

Payroll News

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

IRS Announcements	2
Volunteering	3
December Celebration	4
IRS Tax Tip	5
APA Announcements	6
About Us/Partners	7

January Meeting

Join us for our January Breakfast chapter meeting on Thursday, **January 11, 2017 at 7:30 a.m.** We are delighted to have APA Director of Training, Hope Williams, CPP present on the topic of Paying Deceased Employees. More details to come!



Upcoming Events

- 1/7 – GPB Volunteer Opportunity
- 1/11 – January Monthly Meeting
- 2/8 – February Monthly Meeting

Standard Mileage Rates for 2018 Up from Rates for 2017

On December 14, The Internal Revenue Service issued the 2018 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on **Jan. 1, 2018**, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 54.5 cents for every mile of business travel driven, up 1 cent from the rate for 2017.
- 18 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, up 1 cent from the rate for 2017.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.

The business mileage rate and the medical and moving expense rates each increased 1 cent per mile from the rates for 2017. The charitable rate is set by statute and remains unchanged.

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs.

Taxpayers always have the option of calculating the actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates. For more information, read the entire article [here](#).

IRS Announcements

IRS Extends Due Date for Employers and Providers to Issue Health Coverage Forms to Individuals in 2018

The IRS announced that it has extended the 2018 due date for certain entities to provide 2017 health coverage information forms to individuals. Insurers, self-insuring employers, other coverage providers, and applicable large employers now have until **March 2, 2018**, to provide Forms 1095-B or 1095-C to individuals, which is a 30-day extension from the original due date of Jan. 31. Insurers, self-insuring employers, other coverage providers, and applicable large employers must furnish statements to employees or covered individuals regarding the health care coverage offered to them. Individuals may use this information to determine whether, for each month of the calendar year, they may claim the premium tax credit on their individual income tax returns.

This 30-day extension is automatic. Employers and providers don't have to request it. The due dates for filing 2017 information returns with the IRS are not extended. For 2018, the due dates to file information returns with the IRS are:

- **Feb. 28** for paper filers
- **April 2** for electronic filers

Because of these extensions, individuals may not receive their Forms 1095-B or 1095-C by the time they are ready to file their 2017 individual income tax return. While information on these forms may assist in preparing a return, the forms are not required to file. Taxpayers can prepare and file their returns using other information about their health coverage. They do not have to wait for Forms 1095-B or 1095-C to file. More information is contained in [Notice 2018-06](#). Also visit www.irs.gov/aca for more.

Consumer Alert: IRS Warns Taxpayers, Tax Pros of New Email Scam Targeting Hotmail Users

The Internal Revenue Service issued a warning for taxpayers and tax professionals of a new email scam targeting Hotmail users that is being used to steal personal and financial information.

The phishing email subject line reads: **“Internal Revenue Service Email No. XXXX | We’re processing your request soon | TXXXXXX-XXXXXXX”**. The email leads taxpayers to sign in to a fake Microsoft page and then asks for personal and financial information.

The IRS has received over **900** complaints about this new phishing scheme that seems to exclusively target Hotmail users. The suspect websites associated with this scam have been shut down, but taxpayers should be on the lookout for similar schemes.

Individuals who receive unsolicited emails claiming to be from the IRS should forward it to phishing@irs.gov and then delete it. It is important to keep in mind the IRS generally does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. For more information, visit the “Tax Scams and Consumer Alerts” page on IRS.gov.

The [IRS reminds tax professionals](#) to be aware of phishing emails, free offers and other common tricks by scammers. Tax professionals who have data breaches should contact the IRS immediately through their Stakeholder Liaison. See [Data Theft Information for Tax Professionals](#).

December Service Project Complete!

The Atlanta Chapter delivered toys to Village of Hope for children's Christmas gifts!



Volunteering

Keep an eye on your emails and our social networks for volunteer activities for yourself and often the family as well. A few organizations we support are:



December Celebration Recap

The December Celebration Meeting on December 14th was a huge success! The food was delicious and the gift exchange game was fun and hilarious. Several awards were presented recognizing board members, those who contributed to National Payroll Week and this year's Statewide Conference, and newly FPC & CPP certified payroll professionals. Below are some of the moments captured at this memorable event!



IRS Tax Tip

Taxpayers and Tax Preparers Can Connect with the IRS Over Social Media

The IRS uses social media tools to share the latest information about taxes, as well as about services offered to taxpayers. With just a couple months before people start filing their taxes, it's the perfect time for taxpayers and tax preparers to connect with the IRS through these social media tools:

IRS2Go

Taxpayers can [use this app](#) to get quick access to IRS social media, sign up for helpful tax tips, check their refund status and make a payment. IRS2Go is available in both English and Spanish for Android and iOS mobile devices.

YouTube

Tune in to the IRS YouTube channels to watch short, information videos about a range of tax topics. Videos are in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [American Sign Language](#).

Twitter

IRS tweets highlight information for individual taxpayers, as well as businesses, tax preparers and tax-exempt organizations. The IRS uses three Twitter accounts:

- [@IRSNews](#)
- [@IRSTaxPros](#)
- [@IRSenEspanol](#)

Tumblr

The [IRS Tumblr blog](#) provides current tax information.

Facebook

The [IRS Return Preparer Facebook page](#) posts useful information for tax professionals.

Audio files for Podcasts

Taxpayers can subscribe to IRS Podcasts on iTunes or download them from the [Multimedia Center](#).

Subscriptions

People can sign up for free [e-News subscriptions](#) on many topics. This news is delivered straight to their inbox.

All taxpayers should remember the IRS uses these tools to share public information. So, taxpayers should not post their social security number or other confidential information on social media sites. Additionally, the IRS is not able to answer personal tax or account questions on any of these sites.



36th Annual Congress

Registration is now open for Congress next year in National Harbor, MD May 15th – 19th, 2018. Please visit the [Atlanta Chapter of the American Payroll Association's Facebook Page](#) often to keep yourself up-to-date with the latest payroll information and information related to our chapter.

Registration Window for Spring Certification Opening Soon!

The registration window for spring certification will be open from **January 16 – April 20, 2018**. The spring exam window will be from **March 24 - April 21, 2018**. Mark your calendars!

Win an all-expenses-paid trip to Congress!!!

You could attend Congress or receive APA's **complete library of publications** at no cost. Simply apply for one of [eight payroll education grants](#) presented by the APA and Global Cash Card to help your professional growth and development!

APA will award:

- One **Complete APA Payroll Training Package**
- Two **APA Course/Conference Grants**
- Three *Payroll Source Plus Grants*

Global Cash Card will award:

- One Global Cash Card Payroll Education Grant
- One Global Cash Card Payroll Publication Grant

Eight APA members will be recognized next May at the 36th Annual Congress in National Harbor, MD, for their **professional and personal commitment to continuing education**. Will you be among them?

APPLY ONLINE

The application deadline is **February 13, 2018**. For more information, visit www.americanpayroll.org/members/edgrant.

**ATLANTA CHAPTER
OF THE APA**

Meetings held the second
Thursday of the month at
Crowne Plaza Ravinia
Hotel

4355 Ashford Dunwoody
Road, Atlanta, GA 30346

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://apaatlantachapter.com/index.php>

Follow Us



About Our Organization



We are a nonprofit organization centered on providing continuing education to payroll, accounting and human resource professionals. Along with education, we offer community service opportunities for all members.

We are an autonomous and independent Chapter of the American Payroll Association.

Meeting Speakers and Partnership

Do you have a vendor or contact that would be willing to speak at one of our meetings? Please speak with [CJ Easterling](#) to coordinate this. We welcome partnership from businesses and higher education institutions.

If interested in being a partner, please review our [partnership opportunities](#) page.

Atlanta Chapter Partners

Titanium Sponsor

onesource
VIRTUAL

Steel Sponsors



BSI[®]



Global Cash Card
We make payments easy



EMPOWER // REINVENT // SUCCEED

We want to hear from you!!!

What would you like to see our chapter present at a future meeting? Click [here](#) to take our very brief survey.

