

## Subject 602

### Extensions of Time to File

If you will not be able to file your tax return by April 15<sup>th</sup>, you may receive an automatic six-month extension of time to file if you requested a federal automatic extension.

If you filed Federal Form 4868, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File, by April 15<sup>th</sup> it is not necessary to attach that form to your Arkansas return. When your Arkansas return is complete and ready to file, simply **check the box on the face of the return** and mail it by the final date stamped on the federal extension. (Do not mail an incomplete AR1000 to claim the extension to file.)

Form 4868 is only an extension of time to file your return – it is not an extension of time to pay the taxes. **The date the return is due is the deadline for payment.** You will be charged penalty and interest on taxes owed but not paid by April 15<sup>th</sup>. You can avoid paying interest by estimating how much tax, if any, you will owe and making that payment on Form **AR1000ES, Voucher 5**, by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you do not apply for a federal extension, you may request an Arkansas extension by filing **Form AR1055** by April 15<sup>th</sup>. The AR1055 must be approved by Income Tax Management and is valid for a maximum of 180 days. A copy of the approved Arkansas extension must be attached to the front of your tax return when you file.

Do not request an extension if your return is complete but you are unable to pay the tax due. File your return by April 15<sup>th</sup> and pay as much as you can. We will send you a notice for the balance. This may include additional charges for interest and/or penalty.

Because the penalty for not filing on time is greater (5% per month) than the penalty for not paying on time (1% per month), you should file the tax return on time even if you cannot pay the tax liability.