



Tax Administration Jamaica
Working together to serve you **EVEN** better

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TAJ Set to Roll-out Additional Online Services in September

Tax Administration Jamaica (TAJ) is now making the necessary preparations to implement the third and final phase of its Revenue Administration Information System (RAiS) on September 5, 2016. This will result in further improvements in the administration of the tax system and access to a wider range of online services relating to Stamp Duty and Transfer Tax, Withholding Taxes, Environmental Protection Levy, Betting Gaming and Lottery Taxes and Trade and Business Licences.

Stamp Duty and Transfer Tax

Once the roll-out is completed, the enhancements to the system will allow for changes to Stamp Duty and Transfer Tax services, making it easier for taxpayers and/or their intermediaries, while maintaining the integrity of the processes. Among the improvements related to stamp duty and transfer tax services will be that taxpayers will be able to make payments at any tax office, but document submission, assessment and stamping will be done at three locations. Customers will

also be able to submit documents and composition returns online and track the status of these transactions.

Withholding Taxes

In respect of withholding taxes, these will all be managed via the RAiS platform, with a wide range of eServices becoming available to taxpayers. With this improvement, taxpayers will be able to file all withholding tax returns and pay their balances as well generate and or claim withholding certificates from their online account.

The specific changes include a return form being required for all withholding tax types, such as interest, dividends, contractors' levy, withholding tax on specified service, management fees, royalty and other miscellaneous taxes withheld at source. Additionally, – prescribed persons will no longer be required to file a withholding tax on interest quarterly return, as the RAiS will be able to process the refund request, based on the filing of the monthly returns.

Betting, Gaming and Lottery (BGL)

It should be noted that adjustments will be made to how Racing, Lotteries, and Sports Betting and Gaming are administered. As a result of the planned changes, the following will be implemented:

1. Persons in the BGL industry will be required to file return based on due date.
2. The weekly submission of returns will be standardized.
3. Penalty will be charged for late payment.

4. Demand Notice will be sent for outstanding amounts.

Trade and Business Licenses

The September 5 rollout of RAIS3 will also see Trade and Business Licences being managed through the new system. Resulting from the change, an Application/Return will be required when applying for trade licence. In the event that a taxpayer does not apply for renewal, an assessment will automatically be generated from the system.

Stakeholder Engagements

In preparation for the roll out of RAIS phase 3, TAJ has been engaging key stakeholder groups to inform the implementation process through feedback. Meetings have so far been held with members of the Jamaica Bar Association, the Jamaica Bankers Association, the Incorporated Master-builders Association of Jamaica, as well as with inter-governmental partner agencies that have shared their views on the new implementation.

Meetings will also be scheduled with taxpayers to advise how they'll be able to access and benefit from the enhanced web services.

These changes are all geared towards improving the taxpayer experience and the efficiency and effectiveness of customer service delivery. Administratively, TAJ will

expand its use of RAiS to manage tax arrears, generate letters and assign work items related to the additional tax types.

For further information persons may contact the Tax Administration's Customer Care Centre at **1-888-Tax-Help (1-888-829-4357)** toll-free or visit our website www.jamaicatax.gov.jm

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