



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

TAX UPDATE

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the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue

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Governor
Tom Wolf

Secretary of Revenue
C. Daniel Hassell

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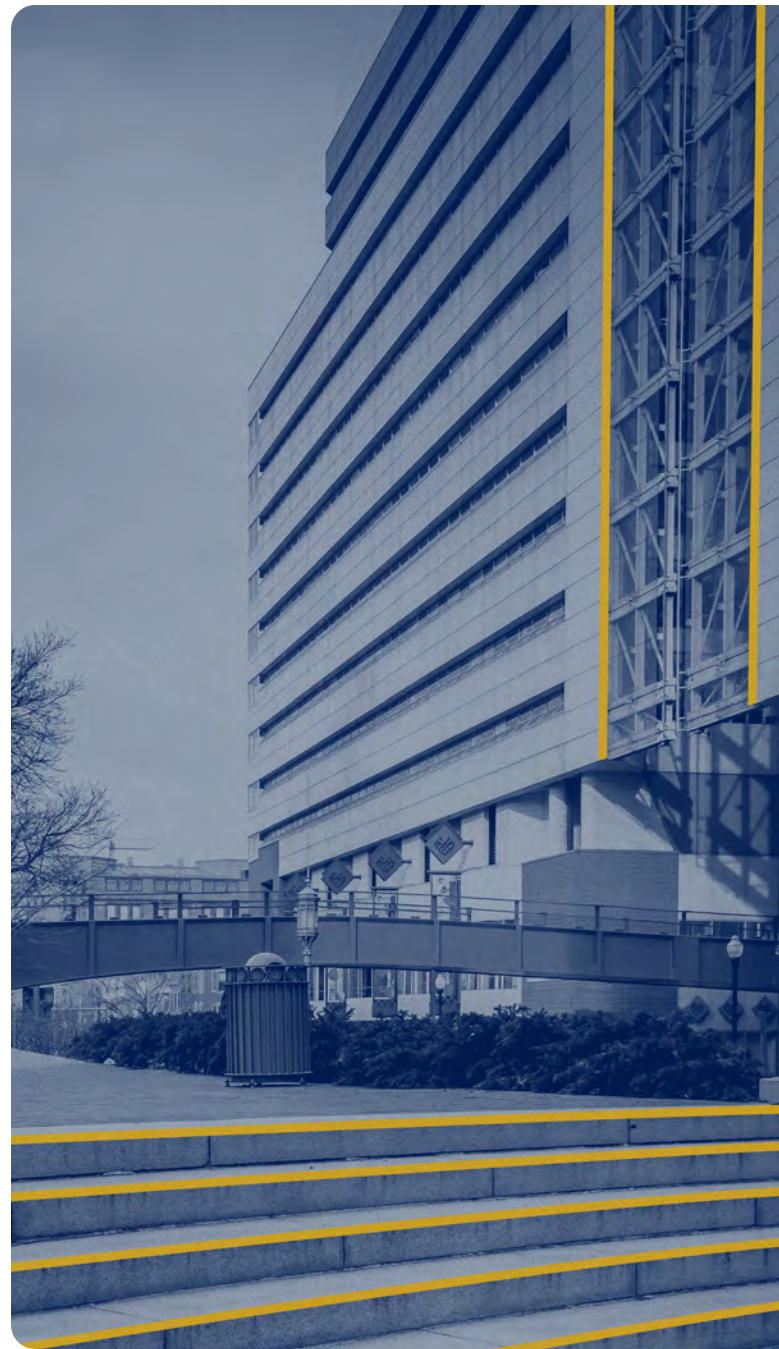
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The No. 1 goal in the department's strategic plan is to continually improve customer service.

- Revenue Secretary Dan Hassell

PENNSYLVANIANS ENCOURAGED TO USE myPATH TO FILE 2021 PA TAX RETURNS

With the tax filing season now open, the Department of Revenue is encouraging taxpayers to use a free online option to file their Pennsylvania personal income tax returns. Taxpayers can visit mypath.pa.gov to file their PA tax returns through the department's state-only filing system.

In addition to being free, myPATH is user friendly and provides an option for the majority of taxpayers to seamlessly file the Pennsylvania Personal Income Tax Return (PA-40), make income tax payments, and access other services. The deadline to submit 2021 personal income tax returns is Monday April 18, 2022.

"We are encouraging people to file their returns online and as soon as possible. That will help us process returns quickly and deliver refunds to the taxpayers who are expecting one," Revenue Secretary Dan Hassell said. "myPATH is a great option for filing your state return, especially if you're looking to save some money this tax season and avoid paying someone else a fee to file your return for you."

myPATH Offers Many Benefits

Using the electronic filing option available through mypath.pa.gov offers many benefits, including:

- Fast and free return/refund processing
- The **"Where's My Income Tax Refund?"** system to track the status of a refund
- Instant confirmation of a successful filing
- The benefit of error-reducing automatic calculators
- User-friendly options that are not available to taxpayers filing by paper
- The ability to view a detailed Statement of Account for personal income tax

Other Important Features in myPATH

Taxpayers do not need to create a username or password to perform many functions in myPATH. That includes filing a PA-40 or making a payment, responding to department requests for information, and checking the status of a refund.

In order to file the PA-40, taxpayers will need to provide their Social Security number and either: (1) the tax liability for a previous tax year; or (2) their birth date, Pennsylvania driver's license/photo ID number and the expiration date for the license/photo ID.

If you choose to create a username and password in myPATH, you'll have the ability to update/ view detailed account information and notices. You can also manage third-party access to your account, meaning you can give a tax professional or another person access to file your return and make payments on your behalf. A detailed list of instructions is available in the [myPATH User Guide](#).

New Spanish Feature in 2022



This tax season, myPATH has a new option for Spanish-speaking Pennsylvania taxpayers to file the PA Personal Income Tax Return (PA-40).

To access the Spanish language version of the PA-40, visit mypath.pa.gov and select the "Presentar una declaracion de impuestos sobre la renta personal de PA para 2021" option under the "Individuals" section.

Electronic Filing for Free



Other free electronic filing options are available to file state and federal returns using software from vendors. More **vendor information** is available on the Department of Revenue's website.

Electronic Filing for a Fee



Paid tax preparers and commercial tax preparation software providers offer electronic filing, or e-filing, for a fee. Check **a list of vendors** on the department's website for further information.

April 18 Deadline



All taxpayers who received more than \$33 in total gross taxable income in calendar year 2021 must file a Pennsylvania personal income tax return by midnight, Monday, April 18, 2022. The deadline is extended this year due to Emancipation Day, a holiday in Washington, D.C., observed on Friday, April 15, which pushes the federal and state filing deadlines to April 18.

PA Personal Income Tax Guide



Pennsylvania taxpayers who have personal income tax questions are encouraged to review the **PA Personal Income Tax Guide**, an online publication prepared by the Department of Revenue that includes detailed information on a number of PIT-related topics.

Taxpayer Service and Assistance



Personal income tax assistance is also available through the department's **Online Customer Service Center** and by calling 717-787-8201 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Online Customer Service Center contains answers to hundreds of common income tax questions and allows taxpayers to securely submit a question to the department through a process that is similar to sending an email.

Taxpayers may also visit a **Department of Revenue district office** for state personal income tax filing assistance. Assistance at district offices is available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and taxpayers are encouraged to bring their Social Security cards and photo identification with them to facilitate tax filing.

Taxpayers can check the status of their refunds online by selecting the **Where's My Income Tax Refund?** link on the department's homepage; or by calling 1-888-PATAXES. Taxpayers will be prompted to provide their Social Security number and requested refund amount to obtain the current status.

Free tax forms and instructions are available at www.revenue.pa.gov. 📄

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my PATH | PENNSYLVANIA TAX HUB

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PENNSYLVANIANS ENCOURAGED TO FILE PROPERTY TAX/ RENT REBATE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS ONLINE



Older and disabled Pennsylvanians can now apply for rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2021. This assistance is available through the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, which has delivered more than \$7.1 billion to eligible Pennsylvanians since the program's inception in 1971.

Eligible applicants are encouraged to visit mypath.pa.gov to electronically submit their applications. The Department of Revenue launched this online option last year to make it easier for the nearly 500,000 Pennsylvanians who annually benefit from the program to submit their applications.

"Last year, we saw thousands of eligible residents take advantage of the easy-to-use myPATH filing option to submit their rebate applications," Revenue Secretary Dan Hassell said. "Filing online saves you a trip to the mailbox and the costs of mailing in a paper application. If you know anyone who might be eligible, please encourage them to visit mypath.pa.gov to fill out an application. We want to do everything that we can to ensure that everyone who is eligible receives this vital assistance."

How to Apply

After checking eligibility requirements, you can file your rebate application online by visiting mypath.pa.gov. Submitting your application through myPATH is easy and does not require you to sign up for an account.

Applicants will be asked to provide specific information on their income and rent/property taxes. Applicants should check the [Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program instruction booklet](#) to learn which information they will need to input/upload to complete the process.

Using the electronic option available through mypath.pa.gov offers many benefits, including:

- Fast processing and direct deposit options
- The [Where's My Rebate?](#) tool to track the status of a claim online
- Error-reducing automatic calculators
- Instant confirmation that your application has been filed
- Security features to ensure your sensitive information is safe

Applicants must reapply for rebates every year because rebates are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid in each year. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in 2021 and meet all other eligibility criteria.

Applicants who still wish to file a paper application form may obtain Property Tax/Rent Rebate claim forms (PA-1000) and related information on the [Department of Revenue's website](#) or by calling 1-888-222-9190.

It's free to apply for a rebate, and applicants are reminded that free assistance is available at hundreds of locations across the state, including [Department of Revenue district offices](#), [local Area Agencies on Aging](#), senior centers and state legislators' offices.

Visit the [Property/Tax Rent Rebate page](#) on the Department of Revenue's website for further information on the program and how to apply for a rebate.

When Can You Expect Your Rebate?

Rebates will be distributed beginning July 1, as required by law. Here is additional information to keep in mind:

- If you provide your phone number on your Property Tax/Rent Rebate application form or in the [myPATH](#) electronic application, you will receive an automated call from the Department of Revenue when your claim posts to the department's processing system. You will also receive another automated call when your claim is approved.
- The easiest way to check the status of your rebate is to use the [Where's My Rebate?](#) tool. To check on the status of your claim, you will need your:
 - Social Security number
 - Claim year
 - Date of birth

About the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded.

The maximum standard rebate is \$650, but supplemental rebates for certain qualifying homeowners can boost rebates to \$975. The Department of Revenue automatically calculates supplemental rebates for qualifying homeowners.

Since its inception in 1971, the program has delivered more than \$7.1 billion to eligible Pennsylvanians. The Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program is funded by the Pennsylvania Lottery and revenue from slots gaming. 🍷

PA BROKER REGISTRATION PROGRAM PROCESS REQUIREMENTS

A new Pennsylvania law is now in effect that requires brokers who work with tax credits to register with the Department of Revenue. This is an effort by the General Assembly to strengthen the administration of tax credit programs and prevent the fraud and abuse of tax credits and tax benefits. Specifically, any individual involved in the sale or assignment of restricted tax credits intended for utilization against taxes remitted to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is legally required to register for a tax credit broker registration with the Department of Revenue.

The registration process has two primary components. Both components can be completed online by visiting the **e-TIDES system** and selecting “Tax Credit Broker Registration” on the home page.

Employer Validation

For the Employer Validation component, individuals seeking a broker registration must obtain permission from their employer to engage in the activity of representing a buyer, seller, assignee or assignor in the sale or assignment of restricted tax credits. In order to complete this stage of the registration process, the

employer is required to complete the online form listing the individuals authorized to represent the employer.

Broker Registration

For the Broker Registration component, individuals validated by an employer must complete the Broker Registration application online. The registration is effective for two years from the date of issuance. The registration requires completion of the online application form and submission of required documents.

The online application is the only way to complete the broker registration process. You can find additional information, including the program guidelines, by visiting the **Broker Registration Program** web page on the Department of Revenue’s website. If you have questions, please contact the department’s Office of Economic Development at 717-772-3896 or ra-rvbrokerregs@pa.gov. 📧

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2022 Pennsylvania Tax Series

With the Department of Revenue

This webinar series features the Department of Revenue discussing critical tax topics for business owners. Learn the laws, procedures and best practices that will ensure your compliance and accurate records.

Pennsylvania Taxes for New Businesses

January 12, May 11, September 14, 2022, 12pm-1pm

Running your own business can be rewarding though there are rules, laws and procedures to follow. This course will help you understand Pennsylvania Taxes for New Businesses.

Sales Tax Basics

February 9, June 8, October 12, 2022, 12pm-1pm

Learn the basics of Pennsylvania Sales Tax: registration, taxable items, record keeping, exemptions, use tax, and other pertinent information.

Recordkeeping for Business Taxes

March 9, July 13, November 9, 2022, 12pm-1pm

In this course, we focus on the best practices as they relate to Pennsylvania tax record with the goal of helping your business maintain compliance with the tax law.

Exemption Certificates

April 13, August 10, December 14, 2022, 12pm-1pm

This course will review the Pennsylvania exemption certificate, when to use it, how to use it, what qualifies, and how to maintain your tax exemptions records.



Funding support and resources are provided through a cooperative agreement with the US Small Business Administration, by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Community and Economic Development; and through support from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. All services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Special arrangements for persons with disabilities can be made by calling (814) 393-2060. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA.

For more information, or if you have questions, please call the Clarion University SBDC at (814) 393-2060, email sbdc@clarion.edu or visit the website www.clarion.edu/SBDC.

REVENUE FURTHERS OUTREACH INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE RESTAURANT INDUSTRY TAX COMPLIANCE

The Department of Revenue is implementing a new approach to help businesses in the restaurant industry as they continue to work through the hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The two-fold approach is designed to first provide additional resources and guidance for the industry and secondly, to better utilize department resources and ease the burden on compliant businesses.

Education and Outreach

The department has created industry specific guidance tailored for the restaurant industry, including tips that explain how to handle sales tax, recordkeeping, and other tax obligations. These resources are accessible at revenue.pa.gov/restaurants. They highlight common issues along with best practices to ensure you are in good standing at all times.

Additionally, Revenue employees will be traveling to some Pennsylvania restaurants to go over these available resources and review any compliance issues that may exist. This approach is designed to provide assistance to all restaurants and additional outreach to those who may have outstanding issues with their tax accounts.

New Process for Ensuring Tax Compliance

During 2022, the department will conduct a limited scope audit of a current month instead of the traditional three-year lookback if a restaurant meets certain requirements. To meet the requirements, a restaurant must have no missing tax returns or tax liabilities due, show proof of proper recordkeeping, filing of accurate tax returns, and proper remittance of taxes collected and withheld.

The Department of Revenue is implementing this new approach in its tax compliance work to provide as much customer service as possible to Pennsylvania restaurants. With the difficulties brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the restaurant industry was hit especially hard. The department's refined approach for 2022 will assist restaurant owners and help to ensure everyone is operating on a level playing field. 🏆



**YOU HAVE THE POWER
TO FINISH THIS
FIND A COVID-19 VACCINE
PA.GOV/COVID/**



**PA UNITES
AGAINST
COVID**

REVENUE ACKNOWLEDGES RETIREMENT OF DOUG BERGUSON

Doug Berguson, a Deputy Chief Counsel in the Department of Revenue's Corporate Tax Section, recently retired after more than 42 years of service with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Doug primarily worked with corporate taxes, but also worked with nearly every tax that Revenue handles for the commonwealth. He spent 34 years with the department after initially starting his career in the first Office of General Counsel and the Senate of Pennsylvania.

Doug was especially fond of his work on the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Tax Consolidation Project, which aimed to consolidate the dozens of distinct commonwealth tax laws into a single tax code. He noted that the Tax Consolidation Project facilitated the adoption of the assessment and appeal procedure reforms that are in place today.

"What I would like to be remembered for is my efforts to treat all taxpayers fairly and equally — not just the taxpayer in the room. Fairness in the administration of the commonwealth's tax laws requires not only consideration of the taxpayer raising an issue, but also all the impact the chosen course of action could have on other taxpayers," Berguson said. "This is a very common approach and goal of the department's employees that does not get recognized often enough. They are truly knowledgeable and dedicated public servants doing their best to assure that the commonwealth's taxpayers are treated fairly and equally under the laws as enacted by the General Assembly."

Revenue staff thank Doug for his service and wish him well in his retirement. 🏆



Berguson is pictured with Tom Gohsler, Department of Revenue Chief Counsel, with a 42 jersey to signify his years of service and love of the New York Yankees.

REVENUE ACKNOWLEDGES RETIREMENT OF RON WILT

Ron Wilt, Cross-Agency Information Technology Director for the Departments of Revenue, Insurance, and Banking and Securities, recently retired after serving 30 years with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Ron started his career as a communications specialist in the United States Air Force. He completed two tours of duty and volunteered to extend his service to participate in the Gulf War. This included assignment to Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm on the Turkish side of Iraq. Subsequently, Ron joined the Pennsylvania State Police in 1992, first as a Radio Engineer. He was promoted to run the PSP's statewide radio and communications dispatch systems. He was selected as the program manager to modernize the PSP's most aggressive modernization, applying in-car computing, computer-aided dispatch, GPS and records management systems to their operations. Ron was serving as PSP's information technology director before he took a job with the Department of Revenue.

Ron began his career in September 2008 with Revenue as the Modernization Division Manager. Before he delved into modernization, he was diverted into the IT lead for Tax Amnesty in 2010. He then embarked upon a years-long effort to convert the department's legacy business tax systems onto the SAP platform, known at the Business Tax System (BTS). He was then selected as the IT lead on yet another Tax Amnesty program in 2015. Ron also oversaw the migration of all mainframe and BTS systems to the Ashburn Data Center. Lastly, Ron was integral to today's migration of all tax systems to the Pennsylvania Tax Hub (PATH). During these years, Ron was promoted several times. He first became the Director of the Bureau of Information Systems before later becoming the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Revenue. Finally, he was named the Cross-Agency IT Director for the Departments of Revenue, Insurance, and Banking and Securities.

Ron says his best career experience was working in the trenches with the professional people of the Department of Revenue. Revenue staff thank Ron for his service and wish him well in his retirement. 🏆



Ron Wilt, former Cross-Agency IT Director for the Departments of Revenue, Insurance, and Banking and Securities.

DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES SEVERAL PERSONNEL CHANGES

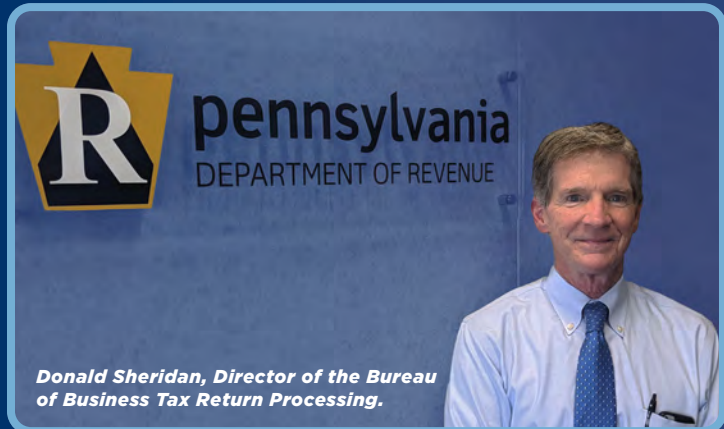
Revenue Secretary Dan Hassell recently announced **several important personnel changes** within the agency.

Donald Sheridan Moves to Director of the Bureau of Business Tax Return Processing (BBTRP)

Donald Sheridan has assumed the role of Director of the Bureau of Business Tax Return Processing (BBTRP). Donald took over for Matt DeFrank, who recently retired.

For the last six years as the Director of Revenue's Bureau of Process Reinvention, Innovation and Strategic Management (PRISM), Donald has been instrumental in helping the department develop a strategic plan, manage risks and internal controls, implement business projects, and launch a number of innovative initiatives. He brings a great deal of tax administration experience to the table, having worked in a number of DOR bureaus and serving in several management roles. Notably, Donald was the Director of the first Tax Amnesty Program administered by the department in the 1990s and later served as the first Taxpayers' Rights Advocate. He also has worked in the Bureau of Compliance, Bureau of Research, and as the Director of the former ITS Business Operations Office.

In leading BBTRP, Donald will oversee a group whose primary mission is to ensure the efficient processing of all business tax returns that are filed with the department. His leadership and experience will be especially valuable as the department moves forward with the final major phase of its modernization project, which involves transitioning all of the department business taxes into PATH. This important work is on track to be completed by the end of 2022.



Adria Zimmerman Promoted to Director of Bureau of Process Reinvention, Innovation and Strategic Management



Adria Zimmerman is being promoted to succeed Donald Sheridan as the Director of the Bureau of Process Reinvention, Innovation and Strategic Management (PRISM).

Adria has a great deal of experience with the commonwealth that will help her hit the ground running in her new role. Most recently, she has worked as the Chief of the Strategic Planning and Performance Division in PRISM. In this role, she has been responsible for the development, maintenance and implementation of the department's strategic plan, the development and monitoring of the department's performance measures and the operation of the department's enterprise risk management program. She also oversees many employee engagement initiatives, leads the weekly leadership podcast workshop, and serves on the department's Human Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Core Team.

Adria began her career with the Department of Revenue in 2001 in the Bureau of Human Resources, where she was responsible for training and employee development activities. She later transitioned from Human Resources to serve as the Training Lead for the department's Business Tax System implementation and held that role until she took on a new position when PRISM was formed. Now as

the Director of PRISM, she will lead a bureau that strives to continuously improve processes, utilize data and technology, and develop leaders to strategically support the mission of the department.

DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES SEVERAL PERSONNEL CHANGES

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Meggan Swisher to Lead Bureau of PATH Development and Support

Meggan Swisher is taking on a new role as the Director of a new Pennsylvania Tax Hub (PATH) support bureau.

Since joining the department in 1999, Meggan has held several positions, including as the Director of the Bureau of Individual Taxes (BIT). Prior to taking on this role in 2013, she also worked in other positions, including serving for four years as the Director of the department's main call center in the Taxpayer Service and Information Center.

Most recently, Meggan has worked as the Business Program Director on the PATH project team. In leaving her position in BIT to help guide this group, she has been an incredibly important leader for the department. Her expertise and dedication have helped ensure that the agency's modernization project has remained on time and on budget as the department has successfully transitioned many of the major taxes to the PATH system.

In her new role, Meggan will lead a new bureau called the Bureau of PATH Development and Support. In addition to providing support to the PATH project team, the employees in this bureau will work with information technology employees from the Office of Administration and staff from the department's modernization project vendor, Fast Enterprises, LLC. After the department has fully transitioned its business taxes into PATH and completed the final phase of the modernization project, this new bureau will oversee production support and all related system changes for PATH. More Revenue employees are expected to transition to her bureau as the PATH project comes to an end in late 2022.



Meggan Swisher, Director of the Pennsylvania Tax Hub (PATH) Support Bureau.

Tracy Hulstine Named Director of the Bureau of Individual Taxes



Tracy Hulstine, Director of the Bureau of Individual Taxes.

Tracy Hulstine, who has served in recent years as Acting Director of the Bureau of Individual Taxes (BIT), will stay in her current role on a permanent basis. The Bureau of Individual Taxes is responsible for annually processing roughly 6.8 million personal income tax (PIT) returns and nearly 500,000 claims for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate (PTRR) program, among other duties.

Tracy provided a steady hand during the department's first tax season with PIT and PTRR transitioned into PATH. She helped the department properly allocate staffing resources to ensure that returns, refunds and rebate claims were processed as quickly as possible. Additionally, Tracy helped tremendously as the COVID-19 pandemic initially closed all Revenue offices and led her bureau into a new situation where many of its employees were working from home for the first time. She was instrumental in distributing laptops to the employees in her bureau and adapting processes so that telework eligible employees could function efficiently in a remote environment.

Tracy is another valued employee with great experience within the agency. She too joined the department in 1999 and has worked in many positions in several bureaus. She has been an important presence in BIT since 2014 and is a natural fit to lead the employees who play such a critical role in the work that Revenue does. 🟡

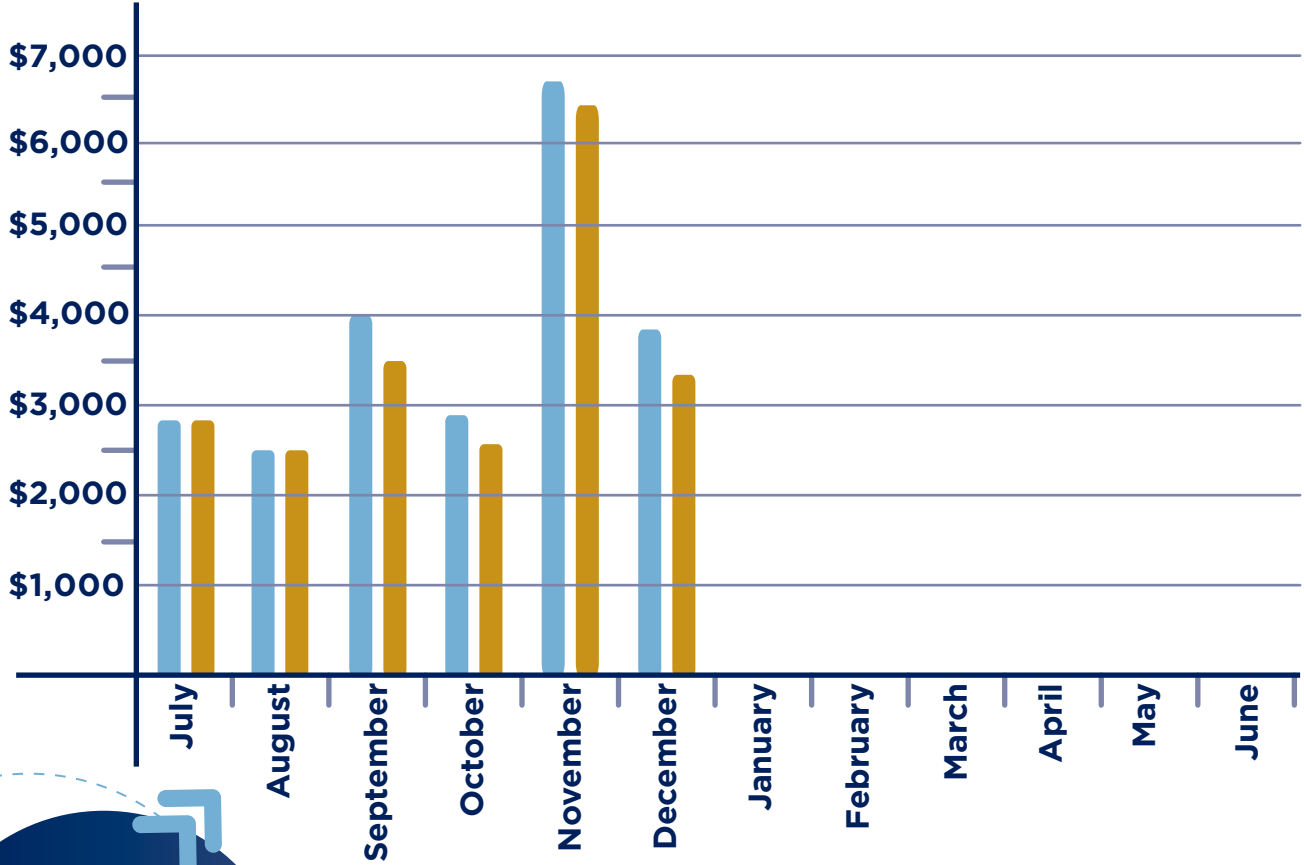
2021-2022 General Fund Revenues

Estimated vs. Actual Revenue Collections (in millions)

Through December, General Fund collections totaled \$22.6 billion

Actual Revenue

Estimated Revenue



GRAPH

ACTUAL FIGURES
(in millions)

Month	Actual Revenues	Estimated Revenues
July	2,700	2,703
August	2,574	2,439
September	4,003	3,507
October	2,814	2,654
November	6,621	6,404
December	3,846	3,382
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		