# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION



# General Information and Scannable Specifications for Form N-288A (Rev. 2018)

## **Contact Information for General Questions**

Hawaii Department of Taxation Technical Section Attn: Sharlene Tagami, Forms Coordinator 830 Punchbowl Street, Rm 126 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: (808) 587-1577 Fax: (808) 587-1584 E-mail: Tax.Technical.Section@hawaii.gov

#### Contact Information for Mailing <u>Test Packages and Testing Inquiries</u>

Hawaii Department of Taxation Attn: Document Processing — Quality Assurance Test Team 830 Punchbowl Street, Rm 126 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Email: tax.dp.qa@hawaii.gov

**Note:** Reproduced forms must meet the requirements as established in this document and our current Forms Reproduction Policy.

# FORM N-288A (Rev. 2018)

General Information and Scannable Specifications

This document provides software vendors with the requirements for reproducing Form N-288A. Form N-288A is designed for electronic scanning that permits faster processing with fewer errors. Software developers who reproduce, develop, or distribute Form N-288A must create the form so the variable data (specified fields containing

taxpayer information) are printed in a fixed format that can be read by the Department's IBML scanners.

Substitute scannable forms MUST meet requirements as established in this document and our current Forms Reproduction Policy, and be approved prior to release or distribution.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### 1. Substitute Form

- We highly recommend you use the Department's official Form N-288A PDF.
- If you do not use the Department's official PDF, the substitute form must match the Department's form in layout and appearance including **bold** and/or *italics* fonts as they appear on the official form.
- Lines of text in a paragraph must break at the same location as the official form.
- All forms and variable data must have a high standard of legibility for printing.
- Photocopies of the form must not be submitted to the Department for processing.
- Substitute forms must be proofread prior to submission.

#### 2. Paper and Ink

- The paper size is 8.5 inches by 8 inches, the same size as the Department's original form. The paper weight must be at least 20 pound white bond and the page orientation is portrait.
- Black ink should be used in printing the text on the form and the variable data.

#### 3. Fonts

- The form was designed using the following fonts:
  - 1. Helvetica
- The following fonts and sizes should be used for the form number and revision year located at the top left corner of the form:
  - 1. Form: 8 pt Helvetica bold
  - 2. N-288A: 14 pt Helvetica bold
  - 3. Rev. 2018: 8 pt Helvetica bold
- The following font and size should be used for the form number located at the bottom right corner of the form:
  - 1. Form N-288A: 8 pt Helvetica bold

#### 4. Variable Data

- All variable data fields must utilize 12 pt Courier font.
- All variable data fields require exact placement.
- Print all alpha characters uppercase.
- Use a bold X (X) as a checkbox indicator. See exhibit for exact placement. The use of a checkmark is not acceptable.

#### 5. Variable Data Delimiters

• Seller's and Buyer's Social Security Number must be printed with dash (-) delimiters. For example:

#### 123-45-6789

(3 digits, followed by a dash (-),followed by 2 digits, followed by a dash (-), followed by 4 digits)

• Seller's and Buyer's Federal Employer Identification Number must be printed with a dash (-) delimiter. For example:

#### 12-1234567

(2 digits, followed by a dash (-), followed by 7 digits).

• Date of transfer or installment payment date must be printed with dash (-) delimiters. For example:

#### MM-DD-YYYY

(2 digits for month, followed by a dash (-),followed by 2 digits for the day, followed by a dash (-), followed by 4 digits for the year ending)

#### 6. Dollar Amounts

- Do not use commas as thousand separators.
- Do not use leading dollar signs.
- · Amounts are right justified.

#### 7. Testing and Approval of the Scannable Form

- A minimum of 5 hardcopy test samples must be provided to ensure proper testing including 1 hardcopy test sample that contains all maximized fields (one alpha "X" or numeric "9" character space with no leading or tailing spaces.
- Test samples must be originals. Photocopies, fax submissions, etc. will not be accepted.

- Test samples must be populated with unique sample variable data showing different scenarios.
- It will require 1 to 2 weeks, upon receipt by the Department, to verify the accuracy of the submitted sample.

### SCANNABLE SPECIFICATIONS

#### 1. Layout

• Open space around variable data fields should be adhered to as much as possible except for the areas that do not require optical character recognition. Do not place any additional information in these areas.

#### 2. Hawaii Vendor I.D. Number

- Print your 2-digit Hawaii Vendor I.D. Number following the "ID NO" label at the following positions:
  - 1. Page 1: The 2-digit Hawaii Vendor I.D. Number should begin at column 44, row 44.

#### 3. QR Code

- A 2D QR code is specific to the form. The property of the 2D symbology QR code is measured in CM.
- Placement of the QR code is as follows (see exhibit for exact placement):
  - 1. Page 1: The left bottom corner of the QR code is at the beginning of column 6 and at the bottom of row 9.
- Height of the QR code is 0.5 inch.
- Length of the QR code is 0.5 inch.
- Narrow Module Size is set to 0.18.
- Margin is set to 0.18.
- Open space surrounding the QR code should be adhered to as much as possible.
- DO NOT stretch the QR code image.
- The required QR code for the first page is: N288A\_T 2018A 01 VIDXX The QR code includes the form number (N288A), an underscore, type of form (T), space, 4-digit form year

- Approval of the facsimile must be obtained from the Department **prior** to filing.
- Form N-288A (Rev. 2018) cannot be filed until 2019.

# (2018), 1-letter revision indicator (A), space, 2-digit page number (01), space, vendor I.D. label (VID), and your 2-digit Hawaii Vendor I.D. Number (XX). There are no hyphens.

- The human readable text for the QR code MUST be printed at the bottom of the page at column 6, row 44, utilizing 6 pt Helvetica font.
- Please do not print the outline around the human readable text and QR code. These were only used to show the placement of the human readable text and QR code.
- DO NOT use Windows Metafile (wmf). This format causes a very low read rate by the Department's IBML scanners.

#### 4. Acetate Overlays

- Acetate overlays will assist in the exact data field placement. Verify your form samples with the overlays prior to submitting them for testing. If the samples do not match the overlays within 1/16 inch, do not submit them for approval as they will be rejected.
- Acetate overlays will be mailed to vendors who submitted a Letter of Intent to participate in the Forms Reproduction Program and who will be reproducing Form N-288A. If you did not receive the acetate overlays, please contact the Forms Coordinator.

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TRANSFEROR STREET ADDRESS XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	28
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CITY OR PROVINCE ST 123456 COUNTRY XXXXXX	<u> </u>
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THIS FORM IS TO BE USED FOR TRANSFERS OR PAYMENTS MADE IN 20 <sup>-</sup> ATTACH THIS COPY OF FORM(S) N-288A AND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO FORM N-288 (Payable to "Hawaii S	
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PROPERTY											
4. Transferor/Seller is an: 🖾 Individual or RLT 🖾 Partnership									s Hawaii Income Tax Withheld		
Corporation S corporation Trust or Estate									34567890123456.00		
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THIS FORM IS TO BE USED FOR TRANSFERS OR PAYMENTS MADE IN 2019 ONLY. ATTACH THIS COPY OF FORM(S) N-288A AND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO FORM N-288 (Payable to "Hawaii State Tax Collector") ID NO 01											
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