

**701—10.8(421) Penalty exceptions.** Under certain circumstances the penalty for failure to timely file a return or deposit, failure to timely pay the tax shown due, or the tax required to be shown due with the filing of a return or a deposit form, or failure to pay following an audit by the department is waived.

When an exception is granted under subrule 10.9(1), the return or deposit form is considered timely filed for purposes of nonimposition of penalty only.

**10.8(1)** For failure to timely file a return or deposit form, the 10 percent penalty is waived upon a showing of the following exceptions:

*a.* At least 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due has been paid by the due date of the tax return or deposit form.

*b.* One late return allowed. A taxpayer required to file a return or deposit form quarterly, monthly, or semimonthly is allowed one untimely filed return or deposit form within a three-year period. The use by the taxpayer of any other penalty exception under this subrule will not count as a late return or deposit form for purposes of this subrule.

The exception for one late return in a three-year period is determined on the basis of the tax period for which the return or form is due and not the date on which the return is filed.

*c.* Death of a taxpayer, member of the immediate family of the taxpayer, or death of the person directly responsible for filing the return and paying the tax, when the death interferes with timely filing. There is a rebuttable presumption that a death which occurs more than 30 days before the original date the return or form is due does not interfere with timely filing.

*d.* The onset of serious, long-term illness or hospitalization of the taxpayer, a member of the taxpayer's immediate family, or the person directly responsible for filing the return and paying the tax.

*e.* Destruction of records by fire, flood, or act of God.

*f.* The taxpayer presents proof that the taxpayer at the due date of the return, deposit form, or payment relied upon applicable, documented, written advice made specifically to the taxpayer, the taxpayer's preparer, or to an association representative of the taxpayer from the department, state department of transportation, county treasurer, or federal Internal Revenue Service. The advice should be relevant to the agency offering the advice and not beyond the scope of the agency's area of expertise and knowledge. The advice must be current and not superseded by a court decision, ruling of a quasi-judicial body such as an administrative law judge, the director, or the state board of tax review, or by the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule or law.

*g.* Reliance upon the results of a previous audit was a direct cause for failure to file or pay where the previous audit expressly and clearly addressed the issue and the previous audit results have not been superseded by a court decision or by adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule or law.

*h.* The taxpayer presents documented proof of substantial authority to rely upon a particular position or upon proof that all facts and circumstances are disclosed on a return or deposit form. Mathematical, computation, or transposition errors are not considered as facts and circumstances disclosed on a return or deposit form. These types of errors will not be considered as penalty exceptions.

*i.* The return, deposit form, or payment is timely, but erroneously, mailed with adequate postage to the Internal Revenue Service, another state agency, or a local government agency and the taxpayer provides proof of timely mailing with adequate postage. The taxpayer must provide competent evidence of the mailing as stated in Iowa Code section 622.105.

*j.* The tax has been paid by the wrong licensee and the payments were timely remitted to the department for one or more tax periods prior to notification by the department.

*k.* The failure to file was discovered through a sanctioned self-audit program conducted by the department.

**10.8(2)** For failure to timely pay the tax due on a return or deposit form, the 5 percent penalty is waived upon a showing of the following exceptions:

*a.* At least 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due has been paid by the due date of the tax return or deposit form.

*b.* The taxpayer voluntarily files an amended return and pays all tax shown to be due on the return prior to any contact by the department, except under a sanctioned self-audit program conducted by the department.

*c.* The taxpayer provides written notification to the department of a federal audit while it is in progress and voluntarily files an amended return which includes a copy of the federal document showing the final disposition or final federal adjustments within 60 days of the final disposition of the federal government's audit.

*d.* The taxpayer presents proof that the taxpayer relied upon applicable, documented, written advice specifically made to the taxpayer, to the taxpayer's preparer, or to an association representative of the taxpayer from the department, state department of transportation, county treasurer, or federal Internal Revenue Service, whichever is appropriate, that has not been superseded by a court decision, ruling by a quasi-judicial body, or the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule or law.

*e.* Reliance upon results in a previous audit was a direct cause for the failure to pay the tax required to be shown due where the previous audit expressly and clearly addressed the issue and the previous audit results have not been superseded by a court decision, or the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule or law.

*f.* The taxpayer presents documented proof of substantial authority to rely upon a particular position or upon proof that all facts and circumstances are disclosed on a return or deposit form. Mathematical, computation, or transposition errors are not considered as facts and circumstances disclosed on a return or deposit form. These types of errors will not be considered as penalty exceptions.

*g.* The return, deposit form, or payment is timely, but erroneously, mailed with adequate postage to the Internal Revenue Service, another state agency, or a local government agency and the taxpayer provides proof of timely mailing with adequate postage. The taxpayer must provide competent evidence of the mailing as stated in Iowa Code section 622.105.

*h.* The tax has been paid by the wrong licensee and the payments were timely remitted to the department for one or more tax periods prior to notification by the department.

**10.8(3)** For a deficiency of tax due on a return or deposit form found during an audit, the 5 percent penalty is waived under the following exceptions:

*a.* At least 90 percent of the tax required to be shown due has been paid by the due date.

*b.* The taxpayer presents proof that the taxpayer relied upon applicable, documented, written advice specifically made to the taxpayer, to the taxpayer's preparer, or to an association representative of the taxpayer from the department, state department of transportation, county treasurer, or federal Internal Revenue Service, whichever is appropriate, that has not been superseded by a court decision, ruling by a quasi-judicial body, or the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule or law.

*c.* Reliance upon results in a previous audit was a direct cause for the failure to pay the tax shown due or required to be shown due where the previous audit expressly and clearly addressed the issue and the previous audit results have not been superseded by a court decision, or the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule or law.

*d.* The taxpayer presents documented proof of substantial authority to rely upon a particular position or upon proof that all facts and circumstances are disclosed on a return or deposit form. Mathematical, computation, or transposition errors are not considered as facts and circumstances disclosed on a return or deposit form. These types of errors will not be considered as penalty exceptions.