

Instructions for Filing the 2009 IA 1040A Short Form

Want your refund in days instead of weeks? eFile!

Who Can File Iowa's Short Form?

Any Iowa taxpayer may use the IA 1040 Long Form, but you may be able to use the IA 1040A Short Form if:

- You were an Iowa resident for the entire year; and
- All of your income was from wages, salaries, tips,

- other employee compensation, unemployment compensation, interest, and dividends; and
- Your total income subject to tax (line 8, IA 1040A) is \$100,000 or less; and
- You do not itemize deductions on your Iowa return.

NEW FOR 2009

Iowa has not adopted federal Internal Revenue Code changes regarding the determination of income that occurred after January 1, 2008.

Filing Status: Same-sex married couples must use filing status 2 on the IA 1040A short form. To file separately and possibly lower your tax liability, you must use the IA 1040 long form and choose filing status 3 or 4.

Line 1: Iowa has not coupled with the exclusion of the first \$2,400 of unemployment compensation.

Line 5: Include the recovery rebate credit received in 2009. Do not include the first-time homebuyer credit refund received in 2009 or the \$250 federal payment made to Social Security recipients, veterans, and railroad retirees in 2009.

Cash for Clunkers: Amounts received under the federal "Cash for Clunkers" program are not considered income to the vehicle purchaser, but must be reported as income by the dealer.

STEP 1 Name, Address, Social Security Number

Fill in your name, address, and Social Security Number(s). County and school district numbers can be found at www.state.ia.us/tax/.

Military personnel should enter the county number of their Iowa residence, even if the service member is not physically present in Iowa on the last day of the tax year.

IF YOU OR YOUR SPOUSE IS 65 OR OLDER on 12/31/09: Check the box by the Social Security box.

DEPENDENT CHILD HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

Indicate the number of dependent children claimed in Step 3 who do and do not have health care coverage.

Note: Dependent children covered under the Medicaid or *hawk-i* programs are considered to have health care coverage.

STEP 2 Filing Status

Check the appropriate box. Married couples may reduce their tax liability by filing status 3 on the long form if both have incomes.

STEP 3 Exemption Credits

Write in the number of credits and calculate the total amount. Enter the amount on line 10.

Note: If you are claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return, you still claim a \$40 personal exemption credit.

STEP 4 Income

Enter taxable income on lines 1, 2, and 3.

Unemployment Compensation. Enter the amount of unemployment compensation benefits that was taxable on your federal return with the following modifications:

- Add back any amount of unemployment compensation excluded on your federal return.

- Do not include unemployment compensation and sickness insurance benefits paid by the Railroad Retirement Board.

Enter your federal refund (less federal earned income credit) received in 2009 on line 5.

Include the federal recovery rebate credit received in 2009.

Do not include the \$250 payment made to Social Security recipients, veterans, and railroad retirees in 2009.

Enter federal withholding on line 7a. Enter federal tax payments made in 2009 on line 7b.

Qualifications for Exemption from Tax:

If you qualify for the low income exemption as explained below, enter the words "low income exemption" in the area to the left of your net income figure on line 4. Enter zero on line 8 and line 11 and complete the remainder of the return.

Filing Status 1, Single:

You are exempt from Iowa tax if you meet either of the following two conditions:

- Your net income from all sources, line 4, is \$9,000 or less and you are not claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return. (\$24,000 if 65 or older on 12/31/09)
- Your net income from all sources, line 4, is less than \$5,000 and you are claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return.

All Other Filing Statuses:

If you are filing jointly, head of household, or qualifying widow(er), you are exempt from Iowa tax if your net income from all sources, line 4, is \$13,500 or less and you

are not claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return. (\$32,000 if you or your spouse is 65 or older on 12/31/09)

Joint Filers:

The incomes of both spouses must be combined to determine if you meet this exemption from tax.

STEP 5

Tax From IA 1040A Tables or Alternate Tax or Tax Reduction

Do not use the tax tables for the IA 1040 long form.

Alternate Tax Calculation - Filing Statuses 2, 5, 6

Single taxpayers do not qualify for the alternate tax calculation and must use the IA 1040A tax tables. For filing statuses 2, 5, and 6, you may owe less tax by completing the following worksheet. Enter the alternate tax on line 9 if it is less than the tax from the tax table.

Alternate Tax Calculation - Filing Statuses 2, 5, 6

1. Enter net income from line 4, IA 1040A. 1. _____
2. Enter \$13,500. (\$32,000 if you or your spouse is 65 or older on 12/31/09) 2. _____
3. Income subject to alternate tax. Subtract line 2 from line 1. 3. _____
4. Multiply line 3 by 8.98% (.0898). 4. _____
5. Using the IA 1040A tax tables, determine the tax on the taxable income on line 8 of the IA 1040A and enter here. 5. _____
6. Compare the amounts on line 4 and line 5. Enter the smaller amount here and on line 9, IA 1040A. 6. _____

Tax Reduction Worksheet - Filing Status 1, Single

A single taxpayer who is not claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return may use this worksheet to determine qualification for a tax reduction. You cannot have a tax figure on line 11 of the IA 1040A that reduces your net income on line 4 of the IA 1040A to less than \$9,000 (\$24,000 if 65 or older on 12/31/09). If subtracting line 11 from line 4 results in a difference of

less than \$9,000, the entry on line 11 must be reduced to an amount that keeps a net income of \$9,000.

1. Enter net income from line 4 of the IA 1040A. 1. _____
2. Write \$9,000 on this line if you are 64 or younger. Write \$24,000 if you are 65 or older on 12/31/09. 2. _____
3. Subtract line 2 from line 1. 3. _____
4. Enter the tax from line 11, IA 1040A. 4. _____
5. Compare line 3 and line 4. Enter the smaller number here. If this number is different than the one on line 11, IA 1040A, substitute this number. Write "tax reduction" to the left of the line 11 amount. 5. _____

Line 12: School District Surtax

Check the school district surtax list to see if your school district charges an income surtax. Multiply line 11 by your school district surtax and enter on line 12.

STEP 6 Refund or Amount You Owe

Calculate your refund or amount due. If you are filing after April 30 and have tax due, compute the penalty and interest amounts. See the IA 1040V payment voucher.

Mail Your Return To...

Are you receiving a refund or no tax is due?

Iowa Income Tax - Refund Processing
Hoover State Office Building
Des Moines IA 50319-0120

Are you paying additional tax?

Use one of our e-payment options on our Web site (www.state.ia.us/tax/) or mail your return and IA 1040V payment voucher with payment to:

Iowa Income Tax - Document Processing
PO Box 9187
Des Moines IA 50306-9187

Political Checkoff

Contributions to this checkoff do not reduce your refund or increase your amount due. Contributing to this checkoff is not required. You may assign \$1.50 to a specific political party or to the Iowa Election Campaign Fund for distribution to qualifying parties. Each may assign \$1.50 to the party of spouse choice regardless of the filing status of the return.

Signature:

You (and spouse) MUST sign your return.