

When the due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline to file and pay without penalty is extended to the next business day.

WHERE TO FILE:

Using black or blue ink, make check or money order payable to the "Franchise Tax Board." Write the taxpayer's social security number (SSN) or individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) and "2021 Form 540-ES" on the check or money order. Detach the form below. Enclose, but do not staple, payment with the form and mail to:

> **FRANCHISE TAX BOARD** PO BOX 942867 **SACRAMENTO CA 94267-0008**

Make all checks or money orders payable in U.S. dollars and drawn against a U.S. financial institution.

**ONLINE SERVICES:** Use Web Pay and enjoy the ease of our free online payment service.

Go to ftb.ca.gov/pay for more information. You can schedule your

payments up to one year in advance.

Do not mail this form if you use Web Pay.

DETACH HERE	$\_$ $\_$ IF NO PAYMENT IS DUE, DO NOT MAIL THIS FOR	M DETACH HERE
<b>CAUTION:</b> You may be required to pay elect	File and Pay by April 15, 2021	
TAXABLE YEAR	•	CALIFORNIA FORM

#### **Estimated Tax for Individuals** 2021



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DETACH HERE	IF NO PAYMENT IS DUE, DO NOT MAIL THIS FORI	M DETACH HERE
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TAXABLE YEAR		CALIFORNIA FORM

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DETACH HERE	$\_$ $\_$ IF NO PAYMENT IS DUE, DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM	
CAUTION: You may be required to pay elect	File and Pay by Sept. 15, 2021	
TAXABLE YEAR	•	CALIFORNIA FORM

1201216

#### **Estimated Tax for Individuals** 2021



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Using black or blue ink, make check or money order payable to the "Franchise Tax Board." Write the taxpayer's social security number (SSN) or individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) and "2021 Form 540-ES" on the check or money order. Detach the form below. Enclose, but do not staple, payment with the form and mail to:

> **FRANCHISE TAX BOARD** PO BOX 942867 **SACRAMENTO CA 94267-0008**

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DETACH HERE	IF NO PAYMENT IS DUE, DO NOT MAIL THIS FO	RM DETACH HERE
CAUTION: You may be required to pay elec	File and Pay by Jan. 18, 2022	
TAXABLE YEAR	•	CALIFORNIA FORM

1201216

#### **Estimated Tax for Individuals** 2021

# **2021 Instructions for Form 540-ES** Estimated Tax For Individuals

# **General Information**

Installment Payments - Installments due shall be 30% of the required annual payment for the 1st required installment, 40% of the required annual payment for the 2nd required installment, no installment is due for the 3rd required installment, and 30% of the required annual payment for the 4th required installment.

Mandatory Electronic Payments - You are required to remit all your payments electronically once you make an estimate or extension payment exceeding \$20,000 or you file an original tax return with a total tax liability over \$80,000. Once you meet the threshold, all subsequent payments regardless of amount, tax type, or taxable year must be remitted electronically. The first payment that would trigger the mandatory e-pay requirement does not have to be made electronically. Individuals who do not send the payment electronically will be subject to a 1% noncompliance penalty. For more information, go to ftb.ca.gov/e-pay. Electronic payments can be made using Web Pay on the Franchise Tax Board's (FTB's) website, electronic funds withdrawal (EFW) using tax preparation software, or your credit card.

## **Purpose**

Use Form 540-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals, and the 2021 CA Estimated Tax Worksheet, to determine if you owe estimated tax for 2021 and to figure the required amounts. Estimated tax is the tax you expect to owe in 2021 after subtracting the credits you plan to take and tax you expect to have withheld.

If you need to make a payment for your 2020 tax liability or make a separate payment for any balance due on your 2020 tax return, use form FTB 3519, Payment for Automatic Extension for Individuals.

Certain taxpayers are limited in their use of the prior year's tax as a basis for figuring their estimated tax. See Section C for more information. Check for estimated payments we've received at ftb.ca.gov and login or register for MyFTB.

Increasing your withholding could eliminate the need to make a large payment with your tax return. To increase your withholding, complete Employment Development Department (EDD) Form DE 4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, and give it to your employer's appropriate payroll staff. You can get this form from your employer, or by calling EDD at 888.745.3886. You can download Form DE 4 from EDD's website at edd.ca.gov or go to ftb.ca.gov and search for de 4.

Form DE 4 specifically adjusts your California state withholding and is not the same as the federal Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Certificate.

## Who Must Make Estimated Tax Payments

Generally, you must make estimated tax payments if you expect to owe at least \$500 (\$250 if married/RDP filing separately) in tax for 2021 (after subtracting withholding and credits) and you expect your withholding and credits to be less than the smaller of:

- 1. 90% of the tax shown on your 2021 tax return; or
- 2. 100% of the tax shown on your 2020 tax return including Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).

#### Note:

- You do not have to make estimated tax payments if you are a nonresident or new resident of California in 2021 and did not have a California tax liability in 2020, see Section C for more information.
- If you are a military servicemember not domiciled in California, do not include your military pay in your computation of estimated tax payments. If you are the nonmilitary spouse of a servicemember you may or may not need to include your pay in your computation of estimated tax payments. For more information, get FTB Pub. 1032, Tax Information for Military Personnel.

If you and your spouse/RDP paid joint estimated tax payments, but are now filing separate income tax returns, either of you may claim all of the amount paid, or you may each claim part of the joint estimated payments. If you want the estimated tax payments to be divided, notify the FTB before you file the income tax returns so that the payments can be applied to the proper account. The FTB will accept in writing, any divorce agreement (or court ordered settlement) or a statement showing the allocation of the payments along with a notarized signature of both taxpayers. The statements should be sent to:

JOINT ESTIMATE CREDIT ALLOCATION MS F283 TAXPAYER SERVICES CENTER FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942840 SACRAMENTO CA 94240-0040

#### **Limit on the Use of Prior Year's Tax**

Individuals who are required to make estimated tax payments, and whose 2020 California adjusted gross income is more than \$150,000 (or \$75,000 if married/RDP filing separately), must figure estimated tax based on the lesser of 90% of their tax for 2021 or 110% of their tax for 2020 including AMT. This rule does not apply to farmers or fishermen.

Taxpayers with 2021 California adjusted gross income equal to or greater than \$1,000,000 (or \$500,000 if married/RDP filing separately), must figure estimated tax based on their tax for 2021.

## When to Make Your Estimated Tax Payments

Pay your estimated payments by the dates shown below:

1st payment		April 15, 2021
2nd payment	İ	June 15, 2021
4th payment		January 18, 2022

Filing an Early Tax Return In Place of the 4th Installment. If you file your 2021 tax return by January 31, 2022, and pay the entire balance due, you do not have to make your last estimated tax payment. In addition, you will not owe a penalty for the fourth installment.

Annualization Option. If you do not receive your taxable income evenly during the year, it may be to your advantage to annualize your income. This method allows you to match your estimated tax payments to the actual period when you earned the income. You may use the annualization schedule included with the 2020 form FTB 5805, Underpayment of Estimated Tax by Individuals and Fiduciaries.

Farmers and Fishermen. If you are a farmer or fisherman, and at least two-thirds of your 2020 and 2021 gross income is from farming or fishing, you may do either of the following:

- Pay all of your estimated tax by January 18, 2022.
- File your tax return for 2021 on or before March 1, 2022, and pay the total tax due. In this case, you need not make estimated tax payments for 2021. Use the 2020 form FTB 5805F, Underpayment of Estimated Tax by Farmers and Fishermen, to determine if you paid the required estimated tax. If the estimated tax is underpaid, attach the completed form FTB 5805F to the back of your tax return.

Fiscal Year. If you file your tax return on a fiscal year basis, your due dates will be the 15th day of the 4th, 6th, and 9th months of your fiscal year and the 1st month of the following fiscal year. If the due date falls on a weekend, or legal holiday, use the next business day.

Mental Health Services Tax. If your taxable income or nonresident CA source taxable income is more than \$1,000,000, complete the worksheet below.

A. Taxable income from Form 540, line 19,
or Form 540NR, line 35
B. Less:
C. Subtotal
D. Tax rate – 1%
E. <b>Mental Health Services Tax –</b> Multiply line C by line D.
Enter this amount here and on line 17 of the 2021 CA
Estimated Tax Worksheet, on the next page

## **How to Use Form 540-ES Payment Form**

Use the CA Estimated Tax Worksheet and your 2020 California income tax return as a guide for figuring your 2021 estimated tax. Be sure that the amount shown on line 21 of the CA Estimated Tax Worksheet has been reduced by any overpaid tax on your 2020 tax return which you chose to apply toward your 2021 estimated tax payment.

- If you filed Form 540 2EZ for 2020, do not use the Form 540 2EZ instructions to figure amounts on this worksheet. Instead, get the 2020 California 540 Personal Income Tax Booklet.
- Complete Form 540-ES using black or blue ink:
  - 1. Complete the Record of Estimated Tax Payments on the next page for your files.
  - 2. Paying your tax:

Web Pay - Make a payment online or schedule a future payment (up to one year in advance), go to ftb.ca.gov/pay for more information. Do not mail Forms 540-ES to us.

Electronic Funds Withdrawal (EFW) - Individuals can make an extension or estimated tax payment using tax preparation software. Check with your software provider to determine if they support EFW for extension or estimated tax payments.

Credit card - Use your Discover, MasterCard, Visa, or American Express Card to pay your tax. Call 800.272.9829 or go to officialpayments.com, use code 1555. Official Payments Corporation charges a fee for this service. **Do not mail** Forms 540-ES if you pay by credit card.

Check or money order - There is a separate payment form for each due date. Be sure you use the form with the correct due date shown in the top margin of the form.

Fiscal year filers: Enter the month of your fiscal year end (located directly below the form's title).

Print your name, address, and social security number (SSN) or individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) in the space provided on Form 540-ES. If you have a foreign address, enter the information in the following order: City, Country, Province/Region, and Postal Code. Follow the country's practice for entering the postal code. Do not abbreviate the country name.

Complete the amount of payment line of the form by entering the amount of the payment that you are sending. Using black or blue ink, make your check or money order payable to the "Franchise Tax Board." Write your SSN or ITIN and "2021 Form 540-ES" on it and mail to the address in Section F.

Make all checks and money orders payable in U.S. dollars and drawn against a U.S. financial institution.

#### **Where to Mail Estimated Tax Payments** F

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942867 SACRAMENTO CA 94267-0008

#### G Failure to Make Estimated Tax Payments

If you do not make the required estimate payments, if you pay an installment after the date it is due, or if you underpay any installment, a penalty may be assessed on the portion of estimated tax that was underpaid from the due date of the installment to the date of payment or the due date of your tax return, whichever is earlier. Get the 2020 form FTB 5805 for more information.

20	21 California Estimated Tax Worksheet Keep this wo	rksheet for your	records.		
1	Residents: Enter your estimated 2021 California AGI. Nonresidents at	nd part-year reside	nts: Enter your estimated 2	2021	
	total AGI from all sources. Military servicemember/spouses, get FTB	Pub. 1032, Tax Info	ormation for Military Perso	nnel	1
2	a If you plan to itemize deductions, enter the estimated total of your i				
	<b>b</b> If you do not plan to itemize deductions, enter the standard deducti				
	\$4,601 single or married/RDP filing separately	on for your ming of			
	\$9,202 married/RDP filing jointly, head of household, or qualifying	widow(er)	2h		
	<b>c</b> Enter the amount from line 2a or line 2b, whichever applies				2c
2	Subtract line 2c from line 1				
	Tax. Figure your tax on the amount on line 3 using the 2020 tax table				J
4				CTD 2002	
	Also, include any tax from form FTB 3800, Tax Computation for Certain				
_	Parents' Election to Report Child's Interest and Dividends				4
5	Residents: Skip to line 6a. Nonresidents and part-year residents:				_
	a Enter your estimated 2021 California taxable income from Schedul				
	<b>b</b> Compute the CA Tax Rate: Tax on total taxable income from line 4				5b
	Total taxable income from line 3				
	<b>c</b> Multiply the amount on line 5a by the CA Tax Rate on line 5b				5c
6	a Residents: Enter the exemption credit amount from the 2020 instr				
	<b>b</b> Nonresidents or part-year residents: Enter the CA credit proration pe	-	-		
	Nonresidents: CA prorated exemption credits. Multiply the total exem				
8	Residents: Subtract line 6a from line 4. Nonresidents or part-year re	sidents: Subtract I	ine 7 from line 5c		8
9	Tax on accumulation distribution of trusts. See instructions for form F	FTB 5870A, Tax on	Accumulation Distribution	of Trusts	9
10	Add line 8 and line 9				10
11	Credits for joint custody head of household, dependent parent, senior	r head of household	l, and child and dependent	care expenses.	11
	Nonresidents and part-year residents: For the child and dependent of	are expenses credi	t, use the amount from yo	ur 2020	
	Form 540NR, line 50. For the other credits listed on line 11, multiply t	the total 2020 credi	t amount by the ratio on li	ne 6b.	
12	Subtract line 11 from line 10				12
	Other credits (such as other state tax credit). See the 2020 instruction				
	Subtract line 13 from line 12				
	Interest on deferred tax from installment obligations under IRC Section				
	Alternative Minimum Tax. See Schedule P (540 or 540NR)				
	Mental Health Services Tax Worksheet, line E (on page 2 of these inst				
	2021 Estimated Tax. Add line 14 through line 17. Enter the result, but				
	<b>9 a</b> Multiply line 18 by 90% (.90). Farmers and fishermen multiply line 18 by 66 2/3% (.6667) <b>19a</b>				
	<b>b</b> Enter the sum of line 48, line 61, and line 62 from your 2020 Form	•	,	·	
	or the sum of line 63, line 71, and line 72 from your Form 540NR.		19b		
	c Enter the amount from your 2020 Form 540, line 17; or Form 540N				19c
	d Is the amount on line 19c more than \$150,000 (\$75,000 if married/				
	Yes. Go to line 19e. No. Enter the lesser of line 19a or line 19b. S				19d
	<b>e</b> Multiply 110% (1.10) by line 19b	•	-		
	f Enter the lesser of line 19a or line 19e and go to line 20 ( If your Ca				
	\$1,000,000/\$500,000 for married filing separately, use line 19a.)				19f
	<b>Caution:</b> Generally, if you do not prepay at least the amount on line 19				
	penalty for not paying enough estimated tax. To avoid a penalty, make				
	possible. If you prefer, you may pay 100% of your 2021 estimated tax				
20	California income tax withheld and estimated to be withheld during 20		olding on pensions, annuiti	ies, etc.)	20
	Balance. Subtract line 20 from line 19d (or line 19f if no amount on li	•		•	
	if married/RDP filing separately), you do not have to make a payment				21
22	Installment amount. Multiply the amount on line 21 by 30%. Enter th				
	Multiply the amount on line 21 by 40%. Enter the result on the 2nd in				
	installment payment. If you will earn your income at an uneven rate d				der Section D.
Re	ecord of Estimated Tax Payments				
Pay	ment form number (a) Date (b) Web Pay/Credit card and confirmation number	(c) Amount paid	(d) 2020 overpayment applied	(e) Total amount pa	aid and credited add (c) and (d)
		\$	\$	\$	
	2				
	3				
<del>-</del>	4	<b>.</b>	<b>6</b>	ė.	
101	al	<b>a</b>	\$	\$	