



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

Sharonne R. Bonardi
Deputy Comptroller

March 9, 2021

On Friday, March 5, 2021, members of the Office of the Comptroller were contacted by the Baltimore County Public School System (“BCPS”) regarding errors made in the reporting of wages on the federal wage report, form W-2. The agency was later contacted by representatives of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County (“TABCO”) to advise the agency that corrected W-2 statements were mailed to employees on March 1, 2021; however, employees continued to have questions regarding the veracity of the corrected wage reports. BCPS provided a detailed explanation of the W-2 form used by BCPS and the process used for generating the W-2 forms. Because the issues with the W-2 forms were not completely resolved, BCPS informed its employees that additional updates on the W-2 form will be provided in the upcoming week.

In guidance provided to its employees, BCPS asserts that it has correctly remitted taxes collected from employees to their self-declared state of residence. To ensure that the BCPS employees have the opportunity to accurately report their wages to the state of Maryland with confidence, the Comptroller of Maryland has agreed to extend the period of time for which the BCPS employees may report and pay its income tax to the state of Maryland from April 15, 2021 to July 15, 2021. This extension will provide impacted BCPS employees the opportunity to report the income to the state of Maryland without the imposition of interest and penalty, so long as the return and payment are received on or before July 15, 2021.

Although the agency does not have the authority to extend the time to file and pay income taxes due to either the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) or the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, the Comptroller of Maryland has informed both organizations of the BCPS W2 issues that were reported to our agency and informed the respective representatives of the Comptroller of Maryland’s intention of waiving interest and penalty for late filed returns and payments resulting from the reporting errors made by BCPS, since the erroneous reports resulted from the errors of the employer and are not the fault of the employee. This extension afforded to the BCPS employees will provide the equitable relief the employees deserve to redress the inconvenience experienced as a result of the errors made by their employer, BCPS, as this error was not attributable to the employee, but rather is the sole responsibility of their employer, the BCPS.

Questions regarding the filing of Maryland income tax returns caused by the BCPS wage report issue, should be directed to our Taxpayer Services Division via email at taxhelp@marylandtaxes.gov or via telephone at 410-260-7980. Our revenue agents are here to assist BCPS employees with their income tax concerns.

Sincerely,

Sharonne R. Bonardi, Esq., J.D., M.B.A.
Deputy Comptroller