state agency (e.g., child support, student loans, etc.), or the IRS.
- The return contains a criterion that matches the Colorado DOR's error and/or fraud detection profile.

Some conditions may delay refunds a minimum of 3 to 5 weeks.

Refund status inquiries should be directed to <https://tax.colorado.gov/refund>, where taxpayers can check their refund status by logging in to the Revenue Online system.

Specific questions regarding returns should be directed to [303-238-7378](tel:303-238-7378).

### **Balances Due and Payments**

Taxpayers who file electronically and owe a balance due to the Colorado DOR are responsible for submitting the payment by April 15, 2026. For TY2025, taxpayers who e-file can pay by direct debit as part of their e-filed return. Direct debits for returns filed after the original due date must be scheduled on the submission date or within two business days of the submission date. NOTE that if the bank routing number information is invalid, the return will be rejected.

Taxpayers may also pay online at <https://www.colorado.gov/revenueonline>

Otherwise, the taxpayer can pay by mail using form DR 0900. This and other forms, along with instructions, are available at <https://tax.colorado.gov/forms-in-number-order>

### **Perfection Period**

Colorado follows the IRS guideline for perfection of a rejected return. For Individual Income tax, it is 5 calendar days. For other tax types, it is 10 calendar days.

### **ERO APPLICATION**

There is no application process. All EROs and Transmitters who are participating in the IRS E-File program (TY2025) are pre-approved to participate in the Colorado FSEF program and do not need to apply or register with Colorado.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PROCESS**

Colorado will use the IRS' acknowledgment system to acknowledge receipt of the return. Colorado has no reject codes. The Colorado DOR will typically acknowledge receipt of the Colorado data to the Transmitter via the IRS' acknowledgment system within 1 business day of the time the state return is transmitted to the IRS. Returns

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usually will be viewable in Revenue Online within 2 business days unless they are missing the required documentation. Taxpayers must sign into their Revenue Online account to view their submitted returns.

### **FORM DR 8454 AND WITHHOLDING SCHEDULES**

#### **ERO Requirements and Responsibilities**

Colorado Form 8454 must be signed by both the ERO and the taxpayer right before or right after the file is transmitted to the IRS. The ERO's requirements for DR 8454, TY2025 return, and attachments are stated in Part III of the DR 8454 form and the form's instructions.

**NOTE: DO NOT MAIL FORM DR 8454 TO THE IRS OR THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE. DO NOT MAIL FORMS W-2 AND 1099 WITHHOLDING UNLESS REQUESTED TO DO SO.**

#### **Military and VITA Site Responsibilities**

Colorado Form DR 8454 must be signed by both the military or VITA site volunteer and the taxpayer. VITA sites and military sites are no longer required to submit DR 8454 to the Department of Revenue. The taxpayer should retain DR 8454 for their records.

#### **Online Filer Requirements and Responsibilities**

The online filer's requirements for DR 8454, TY2025 return, and attachments are stated in Part II of the DR 8454 form and the form's instructions.

### **SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS**

For DR 8454, Colorado will accept signature methods accepted by the Internal Revenue Service, including in-person electronic signature and electronic signature via remote transaction.

### **SUBMITTING ATTACHMENTS**

#### **ERO Requirements and Responsibilities**

The required documentation can be submitted securely as a PDF attachment with the return, if your software allows attachment functionality. Documents can also be securely uploaded on Revenue Online if you have third-party access to the client account. Find the E-Filer Attachment icon, read the provided instructions, and attach as many documents as needed. Submitting PDF attachments with the return is the most effective method for ensuring the documentation is linked to the taxpayer's account. E-Filer Attachment also links the documents directly to the taxpayer account with some manual steps. If PDF attachment or Revenue Online cannot be used, Form DR 1778 E-Filer Attachment should be completed and mailed with any hard-copy supporting documentation. If the entire return cannot be e-filed, all supporting documentation should be attached to the paper return.

#### **Documenting Excessive Withholding**

A PDF attachment, Revenue Online, or Form DR 1778 should be used to submit a copy of any W-2 showing Colorado income tax withholding in excess of 4.4% of wages.

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### **ELECTRONIC FILING CONTACTS (DO NOT SHARE WITH TAXPAYERS)**

The following contact information is for Software Developers, Transmitters, EROs, and Preparers who have specific questions relating to the function, administration, problems or technical aspects of Electronic Filing. Taxpayers who have not received their refund should not be given this contact information but instead should be directed at the Tax Assistance Contacts below.

#### **Electronic Filing / State Acceptance / Help Desk**

Colorado Department of Revenue

E-Services

[DOR\\_EfileAdmin@state.co.us](mailto:DOR_EfileAdmin@state.co.us)

### **TAX ASSISTANCE CONTACTS (SHARE WITH TAXPAYERS)**

The Colorado Department of Revenue offers two ways to access both automated and live customer service:

#### **Online at [Colorado.gov/RevenueOnline](http://Colorado.gov/RevenueOnline)**

Taxpayers get 24-hour service using Revenue Online to:

- View submitted returns
- Check refund status and access personal income tax account information
- Submit additional information
- Change their address
- Make a payment or establish a payment plan
- File an amended return

#### **By Phone at (303) 238-SERV (7378)**

Taxpayers can obtain recorded general information about Colorado taxes or talk to our customer service representatives during business hours about:

- Colorado income tax
- Colorado business tax and information (sales and use tax, oil and gas, marijuana, and wage withholding taxes)
- Their account-specific information.

### **FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS**

The purpose of this handbook is to assist Electronic Filers in the steps necessary to successfully participate in the Colorado FSEF program. Your comments and suggestions to this end are greatly appreciated. Your comments and suggestions may be directed to [DOR\\_EfileAdmin@state.co.us](mailto:DOR_EfileAdmin@state.co.us)

### **WHAT'S NEW FOR TAX YEAR 2025**

#### **Form Updates**

Tax rate

- The state income tax rate is 4.4% for tax year 2025.

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#### Form 104 – Individual Income Tax Return

- Added Repayment of credit from form DR 0619 on Line 22

#### Form 104AD – Subtraction from Income Schedule

- Removed Wildfire Mitigation Measures Subtraction from Line 16
- Removed Non-Resident Disaster Relief Worker Subtraction from Line 18 and Executive Order number from Line 18
- Removed First Time Home Buyer Savings Account Interest Deduction from Line 20

#### Form 104CH - Voluntary Contributions Schedule

- Added Animal Protection Fund on Line 16

#### Form 104CR – Individual Credit Schedule

- Removed Income-Qualified Senior Housing Income Tax Credit from Line 20
- Removed Part-year Income qualified senior housing income tax credit from Line 21
- Added Colorado Promise Tuition and Fee Credit on Line 21
- Added Airline Modification for Unleaded Fuel Credit on Line 22 and FAA supplemental type certificate number on Line 22
- Added Apprenticeship Credit on Line 23
- Added Disability Assistance Credit and three (3) checkboxes on Line 24
- Added Qualified Care Worker Credit on Line 25
- Removed Hunger relief food contribution credit from prior year from Line 47

#### Form 104X - Amended Colorado Individual Income Tax Return

- Removed Investment Credit Carryback from page 1

#### Form 106K – Colorado K-1

- Added Aircraft Modification for Unleaded Fuel Credit on Line 46
- Added Apprenticeship Credit on Line 47

#### Form 0350 - First-time Home Buyer Savings Account Interest Deduction

- Discontinued

#### Form 0375 - Credit for Employer Paid Leave of Absence for Live Organ Donation

- Discontinued

#### Form 0619 - Assigned Innovative Motor Vehicle and Truck Credits and Electric Bicycle Credit Reconciliation Schedule

- Added Total credit previously refunded through quarterly advance payments on Line 2
- Added Required credit repayment on Line 4
- Added Total credit previously refunded through quarterly advance payments on Line 9
- Added Credit repayment required on Line 11

#### Form 1217 - Qualified Care Worker Tax Credit

- New form

## Error Codes

Colorado performs data validation before accepting a return. If the validation does not pass, a reject acknowledgment will be sent with a message stating the reject reason. There are also alert messages when certain documentation is required. Partnerships and corporations will receive messages that provide their Colorado account number if it is not included in their return submissions.

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Please note that returns claiming enterprise zone (EZ) credits must be filed electronically by statute. When EZ credits are claimed on an electronic Form 104, failure to electronically include Form DR 1366, Enterprise Zone Credit and Carryforward Schedule, will cause the return to be rejected.

#### **Common Issues that Can Delay Processing**

When claiming credit for tax paid to other states, a copy of the other state return(s) should be attached as a PDF to the e-filed return, submitted as an attachment through Revenue Online, or mailed in using Form DR 1778.

When claiming the innovative motor vehicle credit, the purchase or lease invoice and proof of registration in Colorado must be submitted electronically or by mail with Form DR 1778.

When claiming the enterprise zone credits, copies of certification Forms such as DR 0078 and DR 0078A, or emails generated from the EZ Tax Credit online system as applicable, must be submitted electronically or by mail with Form DR 1778.

The childcare contribution credit requires submission of Form DR 1317 electronically or by mail with E-Filer Attachment Form DR 1778.

#### **Forms**

All Colorado tax forms are available online <https://tax.colorado.gov/forms-in-number-order>

#### **Accepted Tax Software**

A list of software applications accepted for filing Colorado income tax can be accessed on the Department of Revenue website. The list for TY2025 will be released as soon as it becomes available.

[Individual Income Tax Software List](#)

[C Corporation Income Tax Software List](#)

[Partnership and S Corporation Income Tax Software List](#)

[Fiduciary Income Tax Software List](#)

NOTE:

Colorado's acceptance of the listed participants is not an endorsement of their software or their ability to perform. Acceptance into the Colorado program simply means they have demonstrated the ability to transmit electronic data to the state in an acceptable format and/or to acknowledge the transmission of such data.