

2005 Virginia Form 765

Instructions for Filing Unified Nonresident Individual Income Tax Return

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Who May File

A partnership, S Corporation, or other pass-through entity (PTE) that transacts business in Virginia and has two or more nonresident individual owners may file a unified nonresident individual income tax return (unified return) on behalf of **all** of its qualified nonresident individual owners (participants) provided certain conditions are met. In addition, certain estates and trusts which qualify and have income passed through to their nonresident beneficiaries may elect to file a unified return. These filers will complete Form 765 in a similar manner as a PTE filer. A unified return is an alternative to the filing of a nonresident individual income tax return by each nonresident individual owner of the PTE.

The unified return is filed in the name of the PTE, using the PTE's federal employer identification number (FEIN) and Virginia account number. An owner, officer or employee of the PTE who is authorized to act on behalf of the PTE in tax matters (authorized representative) must sign the unified return. By signing the return, the signer is declaring that he or she is the authorized representative of the PTE and that each participant has signed a consent form authorizing the PTE to act on the participant's behalf in the matter of unified returns and acknowledging the participant's understanding and acceptance of all of the terms and conditions of participation in a unified return as described in these instructions. The consent form must continue in force indefinitely until revoked in writing by the participant and permit the PTE to file amendments or take other actions concerning the unified return without additional authorization from the participant. The consent forms must be maintained by the PTE and provided to the Department for inspection upon demand.

All owners of the PTE who qualify to participate must participate in the unified return, if the unified filing is elected. If any qualified owner declines to participate, the other qualified owners may **not** file a unified return.

By filing a unified return, the participants join in a collective return, which is prepared and submitted by the PTE on behalf of the participants. The unified return satisfies the requirement that each participant file a separate Virginia nonresident individual income tax return, but it does not transform the PTE into a taxable entity or transfer the tax liability of the participants to the PTE.

A unified return may be filed without prior approval from the Virginia Department of Taxation (Department) provided the PTE

and the participants agree to comply with the Department's rules described in these instructions. If all of the rules described in these instructions cannot be met, the PTE must receive written approval from the Tax Commissioner **before** submitting a unified return.

All requests must be submitted in writing to:

Tax Commissioner
Virginia Department of Taxation
P.O. Box 2475
Richmond, VA 23218-2475

The Department may deny any PTE permission to file a unified return. In addition, the Department may refuse acceptance of any unified return not filed in a timely manner or in accordance with the prescribed rules and procedures. In such cases, the Department will require each owner to file his or her own separate return in accordance with Virginia law and regulations.

Who Qualifies to Participate

A qualified owner is a natural person who is:

1. A direct owner of the PTE filing the return; **and**
2. A nonresident of Virginia whose only Virginia source income for the taxable year is from the PTE filing the return (an owner who receives Virginia taxable income as an *employee* of the PTE and as an *owner* of the PTE does not qualify).

All owners of the PTE who meet **both** conditions listed above must participate in the unified return.

How Taxable Income and Amount of Tax are Determined

For the unified return, Virginia taxable income is the aggregate of each participant's income from the PTE, as allocated and apportioned to Virginia, adjusted by any modifications applicable to Virginia individual income tax, without benefit of any personal exemptions or itemized or standard deductions. Virginia taxable income cannot be reduced by carryovers from any other taxable years or returns of the PTE or any participant for net operating losses, charitable contributions, Internal Revenue Code §179 expenses, or other deductions. In addition, Virginia Taxable Income cannot be reduced by deductions or subtractions nor may any tax be offset by credits that did not flow through from the PTE to

the participants. Only Virginia modifications and credits reported on the participants Schedules VK-1 that are applicable to individual income tax may be claimed on the unified return.

Although Virginia credits may not be carried over to other taxable years on the PTE's return (Form 502), the owners may be able to carry over unused credits on their Virginia returns. Refer to the section below titled **What Forms and Schedules to Use** for instructions on claiming Virginia credits and carry over credits on the unified return.

The amount of tax is computed on the Virginia Taxable Income by applying the tax rates for individual income tax specified § 58.1-320 of the *Code of Virginia* or by reference to the tax tables published by the Department, without regard to the number of participants.

NOTE: The unified return is an option the Department provides to qualifying nonresident individual owners of a PTE to simplify the return filing process. Its use may result in the loss of certain benefits and tax advantages available to nonresident individuals filing separate Virginia returns. In addition, the amount of tax computed on a unified filing basis may exceed the aggregate of the participants' tax liabilities had each participant filed his or her own return. The qualifying owners of each PTE must decide whether to file a unified return. If the unified return option is not elected, each nonresident owner should consult a tax professional to determine if he or she is required to file a separate Virginia return

When the Return is Due

If the PTE's taxable year is:

- **Calendar year** (January 1 - December 31), then the unified return for taxable year 2005 is due on or before May 1, 2006; or
- **Fiscal year or short year**, then the unified return is due on or before the 15th day of the fourth month following the close of the PTE's taxable year.

The unified return must be submitted to the Department at the same time or **after** the PTE submits its Virginia return (VA Form 502). To avoid processing delays and problems, follow the mailing instructions below.

Automatic Extension to File

An automatic extension of time to file is granted to the date six months after such due date or 30 days after the extended date for filing the federal income tax return, whichever is later, provided the full amount estimated as the tax due has been paid on or before the original due date. If sufficient payments have been made, no further action is required to obtain the extension to file. If an additional tax payment is needed to ensure the tax liability has been paid, use Form 760-IP to remit the payment. The request must be made in the name of the PTE, using the PTE's Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). Mail Form 760-IP to:

Virginia Department of Taxation
P.O. Box 760
Richmond, VA 23218-0760

For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2005, an automatic six month extension is likewise granted to the PTE (Form 502). There is no form to submit since there is no payment due on the PTE return. Penalties are assessed for returns filed after the extended due date. See the Virginia Pass-Through Entity Instructions for further information.

How to Make Estimated Payments

The rules and procedures for payment of estimated individual income tax apply to unified returns. Use VA Form 760ES, Estimated Tax Payment Voucher, to submit estimated tax payments.

Payments of the estimated tax must be made in the name of the PTE, using the PTE's FEIN. The estimated tax is computed using the estimated Virginia taxable income for the unified return, without regard to the number of participants. Estimated tax paid by a participant to his or her own account may not be applied to a unified return, and estimated tax paid by a PTE for use on a unified return may not be applied to a participant's individual account. Overpayments on a unified return may not be applied to estimated tax for the following year; they will be refunded.

Where the Department will Mail Refunds, Assessments, and Correspondence

The Department will issue correspondence and all assessments of tax, penalty, and interest in the name of the PTE. Although the PTE is required to make all payments of tax, penalty, and interest, and is authorized to act on the participants' behalf, each participant remains liable for his or her respective share of any tax, penalty and interest owed. The Department will refund overpaid tax to the PTE.

What Forms and Schedules to Use

A unified return must include:

- A completed and signed VA Form 765, Unified Nonresident Individual Income Tax Return; **AND**
- A Schedule L, List of Participating Owners, which includes the name, home address, and Social Security Number of each participant.

If any Virginia credits are claimed on the unified return, then the unified return must also include:

- A Schedule CR, Credit Computation Schedule; **AND**
- The required forms and documentation, as described in the Schedule CR instructions, for each credit claimed; **AND**
- If any carry over credit is claimed, a reconciliation of the available carry over credit accounting for any change in the participants from the prior year.

Credits: When claiming an original credit, sum the credit amount allocated to each participant (from the participants' Schedules VK-1) and enter on the appropriate line on Schedule CR. If a credit reported on the participants' Schedules VK-1 is not included on the Schedule CR, it may not be used as a credit to lower an individual income tax liability. For instance, a credit limited by the *Code of Virginia* to corporations may not be used to reduce individual income tax, either on a unified return or on a separate individual income tax return. Refundable credits may not be claimed on a unified return. Credit for income tax paid to another state may not be claimed on a unified return.

If any credit is unused and the credit allows for carry over, report the carry over on Schedule CR. Unused credit may be carried over in accordance with each credit's specific carry over provisions. If a participant who did not previously qualify to participate in a unified filing has carry over credit, that participant's carry over credit may be included on the unified return, provided such credit was originally passed through to the participant by the PTE and the carry over credit is within the carry over period allowed for that credit. Conversely, any portion of a carry over credit allocated to an owner who qualified to participate in a unified filing for a prior taxable year but who no longer qualifies may not be included on the unified return, as that portion of the carry over credit may only be used by that owner when filing his or her separate Virginia return.

If any carry over credit is claimed, attach to the Schedule CR, along with all required forms and documentation, a reconciliation of the available carry over credit accounting for any change in the participants from the prior year. The reconciliation must include the type of credit, amount and taxable year earned, and amount(s) and taxable year(s) used or partially used for each participant having a carry over.

Amended Returns: When filing an amended unified return, always provide an amended return reconciliation and a statement substantiating the reason for the amendment. Refer to the instructions for filing an amended unified return provided below.

When and How to File an Amended Unified Return

If the PTE files an amended federal return reflecting changes to the taxable income amount or any other amounts that flow through to the owners, the PTE is required to file an amended VA Form 502 and issue each owner an amended VA Schedule VK-1 within 90 days of filing the amended federal return. If the PTE's federal return is adjusted by the Internal Revenue Service, the PTE is required to file an amended VA Form 502 and issue each owner an amended VA Schedule VK-1 within 90 days following the final determination of such federal change, correction, or renegotiation.

In addition, the PTE must amend the unified return, Form 765, within 90 days of filing its amended federal return or within 90 days following the final determination of such federal change, correction or renegotiation. When amending a unified return, whether the amendment is the result of the PTE filing an amended return, a federal change or any other reason, always attach a

statement to the amended unified return substantiating the reason for the amendment.

To amend the unified return, complete a new unified return using the corrected figures, **as if the return were the original return.** Check the amended return check box located on the Form 765, page 1, top left side. In addition, attach a reconciliation of any tax due amounts paid or refunds received based on the original return filing to the amount of tax due or refund computed for the amended unified return.

If the amended unified return increases the tax liability and results in a net tax due, attach a check or money order to the return for the net tax due and mail to the Department with the amended unified return.

If the amended unified return reduces the tax liability and results in a net overpayment of tax, the Department by law may issue a refund only if the amended return is filed within:

- three years from the due date of the original return, including valid filing extensions;
- one year from the final determination of the amended federal return or federal change, whichever is later, provided that the allowable refund is not more than the decrease in Virginia tax attributable to the federal change or correction;
- two years from the filing of an amended Virginia return resulting in the payment of additional tax, provided that the current amended return raises issues relating solely to the prior amended return and that the refund does not exceed the amount of tax payment made as a result of the prior amended return; or
- two years from the payment of an assessment, provided the amended return raises issues relating only to the prior assessment and the refund does not exceed the amount of tax paid on the prior assessment.

Where To Mail The Unified Return

Submit the unified return with payment of any tax due to:

Virginia Department of Taxation
P.O. Box 760
Richmond, VA 23218-0760

Make your check payable to the Virginia Department of Taxation, place the check on top of the return, and staple to the left side, middle of Form 765.

Do not mail the unified return with the PTE's return to the Department in the same envelope. Follow the instructions for mailing the PTE return, Form 502, provided in the Form 502 instructions.

How to Contact Customer Services

Tenemos servicios disponible en Espanol

For forms, instructions, and information, or to email the Department a question, pay a bill, or file an extension, visit our Web site:



www.tax.virginia.gov

Customer Service Inquiries

Department of Taxation
P. O. Box 1115
Richmond, VA 23218-1115
Phone: (804) 367-8031

Forms Requests

Department of Taxation
P. O. Box 1317
Richmond, VA 23218-1317
Phone: (804) 440-2541
Fax: (804) 236-2759

RETURN PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1

Complete the name and address section at the top of Form 765, page 1.

Fiscal or Short Year Filer: The taxable period for the unified return is the same as the taxable period for the PTE. If the taxable period is other than a calendar year, enter the beginning and ending dates of the PTE's taxable year.

Name and Address: Enter the name and address of the PTE.

FEIN: Enter the PTE's Federal Employer Identification Number.

Virginia Account Number: Enter the PTE's Virginia Account Number.

Legal Name Change or Address Change: If the PTE's legal name or address has changed, check the appropriate box.

Amended Return: Refer to the instructions provided in the **When and How to File an Amended Return section**.

Step 2

Complete Part II of Form 765, page 2. Part II is the summary of the participants' income and Virginia modifications, as reported on each participant's Schedule VK-1.

Determine the Participants' Income: Complete Part II, Lines 1 through 5. Part II, Line 1 and Line 4 are aggregate amounts, computed by totaling the corresponding amounts reported on the participants' Schedules VK-1. Part II, Line 2 is not an aggregate number; it is the Virginia Apportionment Percentage reported to each participant on Schedule VK-1, Line 7. Follow the line instructions on Form 765.

Determine the Participants' Additions to Income: Complete Part II, Lines 6 through 11. For each Line item, enter the aggregate amount in Column A, computed by totaling the corresponding amounts reported on the participants' Schedules VK-1. Multiply any amount reported in Column A by the Virginia Apportionment Percentage, Part II, Line 2, and enter the result in Column B. Enter guaranteed payments to partners on line 10, use code 99 and attach an explanation to the return. Only those additions that flow through from the PTE to the participants and are required by Virginia in the computation of individual income tax may be reported on the unified return.

The additions applicable to individual income tax are listed on Form 765 (Lines 6, 7, and 9) or reported on the Schedules VK-1 as addition codes 10 or 99. Any addition coded as "99" is applicable to the extent that such addition is relevant to Virginia individual income tax. Refer to the Virginia Form 760 Resident Individual Income Tax instruction booklet for further information.

Determine the Participants' Subtractions from Income: Complete Part II, Lines 12 through 17. For each Line item, enter the aggregate amount, computed by totaling the amounts reported on the participants' Schedules VK-1. Multiply any amount reported in Column A by the Virginia Apportionment Percentage, Part II, Line 2, and enter the result in Column B. Only those subtractions that flow through from the PTE to the participants and are allowed by Virginia in the computation of individual income tax may be reported on the unified return.

The subtractions applicable to individual income tax are listed on Form 765 (Lines 12, 13, and 15) or reported on the Schedules VK-1 as subtraction codes 20, 21, 22, 42, 43, 45, 47, or 99. Any subtraction coded as "99" is applicable to the extent that such subtraction is allowed for Virginia individual income tax. Any subtraction claimed on the unified return for code 99 must include supporting documentation. Refer to the Form 760 Virginia Resident Individual Income Tax instruction booklet for further information.

Step 3

Complete Form 765, page 1, lines 1 through 15. Lines not listed below are explained on Form 765.

Line 6 Amount of Tax: Determine the tax amount on the Virginia Taxable Income, Line 5, as follows:

If Line 5 is not over \$3,000, the tax is 2% of Line 5.

If Line 5 is between \$3,001 and \$5,000, the tax is \$60 plus 3% of the excess over \$3,000.

If Line 5 is between \$5,001 and \$17,000, the tax is \$120 plus 5% of the excess over \$5,000.

If Line 5 is over \$17,000, the tax is \$720 plus 5.75% of the excess over \$17,000.

Tax tables can be downloaded at www.tax.virginia.gov.

Line 7 Estimated Payments: Enter the total of the estimated tax payments, if any, made by the PTE on behalf of the participants.

Line 8 Extension Payment: Enter the extension payment, if any, made by the PTE on behalf of the participants.

Line 9 Total Credits: Attach a completed Schedule CR and all required documentation. Refer to the Schedule CR instructions for details and read the section in these instructions titled **What Forms and Schedules to Use**. If the total of all credit amounts claimed on Schedule CR exceeds the amount of tax reported on Form 765, Line 6, enter the amount of tax from Line 6.

Line 13a Addition to Tax: An addition to tax is not owed if:

- All estimated tax payments for the taxable year were made timely; **and**
- The amount, if any, on Form 765, Line 11, is less than \$150; **and**
- Total estimated payments were at least 90% of the unified filers' 2005 tax liability after nonrefundable credits or 100% of the 2004 tax liability after nonrefundable credits.

Use Form 760C to compute the Addition to Tax, if applicable.

Line 13b Late Filing Penalty or Extension Penalty:

Late Filing Penalty. If a tax due return is filed after the extended due date, it is subject to a late filing penalty. The penalty is 6% of the tax due for each month or part of a month that the return is late, but not more than 30%.

Extension Penalty. If the return is subsequently filed on or before the extended due date, an extension penalty is assessed if the tax due (Form 765, Line 11) is greater than 10% of the tax amount (Form 765, Line 6). The extension penalty is 2% per month or part of a month from the original due date of the return until the return is filed. If a tax due return is submitted after the extended due date, the extension is invalid and the Late Filing Penalty is assessed.

NOTICE: A Late Payment Penalty may be assessed if a tax due return is filed and full payment is not made when the return is filed. The Late Payment Penalty is 6% per month or part of a month during which any tax due amount remains unpaid, not to exceed 30%. For any month that the Late Filing Penalty applies, the Late Payment Penalty will not apply. The total of any Late Filing Penalty and Late Payment Penalty cannot exceed 30% of the tax due.

Line 13c Interest: If a tax due return is filed after the original due date, interest is assessed on the amount of tax due from the original due date to the date the return is filed. Interest is assessed even if the return is submitted by the extended due date. To obtain the daily interest factor, please call (804) 367-8031.

Line 15 Refund: Refunds are paid to the PTE, except that the Department may apply the overpayment to any outstanding amounts related to unified returns filed by the same PTE, without regard to the identities of the participants. An overpayment may not be applied to the estimated tax for the following tax year.

Step 4

Complete Schedule L, Listing of Participants. Schedule L is a required attachment and must include the name, home address, and Social Security Number of each participant.

Step 5

Assemble the unified return as follows:

- Form 765, Unified Return
- Schedule CR, Credit Computation Schedule, if applicable, along with all supporting documentation and the carry over reconciliation
- Schedule L, List of Participants

For a tax due unified return, make the check payable to the Virginia Department of Taxation and staple to the front of the return, on the left side, as shown on the return.

Mail the return to:

**Virginia Department of Taxation
P.O. Box 760
Richmond, VA 23218-0760**

Quick as a Click

www.tax.virginia.gov

