



Third Party Authorization,

Levels of Authority

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THIRD PARTY AUTHORIZATIONS

There are various methods by which third parties may be granted authority to assist taxpayers in resolving tax issues. This chart identifies products available for addressing taxpayer needs and the means of submitting the authorization. All products allow for the exchange of information with the IRS for purposes of resolving a tax issue.

Features	Power of Attorney (POA)	Tax Information Authorization (TIA)			Limited Tax Information Authorization	
Purpose	Allows third party to represent taxpayer before the IRS	Allows a third party to receive or inspect written an/or oral tax account information, subject to product limitations				
How is authority granted	Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative, Form 706, US Estate Tax Return, or written or electronic equivalent	Form 8821, Tax Information Authorization, or written or electronic equivalent	Oral Tax Information Authorization granted by taxpayer calling 1-800-829-1040. BMF Number 1-800-829-4933. Identity verified, call is transferred to CAF Unit immediate recording	Third Party Designee or Checkbox Authorization is granted directly on tax return (Forms in 1040 and 94X series, Forms 720, 1041, 1120, 2290 and CT-1	Oral Disclosure Consent granted by taxpayer calling 1-800-829-1040, BMF Number 1-800-829-4933, providing the name of the designee for specific notice issue	Form 8655, Reporting Agent Authorization
Who can exercise this authority	Attorneys, CPAs, enrolled agents/actuaries, immediate family, full-time employees, general partners, officer, unenrolled return preparer (limited practice) and certain others.	Any individual or a business, e.g. legal, accounting, tax preparation firm. Authority extends to employees of a business appointee	Any individual or a business, e.g. legal, accounting, tax preparation firm. Authority extends to employees of a business appointee	Any individual or a business, e.g. legal, accounting, tax preparation firm. Authority extends to employees of a business appointee	Any individual	Companies (Reporting Agents, batch and bulk filers) approved under Revenue Procedure 2003-69 thru 96-18. Authority extends to employees of agent.
Entitled to written and oral information	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No. Oral information only.	Yes, but only on returns filed and payments made by the agent
Can automatically receive notice copies	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Submission and processing time	E-services Disclosure Authorization-immediate Priority Fax-24 hrs Regular Fax-48 hrs Mail-5 days from receipt	E-Services Disclosure Authorization-immediate Priority Fax-24 hrs Regular Fax-48 hrs Mail-5 days from receipt	Telephonic Immediate	On Tax Return E filed - up to 3 weeks Paper submission - 4-6 weeks	Telephonic Immediate	Mail or Fax 10-30 days
Where is record maintained and how is it retrieved?	Recorded on CAF Available on Master File and IDRS CFINK	Recorded on CAF Available on Master File and IDRS CFINK	Recorded on CAF Available on Master File and IDRS CFINK	Recorded on tax module Available on Master File IDRS TXMOD/IMFOLR and BMFOLR	Recorded on tax module Available on Master File IDRS TXMOD	Recorded on Reporting Agents File (RAF) Available on Master File IDRS RFINK
Must have CAF/RAF number	No. If CAF # not already established, one will be issued with first recorded submission	No. If CAF # not already established, one will be issued with first recorded submission	No. If CAF # not already established, one will be issued with first recorded submission	No, Must have shared secret PIN, recorded directly on account	No. Only name of authorized individual recorded directly on account	No. Reported on taxpayer's employer identification number
Expiration of authority	Taxpayer revokes or representative withdraws. New POA supersedes existing POA unless otherwise specified on Form 2848, Line 8. May co-exist with a TIA.	Taxpayer revokes or appointee withdraws. New TIA supersedes existing TIA unless otherwise specified on Form 8821, Line 6. May co-exist with a POA	Taxpayer revokes or appointee withdraws. New TIA supersedes existing TIA unless otherwise specified. May co-exist with a POA	Taxpayer revokes or designee withdraws or automatic expiration one year from the due date of the tax return upon which it is granted, whichever occurs first. May co-exist with a POA	Expiration coincides with the resolution of the specific notice issue from which the authorization arose. May co-exist with a POA.	Taxpayer revokes or agent withdraws. New F-8655 may coexist with existing F-8655 but only for non-overlapping periods covered by authorization. May co-exist with a POA