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Federal Return Issues

Do not want to include NJ Return at all

- **TWO**: Main Info, State Information section
 - Check box labeled "If you are not preparing a state return, check here" and
 - Remove NJ from "Full year resident" box on next line
- See NJ Issues when do not want to e-file NJ return, but do want printed NJ return

✤ W-2 NJ Special Taxes (Unemployment, Disability, and Family Leave)

- **Tax Law**: Federal allowable as part of Sch A, line 5a (unless Private Plan)
- **TWO** W-2 worksheet box 14:
 - Special Codes:
 - Use NJSUI for Unemployment (UI / WF / SWF) flows to Sch A automatically
 - Use NJSDI for Disability (DI) flows to Sch A automatically
 - Use NJFLI for Family Leave (FL / FLI) flows to Sch A automatically
 - If Private Plan (PP#) then do NOT use above codes because private plans are not deductible on Sch A (e.g. use NJSDIPP for Disability Private Plan amount)
 (See also NJ 2450 Handling below)
 - Other amounts in box 14 (e.g. 414H / PERS) include, but do not affect TWO calculations
 - UI, DI, FLI amounts may also appear in or below box 19 / 20 on W-2 paper form

US Savings bonds or other Federal obligations (1099-INT Box 3)

- > Tax Law: Federal taxed; NJ not taxed
- > **TWO**: Interest Stmt
 - Amount in Box 1 or 3 amount column
 - "-" in State adjust + / column and Amount in State adjust Amount column

Exempt bond interest (1099-INT Box 8)

- > Tax Law: Federal not taxed; NJ taxability varies
- > **TWO**: Interest Stmt
 - "E" in NAEOB column and Amount in NAEOB Amount column
 - If NOT exempt in NJ (e.g. Municipal bond from another state), then also enter
 - "+" in State adjust + / column and Amount in State adjust Amount column

State Income Tax Refunds (Form 1099-G)

- **Tax Law**: Federal may be taxed; NJ not taxed
- > TWO:
 - Ignore if did not itemize last year or used Sales Tax (line 5b) instead of Income Tax (line 5a) last year
 - If have prior year return or carry forward (i.e. have prior year data) then
 - Link to State Tax Refund Worksheet from 1040 line 10 to enter amount, then fill in other info on worksheet to determine if whole refund is taxable (it usually is)
 - Otherwise, if may have itemized last year and missing prior year return, then enter amount directly on 1040, line 10

Capital Gains on NJ Exempt Obligations

\succ Tax Law:

- Federal taxed;
- NJ See NJ Bulletin GIT-5 for list and taxability of interest or gains
 Available at: http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/publit1.shtml
- ≻ TWO:
 - Federal Enter on Capital Gains worksheet as usual
 - NJ use Scratch Pad to adjust on NJ Sch B line 3

RRB Tier 2 (1099-RRB)

- > Tax Law: Federal taxed; NJ not taxed
- **TWO**: 1099-R Worksheet Check Railroad retirement (near Box 12 & 15)

Military Pensions (1099-R from Defense Finance & Accounting SVC)

- **Tax Law**: Federal taxed; NJ not taxed
- **TWO**: 1099-R Worksheet Check Box 2 (near Box 12 & 15)

Disability Pension (1099-R code 3 AND TP is disabled)

- > Tax Law:
 - Federal Line 7 if under "minimum retirement age" / Line 16 otherwise;
 - NJ: Not taxed if under 65 / Taxed otherwise
- TWO: 1099-R Worksheet If under "minimum retirement age" then check box labeled "Check if disability and taxpayer is disabled" (under Box 7 & 8)

Unemployment (1099-G)

- **Tax Law**: Federal taxed; NJ not taxed
- > **TWO**: 1099-G Worksheet No special action required

✤ NJ Lottery (W-2G from NJ Lottery Board)

- > Tax Law: Federal taxed; NJ taxed if over 10,000 / Not taxed if 10,000 or under
- TWO: W-2G Worksheet If less than or equal to 10,000 then check box labeled "See F-1 Help on the state return for the use of this box Instructions vary by state" (bottom near Box 13)
- (Don't forget to enter losses in box labeled "Gambling losses to be transferred to Schedule A" – even if not itemizing because net amount used on NJ return)

Federal pre-tax / NJ after-tax medical (e.g. cafeteria plan on W-2)

- > Do NOT enter on Federal Sch A or A Detail
- May need to look at 12/31 pay stub to confirm amount is medical / dental (not child care, health club, or other)
- See NJ Issues for handling on NJ-1040 line 30

Property Tax

- Tax Law: Federal deduction allowed for multiple properties (Principal Residency not relevant); NJ deduction/credit only allowed for Principal Residence (in NJ)
- > TWO:
 - Problem: Taxpayers may bring various kinds of documentation for their property taxes paid – figuring the right amount to enter depends on what documentation the taxpayer has:
 - See page "How to Calculate Property tax paid on Principal Residence"

Property Tax Rebate (PTR) and/or Homestead Benefit

- Tax Law: Federal Recovery amounts must be included on return, but are allowable on either Sch A or line 21; NJ – do not include at all
- > TWO:
 - Problem: Figuring whether a recovery needs to accounted for and where to enter it, if so, is tricky:
 - See page "NJ Property Tax Recoveries Flowchart"

✤ NJ Income Tax Payments (other than withholding)

- Tax Law: Federal Payments apply to Federal tax year in which payments made (cash basis)
- **TWO:** See F/S Tax Paid page (NJ Section)
 - Amount applied from previous year's NJ-1040
 - NJ Estimated payments (check * column if 4th payment < Jan 1)
 - NJ Amount due (and paid) from prior year NJ return
 - NJ Estimated payment from prior year (if >= Jan 1)

NJ Return Issues

* NJ-1040 Pg1

- County/Municipality Code (look in NJ-1040 Instructions or use State Help to lookup codes; lookup link also available via Preparer page)
- Check if enclosing copy of death certificate Use only if there is a refund due and you wish a paper check to be issued (must paper file in this case). Not necessary if using direct deposit.

* NJ-1040 Pg2

- Line 11 (Exemptions) enter count of dependents attending college (note age < 22 and other important conditions apply – see NJ-1040 Instructions for line 11)
- Line 13 (Dependents) be sure to link to NJ Dependent worksheet to check health insurance boxes if applicable
 - If have any EIC qualifying dependents with Code=0 on Main Info then need to add these dependents manually to NJ Dep Wkt (see below)
- Gubernatorial Elections Fund check according to TP instructions
- Line 18 (Net gains ...) May need to adjust for NJ exempt securities (use Scratch Pad on NJ Sch B line 3)
- Line 19 (Pensions, …)
 - May need to adjust for 3-year rule pensions (see NJ Three Year rule page)
 - May need to remove disability pension amounts if TP is under 65 (TW bug...) This will happen if disability box is not checked on 1099-R with code 3 (i.e. TP is at least minimum retirement age, but under 65)
 - Add a Scratch Pad off line 19 with disability pension taxable amount as negative
- Line 25 (Other) If property tax refund(s) or 1099-C income (1099-C is for Cancellation of debt) were added on federal 1040 line 21, then need to reverse because not taxable in NJ:
 - Link to NJ Other Income Statement (do not use regular scratch pad)
 - If only one amount to reverse:
 - Negative amount in section F corresponding to Property Tax or 1099-C amount carried from federal line 21. Document using associated text box
 - If more than one amount to reverse:
 - Attach Scratch pad to section F amount and include negative amount and description for each
- Line 27a (Pension Exclusion) May need to adjust for Three Year Rule pensions (see NJ Three Year Rule page)
- Line 30 (Medical) If had Federal pre-tax / NJ after-tax medical (e.g. cafeteria plan on W-2) then
 - Make sure all entries that would affect NJ-1040, line 28 are entered and run Diagnostics to be sure no problems
 - If NJ-1040 line 30 already > 0 then add Scratch pad
 - Plus NJ after-tax amount
 - If NJ-1040 line 30 is zero then add Scratch pad
 - Plus Amount from Federal Sch A Medical (if any)
 - Plus NJ after-tax amount
 - Minus 2% of amount on NJ-1040 line 28 (Gross Income)
 - Note: if result is < 0 then delete Scratch Pad No NJ Medical deduction
- Line 37a (Total property taxes paid)
 - Adjust, if necessary, to be total property taxes (before any Homestead Benefit credit)
 - e.g. if PTR Base amount used on Worksheet F, then should adjust

* NJ-1040 Pg3

- > Line 37b (Homeowner on Oct. 1) Check as appropriate
- Line 45 (Use Tax) Explain to TP and fill in as appropriate
 - See NJ-1040 instructions for more information (Worksheet G may be helpful)
 - Don't forget to add amounts for purchases > \$1,000 to "standard" amount
- Line 50 (NJ Estimated Payments)
 - (See F/S Tax Paid page)

NJ-1040 Pg3 – Worksheet F, Line 1

This can be confusing - See page "How to fill out Worksheet F"

✤ NJ-1040 Pg3 – Do you want to electronically file this return?

- Check No if there is no need to file NJ-1040 but TP wants printout
 Be sure to mark printed copy "No Need to File Info Copy Only"
- > See Federal Issues if do not want to include NJ return at all

NJ Dep Wkt handling

- > Check box for any dependents who do NOT have health insurance
- Must manually add (via override) any EIC qualifying dependents that were listed on Main Info with Code=0 (Non-Dependents)

NJ IRA Wkt handling

- Must have one NJ IRA Wkt for each IRA distribution
 - Use "+" in tree to add and enter 1, 2, 3, ... in second box at top
- > Enter info for after-tax contributions (if known); take red out otherwise

✤ NJ 2450 handling

- Should automatically get added to NJ tree (if more than one W-2)
 - Note: There is separate form for TP and SP
- Add any Private Plan (PP#) amounts via Scratch Pad linked from appropriate box
 Be sure to also fill in Plan number box

NJ-1040-H (Not in TaxWise – must file manually)

See page "New Jersey Property Tax Deduction / Credit" and NJ-1040 Instructions page 48

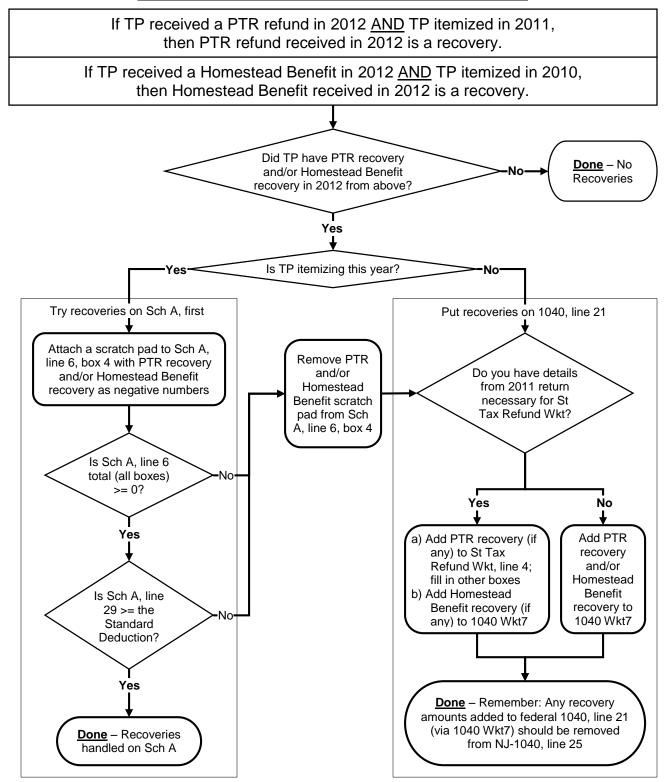
How to Calculate Property tax paid on Principal Residence (Sch A, line 6, box 3)

Source	Sch A, line 6, box 3 Amount	
Postcard from Assessor's office	Amount on postcard	
Form 1098 showing property taxes	Amount on Form 1098	
paid	plus(+) any Homestead Benefit amount for 2010 applied as a credit to Feb 2012 tax bill (lookup if necessary)	
TP record of property tax payments	TP record amount	
(e.g. cancelled checks)	plus(+) any Homestead Benefit amount for 2010 applied as a credit to Feb 2012 tax bill (lookup if necessary)	
Tax bills for 2012 (last two quarters	Total of calendar 2012 amounts	
of 2012 bill and first two quarters of 2013 bill)	[Note: ignore any Homestead Benefit adjustments/credits]	
PTR-1A/2A (2012) form filled out by tax office	Amount from PTR-1A/2A (2012) line 2 "Total 2012 taxes paid by Homeowner(s) by 6/1/13" plus(+) amount from line 6 "Homestead Benefit (Credit)" [Note: this may need to be apportioned if there are multiple	
None of the above	owners] TP should go home to get one of the above or contact tax office to get information on property taxes paid in 2012	

- Note 1: Homestead Benefits received as a check do not count as being applied as credit to municipal bill.
- Note 2: See separate page for instructions on how to lookup Homestead Benefit amount.
- Note 3: Only enter Property taxes paid on Principal Residence on Sch A, line 6, box 3. Property taxes paid on property other than Principal Residence are still deductible on Sch A, but should be entered on line 6, box 4 (instead of box 3).
- Note 4: If using Postcard, Tax bills, or PTR, then any Property tax amounts billed for 2012, but not actually paid in 2012 should be subtracted from the above amount.
- Note 5: Any Property tax payments made in 2012 for prior years and not already included in above amount should be added.

Note 6: The property tax paid amount is after any Disabled Veterans Exemption, Veterans Deduction, or Senior Citizens Deduction amounts which may apply.

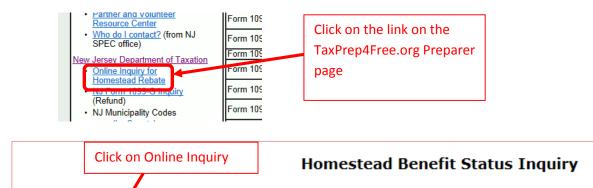
NJ Property Tax Recoveries Flowchart



Note 1: Complete all federal income and regular Sch A entries before following this procedure. Note 2: See separate page for instructions on how to lookup Homestead Benefit amount.

How to Lookup Homestead Benefit received in 2012

New Jersey property tax payers who qualified for a property tax benefit on their property <u>taxes paid in</u> <u>2010</u> were able to <u>apply in 2011</u> for their Homestead Benefit and their Homestead Benefit was ultimately <u>received as an adjustment in 2012</u> to their local property tax due. The taxpayer may bring in a copy of their 2012 tax bill that will show the adjustment amount. If they do not know the amount, there is a lookup tool available on the NJ DoT (New Jersey Division of Taxation) website. From the TaxPrep4Free.org Preparer page there is a link to the NJ DoT lookup tool.



You can get information on the status (amount) of your homestead benefit either online or by phone.

- Online Inquiry (2010, 2009, and 2008 benefits)
- Phone Inquiry: 1-877-658-2972 (toll-free within NJ, NY, PA, DE, and MD). (2010 benefit only)



Social Security Number:	
(Without dashes)	On the second screen
	 enter the TP SSN and Zip
Zip Code:	
(Of property for which you filed your homeowner application)	Code and then click
	Submit
Submit Clear	

A screen similar to the one below will display the amount of the Homestead Benefit approved and when it was applied.

Your honestead benefit in the amount of \$419.66 us been approved for payment to the tax collector of DENVILLE TWP or February 1, 2012 you can expect to receive a revised preperty tax bill or advice copy from your tax collector that reflects the amount of your terrefit on or before Jamairy 3. If you have any questions, and us an e-mail. NOTE: All benefit amounts are subject to further review and adjustment. Check Another Year.

F/S Tax Paid (State section)

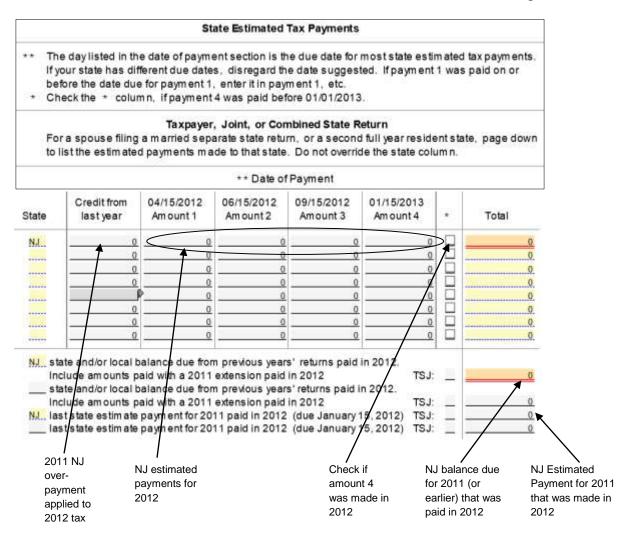
Must link from line 63 on Federal 1040 Pg2 (Cannot link from NJ 1040 Pg3, Line 50)

(If return is carried forward from previous year, then some (but not all) values will be filled in automatically.)

Used for:

- 2011 NJ overpayment applied to 2012 tax (2011 NJ 1040, Line 57)
- 2011 (or earlier) NJ balance due actually paid in 2012
- 2011 NJ estimated payment if made in January 2012
- 2012 NJ estimated payments (all even if made in January 2013)

Values entered here will flow to federal Sch A, Line 5a and/or NJ 1040 Pg3, Line 50



How to fill out Worksheet F

Column A box	What to fill in
First box (Rent you paid in 2012):	Rent paid for principal residence [Note: Rental unit must pay property taxes and unit must have own kitchen and bath]
Second box (Property taxes you paid in 2012):	If filing PTR-1 (or PTR-2) for 2012, then use PTR base amount [Note: if using TW, then line 37a will need to be adjusted] Otherwise use amount carried from Sch A (assuming Sch A line 6 box 3 filled in using instructions on separate page)

- Note 1: It is ok to have both rent and property tax on Worksheet F, but only one dwelling can qualify as principal residence on any day. (i.e. cannot include property tax / rent paid on more than one dwelling for same day)
- Note 2: TaxWise will not calculate the remainder of Worksheet F if TP does not qualify for the credit. From NJ Instructions: "Taxpayers who were not 65 years of age or older or blind or disabled on December 31, 2012, with gross income of \$20,000 or less (\$10,000 if filing status is single or married/CU partner, filing separate return), *are not eligible for a property tax credit.*"

NJ Three Year Rule

Tax Law: (see NJ-1040 Instructions or NJ GIT-1for more detail)

"If you will recover your contributions within three years from the date you receive the first payment from the plan, and both you **and** your employer contributed to the plan, you may use the Three-Year Rule Method to determine your New Jersey taxable pension income. The Three-Year Rule allows you to exclude your pension and annuity payments from gross income until the payments you receive equal your contributions to the plan. Until that time, the amounts you receive, because they are considered your contributions, are not taxable and should not be reported on your return. Once you have receive are fully taxable. Since the Three-Year Rule has been repealed for Federal income tax purposes, if you retired after July 1, 1986, the taxable amount of pension or annuity that you report on your New Jersey return when using this method will differ from the amount you report on your Federal return."

Adjusting New Jersey Return for the Three Year Rule

- > NJ-1040 line 19 (Pensions...) add Scratch pad
 - Plus difference between federal gross amount and federal taxable amount (all years)
 - Minus Three Year Rule amount (only until contribution is recovered)
- NJ-1040 line 27a (Pension Exclusion)
 - Calculated by TW from federal taxable amount, not amount from NJ-1040 line 19, so line 27a amount may be wrong
 - While contribution is being recovered and line 27a amount is greater than line 19 amount
 - Add Scratch Pad to adjust line 27a amount down to line 19 amount
 - After contribution is recovered and line 27a amount is less than line 19 amount
 - Add Scratch Pad to adjust line 27a amount up to line 19 amount

Change Log

02-07-2012 v1.1:

• Add Note 2 on page 10

02-03-2012 v1.0:

• Initial release.