

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 1)

Definitions	ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS)	Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
	NUMERIC = 0-9	
	ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9	

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
1-3	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
4	"Taxable Year" and "Underline"	6	8	13	Conventional form size/style
4	Anchor Mark	59	2	60	Anchor mark, Conventional form size/style
4	"Form" and "Underline"	69	11	79	Conventional form size/style
5	Tax Year Area	7	6	12	Conventional form size/style
5	Title of Form	15	42	56	Conventional form size/style
5	Form Identifier (540) Area	70	9	78	Conventional form size/style
6	Tax Year Area	7	6	12	Conventional form size/style
6	Title of Form	15	42	56	Conventional form size/style
6	Form Identifier (540) Area	70	9	78	Conventional form size/style
6	Bold Line	6	-	80	Conventional form size/style
7	Amended	6	7	12	"AMENDED" If Amended = Yes – print "AMENDED" If Amended = No – leave blank
7	Amended Tax Return	16	1	16	"1" If Amended = Yes – Print "1" If Amended = No – Leave blank
7	Account Period Ending	37	3	39	"APE"
7	Fiscal Year Ending	42	6	47	MMYYYY or leave blank
7	Federal Return Attachment Area Question - Did Taxpayer attach any federal forms for schedules other than Sch A, or Sch B?	52	29	80	Yes - print "ATTACH FEDERAL RETURN" NO - PRINT "DO NOT ATTACH FEDERAL RETURN"
8	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style
9	Taxpayer's SSN (or ITIN) (mandatory)	6	11	16	Numeric, "-"
9	Name Control (First 4 Letters of Last Name) (mandatory)	19	4	22	Alpha, No Embedded Spaces, No symbols or punctuation
9	If Joint or Separate Tax Return, Spouse's/RDP's SSN (or ITIN) (mandatory)	28	11	38	Numeric, "-"
9	Form Year Indicator (mandatory)	52	2	53	"19"
9	Principal Business Activity (PBA)	57	3	59	Print "PBA" only when there is a "PBA" code.
9	Principal Business Activity (PBA) Code	63	6	68	Numeric. If the PBA code is less than 6 characters and do not populate with zeros. If no PBA code, leave PBA field blank.
9	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style
10	Taxpayer's First Name (mandatory)	6	11	16	Alpha, No Embedded Spaces
10	Taxpayer's Middle Initial	19	1	19	Alpha, or blank
10	Taxpayer's Last Name (mandatory)	22	35	56	Alpha
10	Taxpayer's Suffix	59	4	62	Alpha, or blank
10	Taxpayer – If Deceased, must Enter Date of Death, otherwise, leave blank	65	10	74	Numeric,"-", mm-dd-yyyy (e.g., 08-01-2019), or blank
10	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style

GUIDELINES FOR ABSOLUTE POSITIONING FORM 540

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 1)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
<p>Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.</p> <p>NUMERIC = 0-9</p> <p>ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9</p>					
11	If Joint Spouse's/RDP's First Name (mandatory)	6	11	16	Alpha, No Embedded Spaces
11	If Joint Tax Return, Spouse's/RDP's Middle Initial	19	1	19	Alpha, or blank
11	If Joint Tax Return, Spouse's/RDP's Last Name (mandatory)	22	35	56	Alpha
11	If Joint Tax Return, Spouse's/RDP's Suffix	59	4	62	Alpha, or blank
11	If Joint Tax Return, Spouse/RDP – If Deceased, must Enter Date of Death, otherwise, leave blank	65	10	74	Numeric, “-”, mm-dd-yyyy (e.g., 08-01-2019), or blank
11	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style
12	Additional Information for In-Care-Of Name or Supplemental Address Information	6	35	40	Alphanumeric, Embedded spaces, No punctuation, no symbols other than “/”. If no “in-care-name” and supplemental address information, leave blank.
12	Executor/Guardian	43	35	77	Alphanumeric
12	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style
13	Street Address (mandatory)	6	35	40	Alphanumeric, Embedded spaces, No punctuation, No symbols other than “/” or “_”
13	APT, STE, SP, RM, FL, BLDG, and UN	43	5	47	Alpha, “APT, STE, Sp, RM, FL, BLDG, or UN.” Print only if there is a Number or Letter.
13	APT, STE, SP, RM, FL, BLDG, AND UN Number or Letter	49	5	53	Alphanumeric, no symbols
13	Private Mail Box (PMB)	56	3	58	Print “PMB” only when there is a “PMB” number or letter.
13	Private Mail Box Number or Letter	60	6	65	Alphanumeric, or blank
13	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style
13	ARRP Area (continued) RP Codes:	79	2	80	Alpha only, Courier 12-point font, any order, or blank D = Taxpayer deceased C = Spouse/RDP deceased
14	City (mandatory)	6	17	22	Alphanumeric, Embedded spaces
14	State (mandatory) Use the Standard Abbreviations in this publication.	25	2	26	Alpha. If foreign address, leave State field blank.
14	ZIP Code	29	10	38	Numeric, “-”. If foreign address, leave Zip Code field blank.
14	ARRP Area	78	3	80	Conventional form size/style
14	ARRP Area (continued) RP Codes:	78	3	80	Alphanumeric, Courier 12-point font, any order, or blank E = IRC 965 O = Outside the USA U = Military 9 = Disaster
15	If Foreign Country Name	6	19	24	Alphanumeric, Embedded spaces, or blank. 2-character County Abbreviation may be used.
15	If Foreign Province/State/County	27	17	43	Alphanumeric, Embedded spaces, or blank
15	If Foreign Postal Code	46	16	61	Alphanumeric, Embedded spaces, or blank

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 1)

Definitions	ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS)	Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
	NUMERIC = 0-9	
	ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9	

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
16	Taxpayer's Date of Birth	6	10	15	or blank
16	If Joint or Separate Tax Return, Spouse's/RDP's Date of Birth	18	10	27	Numeric, "-", mm-dd-yyyy (eg., 06-13-1948), or blank
16	Taxpayer's Prior Name (if applicable)	30	17	46	Alpha, Last name only, or leave blank (e.g., Marriage/RDP in the current tax year changes spouse's/RDP's maiden name)
16	If Joint Tax Return, Spouse's/RDP's Prior Name (if applicable)	49	17	65	Alpha, Last name only, or leave blank (e.g., Marriage/RDP in the current tax year changes spouse's/RDP's maiden name)
17-30	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
31-60	Form area with absolute position data fields	6	-	80	Conventional form size/style with absolute position data fields
31	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
32	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
33	Line 1. Single	12	1	12	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
33	Line 4. Head of household	35	1	35	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
34	Blank line	-	-	-	-
35	Line 2. Married/RDP filing jointly	12	1	12	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
35	Line 5. Qualifying Widow(er)	35	1	35	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
36-38	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
39	Line 3. Married/RDP filing separately	12	1	12	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
40	Blank line	-	-	-	-
41	Line 6. Claimed as a Dependent on Another Return	66	1	66	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
42-44	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
45	Line 7. Personal Exemption Count	54	1	54	"0", "1", "2"
45	Line 7. Personal Exemption Amount	65	15	79	Numeric
46	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
47	Line 8. Blind Exemption Count	54	1	54	"0", "1", "2"
47	Line 8. Blind Exemption Amount	65	15	79	Numeric
48	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
49	Line 9. Senior Exemption Count	54	1	54	"0", "1", "2"
49	Line 9. Senior Exemption Amount	65	15	79	Numeric
50-51	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
52	Line 10. Dependent 1 First Name If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 Last Name" field, "Dependent 1 Relationship" field, and "Dependent 1 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	21	11	31	Alpha, No Embedded Spaces. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 Last Name" field at print line 54, "Dependent 1 SSN" field at print line 56, "Dependent 1 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.

GUIDELINES FOR ABSOLUTE POSITIONING FORM 540

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 1)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
<p>Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.</p> <p> NUMERIC = 0-9</p> <p> ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9</p>					
52	Line 10. Dependent 2 First Name If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 Last Name" field, "Dependent 2 Relationship" field, and "Dependent 2 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	42	11	52	Alpha, No Embedded Spaces. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 Last Name" field at print line 54, "Dependent 2 SSN" field at print line 56, "Dependent 2 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
52	Line 10. Dependent 3 First Name If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 Last Name" field, "Dependent 3 Relationship" field, and "Dependent 3 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	63	11	73	Alpha, No Embedded Spaces. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 Last Name" field at print line 54, "Dependent 3 SSN" field at print line 56, "Dependent 3 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank. (Exception: If more than three dependents, leave blank.)
53	Blank line	-	-	-	-
54	Line 10. Dependent 1 Last Name If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field, "Dependent 1 Relationship" field and "Dependent 1 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	21	17	37	Alpha. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 1 SSN" at print line 56, and "Dependent 1 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
54	Line 10. Dependent 2 Last Name If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field, "Dependent 1 Relationship" field and "Dependent 1 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	42	17	58	Alpha. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 2 SSN" at print line 56, and "Dependent 2 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
54	Line 10. Dependent 3 Last Name If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field, "Dependent 1 Relationship" field and "Dependent 1 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	63	17	79	Alpha. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 3 SSN" at print line 56, and "Dependent 3 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank. (Exception: If more than three dependents, leave blank.)
55	Blank line	-	-	-	-
56	Line 10. Dependent 1 SSN If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field, "Dependent 1 Last Name" field and "Dependent 1 Relationship" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	21	9	29	Numeric. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 1 Last Name" field at print line 54 and "Dependent 1 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
56	Line 10. Dependent 2 SSN If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 First Name" field, "Dependent 2 Last Name" field and "Dependent 2 Relationship" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	42	9	50	Numeric. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 2 Last Name" field at print line 54 and "Dependent 2 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 1)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
<p>Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.</p> <p>NUMERIC = 0-9</p> <p>ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9</p>					
56	Line 10. Dependent 3 SSN If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 First Name" field, "Dependent 3 Last Name" field and "Dependent 3 Relationship" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	63	9	71	Numeric. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 3 Last Name" field at print line 54 and "Dependent 3 Relationship" field at print line 58. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank. (Exception: If more than three dependents, leave blank.)
57	Blank line	-	-	-	-
58	Line 10. Dependent 1 Relationship If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field, "Dependent 1 Last Name" field and "Dependent 1 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	21	12	32	Alpha. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 1 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 1 Last Name" field at print line 54, and "Dependent 1 SSN" field at print line 56. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
58	Line 10. Dependent 2 Relationship If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 First Name" field, "Dependent 2 Last Name" field and "Dependent 2 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	42	12	53	Alpha. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 2 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 2 Last Name" field at print line 54, and "Dependent 2 SSN" field at print line 56. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
58	Line 10. Dependent 3 Relationship If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 First Name" field, "Dependent 3 Last Name" field and "Dependent 3 SSN" field. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.	63	12	74	Alpha. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in "Dependent 3 First Name" field at print line 52, "Dependent 3 Last Name" field at print line 54, and "Dependent 3 SSN" field at print line 56. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank. (Exception: If more than three dependents, print "SEE ATTACHED")
59	Blank line	-	-	-	-
60	Line 10. Dependent Exemption Count	52	2	53	Numeric, For Example "1", "2", "3"... "99"
60	Line 10. Dependent Exemption Amount	65	15	79	Numeric
61	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
62-63	Bottom Registration Mark, Anchor Mark, and conventional Form 540	-	-	-	End of bottom registration mark, anchor mark, and conventional form size/style
63	CTP ID (mandatory)	32	3	34	Numeric
63	Doc ID (mandatory)	40	7	46	Numeric, "3101194"
63	Paper Return Survey	53	1	53	Print Reason Codes, Numeric "1"= I believe there is an extra cost to e-file "2"= I believe e-filing is not secure "3"= I do not want 3rd party software to have my data "4"= I do not want Franchise Tax Board to have my data "5"= My Federal e-file return was rejected "6"= I have no Internet connection Or blank

GUIDELINES FOR ABSOLUTE POSITIONING FORM 540

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 2)

Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
 NUMERIC = 0-9
 ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
1-3	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
4	Anchor Mark	59	2	60	Anchor mark, Conventional form size/style
5-6	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form size/style
7-60	Form area with absolute position data fields	-	-	-	Conventional form size/style with absolute position data fields
7	Blank line	-	-	-	-
8	Line 11. Exemption amount	64	15	78	Numeric
9-10	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
11	Line 12. State wages	40	15	54	Numeric
12	Blank line	-	-	-	-
13	Line 13. Federal AGI	62	15	76	Numeric
14	Blank line	-	-	-	-
15	Line 14. CA Adjustments - subtractions	62	15	76	Numeric
16	Blank line	-	-	-	-
17	Line 15. Subtract line 14 from line 13	62	15	76	Numeric
18	Blank line	-	-	-	-
19	Line 16. CA Adjustments - additions	62	15	76	Numeric
20	Blank line	-	-	-	-
21	Line 17. California adjusted gross income	62	15	76	Numeric
22-26	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
27	Line 18. Standard/Itemized Deductions	62	15	76	Numeric
28	Blank line	-	-	-	-
29	Line 19. Total taxable income "Write in"	51	5	55	Alpha
29	Line 19. Total taxable income	62	15	76	Numeric
30-33	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
34	Line 31. Tax from FTB 3800 Check Box	27	1	27	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
34	Line 31. Tax from FTB 3803 Check Box	39	1	39	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
34	Line 31. Tax	62	15	76	Numeric
35	Blank line	-	-	-	-
36	Line 32. Exemption Credits	62	15	76	Numeric
37	Blank line	-	-	-	-
38	Line 33. Subtract line 32 from line 31	62	15	76	Numeric
39	Blank line	-	-	-	-
40	Line 34. Tax from Sch G-1 Check Box	35	1	35	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
40	Line 34. Tax from FTB 5870A Check Box	47	1	47	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
40	Line 34. Tax	62	15	76	Numeric
41	Blank line	-	-	-	-
42	Line 35. Add line 33 and line 34	62	15	76	Numeric

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 2)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
43-44	Blank line	-	-	-	-
45	Line 40. Nonrefundable Child/Dependent Care Expenses	62	15	76	Numeric
46	Blank line	-	-	-	-
47	Line 43. Code	44	3	46	Numeric
47	Line 43. Amount	62	15	76	Numeric
48	Blank line	-	-	-	-
49	Line 44. Code	44	3	46	Numeric
49	Line 44. Amount	62	15	76	Numeric
50	Blank line	-	-	-	-
51	Line 45. Claim more than two credits	62	15	76	Numeric
52	Blank line	-	-	-	-
53	Line 46. Nonrefundable renter's credit	62	15	76	Numeric
54	Blank line	-	-	-	-
55	Line 47. Total Credits	62	15	76	Numeric
56	Blank line	-	-	-	-
57	Line 48. Subtract line 47 from line 35	62	15	76	Numeric
58-61	Blank line	-	-	-	-
62-63	Bottom Registration Mark, Anchor Mark, and conventional Form 540	-	-	-	End of bottom registration mark, anchor mark, and conventional form size/style
63	CTP ID (mandatory)	32	3	34	Numeric
63	Doc ID (mandatory)	40	7	46	Numeric, "3102194"
63	Paper Return Survey	53	1	53	Print Reason Codes, Numeric "1"= I believe there is an extra cost to e-file "2"= I believe e-filing is not secure "3"= I do not want 3rd party software to have my data "4"= I do not want Franchise Tax Board to have my data "5"= My Federal e-file return was rejected "6"= I have no Internet connection Or blank

GUIDELINES FOR ABSOLUTE POSITIONING FORM 540

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 3)

Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
 NUMERIC = 0-9
 ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
1-3	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
4	Anchor Mark	59	2	60	Anchor mark, Conventional form size/style
5-7	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
8-60	Form area with exact position data fields	-	-	-	Conventional form size/style with exact position data fields
8	Line 61. Alternative minimum tax	62	15	76	Numeric
9	Blank line	-	-	-	-
10	Line 62. Mental Health Services Tax	62	15	76	Numeric
11	Blank line	-	-	-	-
12	Line 63. Other taxes and credits "write in"	36	20	55	Alphanumeric
12	Line 63. Other taxes and credit recapture	62	15	76	Numeric
13	Blank line	-	-	-	-
14	Line 64. Total Tax	62	15	76	Numeric
15-16	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
17	Line 71. CA income tax withheld	62	15	76	Numeric
18	Blank line	-	-	-	-
19	Line 72. CA estimated tax and other payments	62	15	76	Numeric
20	Blank line	-	-	-	-
21	Line 73. Withholding (Form 592-B and/or 593)	62	15	76	Numeric
22	Blank line	-	-	-	-
23	Line 74. Excess SDI (or VPD) withheld	62	15	76	Numeric
24	Blank line	-	-	-	-
25	Line 75. Earned Income Tax Credit	62	15	76	Numeric
26	Blank line	-	-	-	-
27	Line 76. Young Child Tax Credit	62	15	76	Numeric
28	Blank line	-	-	-	-
29	Line 77. Total Payments "Write in"	48	8	55	Alphanumeric
29	Line 77. Total Payments	62	15	76	Numeric
30-31	Blank line	-	-	-	-
32	Line 91. Use Tax	52	15	66	Numeric
33-38	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
39	Line 92. Payment Balance	62	15	76	Numeric
40	Blank line	-	-	-	-
41	Line 93. Use Tax Balance	62	15	76	Numeric
42	Blank line	-	-	-	-
43	Line 94. Overpaid Tax	62	15	76	Numeric
44	Blank line	-	-	-	-
45	Line 95. Overpaid tax applied to estimated tax	62	15	76	Numeric
46	Blank line	-	-	-	-
47	Line 96. Overpaid tax available this year	62	15	76	Numeric
48	Blank line	-	-	-	-

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 3)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
Definitions		ALPHA =	A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS)	Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.	
		NUMERIC =	0-9		
		ALPHANUMERIC =	A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9		
49	Line 97. Tax Due	62	15	76	Numeric
50-61	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
62-63	Bottom Registration Mark, Anchor Mark, and conventional Form 540	-	-	-	End of bottom registration mark, anchor mark, and conventional form size/style
63	CTP ID (mandatory)	32	3	34	Numeric
63	Doc ID (mandatory)	40	7	46	Numeric, "3103194"
					Print Reason Codes, Numeric "1"= I believe there is an extra cost to e-file "2"= I believe e-filing is not secure "3"= I do not want 3rd party software to have my data "4"= I do not want Franchise Tax Board to have my data "5"= My Federal e-file return was rejected "6"= I have no Internet connection Or blank
63	Paper Return Survey	53	1	53	

Advanced Draft
as of 12/31/19

GUIDELINES FOR ABSOLUTE POSITIONING FORM 540

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 4)

Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
 NUMERIC = 0-9
 ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
1-3	Blank lines	–	–	–	–
4	Anchor Mark	59	2	60	Anchor mark, Conventional form size/style
5-9	Form area	6	–	80	Conventional form size/style
10-60	Form area with exact position data fields	–	–	–	Conventional form size/style with exact position data fields
10	Code 400. California Seniors Special Fund. See instructions	62	15	76	Numeric
11	Blank line	–	–	–	–
12	Code 401. Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
13	Blank line	–	–	–	–
14	Code 403. Rare and Endanger Species Preservation Voluntary Tax Contribution Program	62	15	76	Numeric
15	Blank line	–	–	–	–
16	Code 405. California Breast Cancer research Voluntary tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
17	Blank line	–	–	–	–
18	Code 406. California Firefighter's Memorial Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
19	Blank line	–	–	–	–
20	Code 407. Emergency Food for Families Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
21	Blank line	–	–	–	–
22	Code 408. California Peace Officer Memorial Foundation Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
23	Blank line	–	–	–	–
24	Code 410. California Sea Otter Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
25	Blank line	–	–	–	–
26	Code 413. California Cancer Research Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
27	Blank line	–	–	–	–
28	Code 422. School Supplies for Homeless Children Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
29	Blank line	–	–	–	–
30	Code 423. State Parks Protection Fund/Parks Pass Purchase	62	15	76	Numeric
31	Blank line	–	–	–	–
32	Code 424. Protect Our Coast and Oceans Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
33	Blank line	–	–	–	–
34	Code 425. Keep Arts in Schools Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
35	Blank line	–	–	–	–

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 4)

Definitions	ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS)	Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
	NUMERIC = 0-9	
	ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9	

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
36	Code 431. Prevention of Animal Homelessness and Cruelty Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
37	Blank line	-	-	-	-
38	Code 438. California Senior Citizen Advocate Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
39	Blank line	-	-	-	-
40	Code 439. Native California Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
41	Blank line	-	-	-	-
42	Code 440. Rape Kit Backlog Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
43	Blank line	-	-	-	-
44	Code 441. Organ and Tissue Donor Registry Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
45	Blank line	-	-	-	-
46	Code 442. National Alliance on Mental Illness California Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
47	Blank line	-	-	-	-
48	Code 443. Schools Not Prisons Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
49	Blank line	-	-	-	-
50	Code 444. Suicide Prevention voluntary Tax Contribution Fund	62	15	76	Numeric
51	Blank line	-	-	-	-
52	110. Add code 400 through code 444. This is your total contribution	62	15	76	Numeric
53-61	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
62-63	Bottom Registration Mark, Anchor Mark, and conventional Form 540	-	-	-	End of bottom registration mark, anchor mark, and conventional form size/style
63	CTP ID (mandatory)	32	3	34	Numeric
63	Doc ID (mandatory)	40	7	46	Numeric, "3104194"
63	Paper Return Survey	53	1	53	Print Reason Codes, Numeric "1"= I believe there is an extra cost to e-file "2"= I believe e-filing is not secure "3"= I do not want 3rd party software to have my data "4"= I do not want Franchise Tax Board to have my data "5"= My Federal e-file return was rejected "6"= I have no Internet connection Or blank

GUIDELINES FOR ABSOLUTE POSITIONING FORM 540

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 5)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
Definitions	ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) NUMERIC = 0-9 ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9				Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.
1-3	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
4	Anchor Mark	59	2	60	Anchor mark, Conventional form size/style
5-8	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form size/style
8-60	Form area with exact position data fields	-	-	-	Conventional form size/style with exact position data fields
9	Line 111. Amount You Owe	62	15	76	Numeric
10-14	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
15	Line 113. FTB 5805 Check Box	22	1	22	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
15	Line 113. FTB 5805F Check Box	36	1	36	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
15	Line 113. Underpayment of Estimated Tax	62	15	76	Numeric
16-20	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
21	Line 115. Refund or No Amount Due	62	15	76	Numeric
22-27	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
	1Checking Check Box				
28	If entry in this field, there must be entries in "Routing Number" Field and "Account Number" Field. Otherwise, all three fields must be blank.	23	1	23	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
	1Routing Number				
29	If entry in this field, there must be entries in "Account Number" Field and "Checking or Savings" Check Box. Otherwise, all three fields must be blank.	12	9	20	Numeric. First two positions must be 01 through 12 or 21 through 32. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in the "DDR Account Number" Field at print line 29 and "Checking" Check box at print line 28 or "Savings" Check box at print line 30. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
	1Account Number				
29	If entry in this field, there must be entries in "Routing Number" Field and "Checking or Savings" Check Box. Otherwise, all three fields must be blank.	32	17	48	Numeric; "-" If entry made in this field, there must be entries in the "Routing Number" Field at print line 29 and "Checking" Check box at print line 28 or "Savings" Check box at print line 30. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
29	Line 116. 1Direct Deposit Amount	62	15	76	Numeric
30	1Savings Check Box	23	1	23	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
31-33	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
	2Checking Check Box				
34	If entry in this field, there must be entries in "Routing Number" Field and "Account Number" Field. Otherwise, all three fields must be blank.	23	1	23	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box

Form 540 Absolute Positioning Specifications (Side 5)

Print Line Number	Identification	Begin Print Position	Maximum Field Length	End Print Position	Field Description
<p>Definitions ALPHA = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS) Use Courier 12-point font, not bold, for taxpayer data (print lines 7 - 60), CTP ID, Doc ID and Paper Return Survey. (print line 63). All printed text and data must be Left Aligned unless specific instruction is provided in Field Description column.</p> <p>NUMERIC = 0-9</p> <p>ALPHANUMERIC = A-Z (MUST BE ALL CAPS), 0-9</p>					
35	2Routing Number If entry in this field, there must be entries in "Account Number" Field and "Checking or Savings" Check Box. Otherwise, all three fields must be blank.	12	9	20	Numeric. First two positions must be 01 through 12 or 21 through 32. If entry made in this field, there must be entries in the "DDR Account Number" Field at print line 35 and "Checking" Check box at print line 34 or "Savings" Check box at print line 36. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
35	2Account Number If entry in this field, there must be entries in "Routing Number" Field and "Checking or Savings" Check Box. Otherwise, all three fields must be blank.	32	17	48	Numeric; "-" If entry made in this field, there must be entries in the "Routing Number" Field at print line 35 and "Checking" Check box at print line 34 or "Savings" Check box at print line 36. Otherwise, all four fields must be blank.
35	Line 117. 2Direct Deposit Amount	62	15	76	Numeric
36	2Savings Check Box	23	1	23	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
37-45	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
46	Email address	15	48	62	Alphanumeric
46	Preferred phone number	66	14	79	Numeric; "-"
47-51	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
52	PTIN	71	9	79	Numeric
53-54	Blank lines	-	-	-	-
55	FEIN	71	9	79	Numeric
56	Blank line	-	-	-	-
57	Yes - Discuss Return Check Box	64	1	64	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
57	No - Discuss Return Check Box	72	1	72	Upper X = marked check box Blank = unmarked check box
58-61	Form area	6	-	80	Conventional form, size/style
62-63	Bottom Registration Mark, Anchor Mark, and conventional Form 540	-	-	-	End of bottom registration mark, anchor mark, and conventional form size/style
63	CTP ID (mandatory)	32	3	34	Numeric
63	Doc ID (mandatory)	40	7	46	Numeric, "3105194"
63	Paper Return Survey	53	1	53	Print Reason Codes, Numeric "1"= I believe there is an extra cost to e-file "2"= I believe e-filing is not secure "3"= I do not want 3rd party software to have my data "4"= I do not want Franchise Tax Board to have my data "5"= My Federal e-file return was rejected "6"= I have no Internet connection Or blank

