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**Coming up:**

- **TRIP Webpage** – [www.revenue.wi.gov/trip/](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/trip/) - will be updated soon. The new look is user friendly, allowing you to find information quicker. Use the website as your reference. We also encourage you to print a paper copy of *My Tax Account – TRIP User Guide* and *Publication 218* for local government agencies or *Publication 238* for state agencies to use as a desk reference.
- **TRIP Reports** – DOR will post quarterly intercepts by agency to the website. We encourage agencies to keep records of amounts intercepted from the weekly posting notification. You may use the agency summary report for a listing of all active debtors referred to DOR and current balances.
- **Update your contacts**
  - *Agency Contact Information Change form*. Use this form to notify DOR that your agency has changed personnel.
  - *Access to TRIP Account Request form*. Use this form to activate new users and inactivate users no longer working for you. In order to maintain the security and confidentiality of taxpayer's information, we require this form to be submitted and kept on file.  
**Note:** When you are requesting access to TRIP for a new user, please remember to remove users who are no longer with your agency.

**XML Requirements**

■ ***Are you still sending TRIP Expanded file format using the text flat file layout?***

Text format will be discontinued as of **9/30/2012**. The XML format will be the only format accepted for sending new debt and debt update information. Many agencies are already in compliance with this requirement. If you are still sending files in text format, please contact us: [TRIP@revenue.wi.gov](mailto:TRIP@revenue.wi.gov) or call 608-266-8517. Make sure your IT developers are aware of the requirement and the deadline. For more information about the XML file specifications, go to the TRIP webpage [www.revenue.wi.gov/ise/trip/xmlspecs.html](http://www.revenue.wi.gov/ise/trip/xmlspecs.html).

## ■ ***Are you still receiving responses/reports in text format?***

The text format is being discontinued. Posting Notifications, Closed Debt files and Agency Summary reports will automatically be changed to Excel format as of 9/30/2012.

## **Legislative Update**

2011 Wisconsin Act 142 amended the definition of a municipality in sec. 71.935 (1) (cr), Wis. Stats. Sec. 71.935 (1) (cr), Wis. Stats., defines "Municipality" to mean "... any city, village, or town, and includes any entity formed pursuant to an intergovernmental cooperation contract or agreement under s. 66.0301 to provide consolidated services directly to cities, villages, and towns."

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Why is the DOR requesting the return of setoff funds?**

Occasionally, DOR may contact you for the return of setoff proceeds. Reasons for recall may include fraud, scanning error, or taxpayer return error. DOR will adjust the debt amount in order to maintain your debt priority. When you receive a recall request, please send the proceeds to DOR within 30 days.

### **Is restitution eligible for TRIP?**

By statute, eligible debts include restitution; however, the statute also states the debt must be owed to a government agency. Do not certify restitution debt if it is owed to the victim.

### **What if the debtor has filed for bankruptcy protection?**

Consult with your legal advisor. If the debtor has notified you that they have filed for protection under the bankruptcy code, remove the debt until the case has been settled. In the event that your debt survives bankruptcy, the debt can be resubmitted for refund setoff. An exception to this rule is child support debt, which has specific statutory authority for refund setoff during bankruptcy.

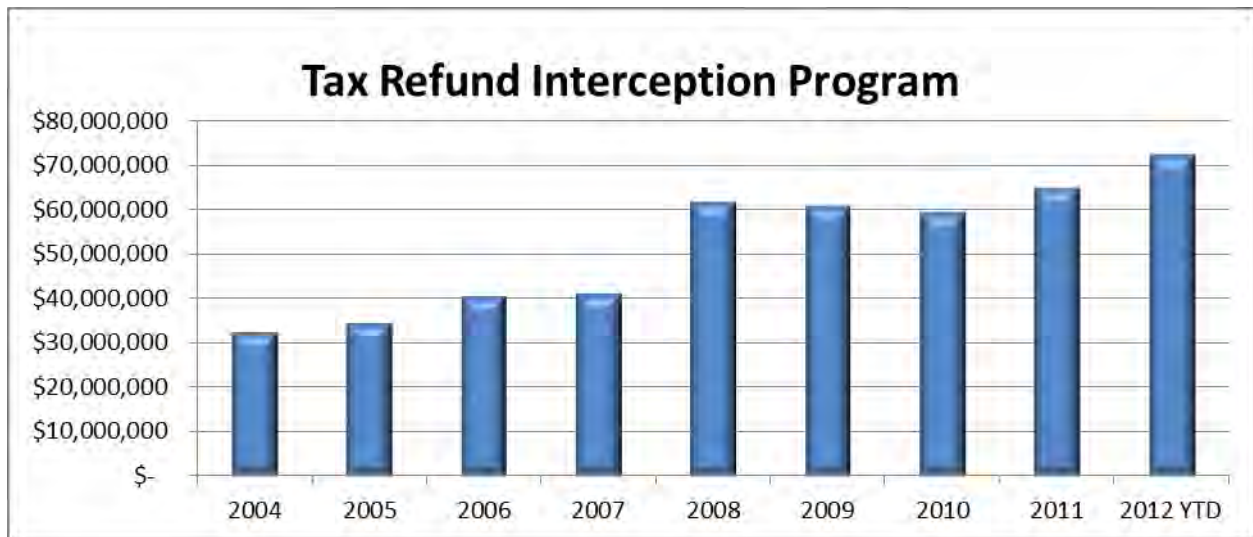
If DOR is notified that a taxpayer has filed bankruptcy, we will not setoff a refund to TRIP debts unless the debt is for child support.

### **What happens if I receive a complaint from a taxpayer that her/his joint refund should not have been intercepted because the debt was incurred before the marriage?**

***Debt owed to state agency:*** Refunds from joint returns are automatically prorated by DOR staff if the debt is owed to a state agency or the Federal government. Only the debtor's portion of refund will be setoff against the debt.

***Debt owed to local government, tribal government, or other states:*** DOR does not automatically prorate refunds from joint returns when the debt is owed to a local government, tribal government, or another state. You may advise taxpayer use IRS Form 8379 to file an injured spouse claim. The debtor must also provide a copy of the marriage license and proof from the agency as to when the debt was incurred.

## Historical Agency Collections



## Contact information

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Program Contact:

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Agency Collection Programs

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