followed if the prescribed form is not available.

[T.D. 7427, 41 FR 34028, Aug. 12, 1976]

§ 1.6015(f)-1 Return as declaration or amendment.

- (a) *Time for filing return.* (1) (i) If a tax-payer pays in full the amount computed on the return as payable, and
- (a) If a taxpayer (other than a taxpayer referred to in (b) of this subdivision):
- (1) On the calendar year basis, files his return on or before January 31 of the succeeding calendar year, or
- (2) On a fiscal year basis, files his return on or before the last day of the first month immediately succeeding the close of such fiscal year, or
- (b) If an individual referred to in section 6073(b), relating to income from farming, or, with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1962, from fishing:
- (1) On the calendar year basis, for taxable years beginning before January 1, 1969, files his return on or before February 15, or
- (2) On a fiscal year basis, for taxable years beginning before January 1, 1969, files his return on or before the 15th day of the second month after the close of his fiscal year, or
- (3) On the calendar year basis, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1968, files his return on or before March 1. or
- (4) On a fiscal year basis, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1968, files his return on or before the first day of the third month after the close of his fiscal year, then:
- (ii) (a) If the declaration is not required to be filed during the taxable year, but is required to be filed on or before January 15 of the succeeding year (or the date corresponding thereto in the case of a fiscal year), such return shall be considered as such declaration; or
- (b) If a declaration was filed during the taxable year, such return shall be considered as the amendment of the declaration permitted by section 6015(e) to be filed on or before January 15 of the succeeding year (or the date corresponding thereto in the case of a fiscal year).

Hence, for example, an individual taxpayer on the calendar year basis who, subsequent to September 1, 1963, first meets the requirements of section 6015(a) which necessitate the filing of a declaration for 1963, may satisfy the requirements as to the filing of such declaration by filing his return for 1963 on or before January 31, 1964 (February 15, 1964, in the case of a farmer or fisherman), and paying in full at the time of such filing the tax shown thereon to be payable. Likewise, if a taxpayer files on or before September 15, 1963, a timely declaration for such year and subsequent thereto and on or before January 31, 1964, files his return for 1963, and pays at the time of such filing the tax shown by the return to be payable, such return shall be treated as an amended declaration timely filed.

- (2) For the purpose of section 6015(f) a taxpayer may file his return on or before the last day of the first month following the close of the taxable year even though he has not been furnished Form W-2 by his employer. In such case the taxpayer shall compute, as accurately as possible, his wages for such year and the tax withheld for which he is entitled to a credit, reporting such wages and tax on his return, together with all other pertinent information necessary to the determination of his tax liability for such year.
- (b) Effect on addition to the tax. Compliance with the provisions of section 6015(f) will enable a taxpayer to avoid the addition to the tax imposed by section 6654 with respect to an underpayment of the installment not required to be paid until January 15 of the succeeding calendar year (or the corresponding date in the case of a fiscal year). With respect to an underpayment of any earlier installment, compliance with section 6015(f) will not relieve the taxpayer from the addition to the tax imposed by section 6654. However, the period of the underpayment under section 6654(c), with respect to any earlier installment, will terminate on January 15 of the succeeding calendar year (or the corresponding date in the case of a fiscal year). For example, a taxpayer discovers on January 14, 1956, that he has

§ 1.6015(g)-1

underpaid his estimated tax for the calendar year 1955. He may, in lieu of filing an amended declaration on January 15, 1956, and paying the balance of the estimated tax determined thereon, file his final return on January 31, 1956, and pay in full the amount computed thereon as payable. By so doing, he will avoid the addition to the tax with respect to the underpayment of the installment required to be paid by January 15, 1956. The periods of underpayment, under section 6654(c), as to the installments required to be paid on April 15, 1955, June 15, 1955, and September 15, 1955, also terminate on January 15, 1956.

[T.D. 6500, 25 FR 12108, Nov. 26, 1960, as amended by T.D. 7028, 35 FR 3806, Feb. 27, 1970; 35 FR 4293, Mar. 10, 1970]

§ 1.6015(g)-1 Short taxable years of individuals.

(a) Requirement of declaration. No declaration may be made for a period of more than 12 months. For purposes of this section a taxable year of 52 or 53 weeks, in the case of a taxpayer who computes his taxable income in accordance with the election permitted by section 441(f) shall be deemed a period of 12 months. For special rules affecting the time for filing declarations and paying estimated tax by such a taxpayer, see paragraph (b) of §1.441-2. A separate declaration for a fractional part of a year is required where, for example, there is a change, with the approval of the Commissioner, in the basis of computing taxable income from one taxable year to another taxable year. The periods to be covered by such separate declarations in the several cases are those set forth in section 443. No declaration is required if the short taxable year is:

(1) A period of less than four months. (2) A period of at least four months but less than six months and the requirements of section 6015(a) are first met after the 1st day of the fourth month.

- (3) A period of at least six months but less than nine months and the requirements of section 6015(a) are first met after the 1st day of the sixth month, or
- (4) A period of nine months or more and the requirements of section 6015(a)

are first met after the 1st day of the ninth month.

In the case of a decedent, no declaration need be filed subsequent to the date of death. As to the requirement for an amended declaration if death of one spouse occurs after filing a joint declaration, see paragraph (c) of §1.6015(b)-1.

(b) Income and income tax placed on annual basis. For the purpose of determining whether the anticipated income and tax for a short taxable year resulting from a change of annual accounting period, necessitates the filing of a declaration, income and income tax imposed by chapter 1 (other than by section 56) shall be placed on an annual basis in the manner prescribed in section 443(b)(1). Thus, for example, an unmarried taxpayer who changes from a fiscal year basis to a calendar year basis beginning January 1, 1973, will have a short taxable year beginning July 1, 1972, and ending December 31, 1972. If his anticipated gross income for such short taxable year consists solely of wages (as defined in section 3401(a)) in the amount of \$11,000, his total gross income and his gross income from such wages for the purpose of determining whether a declaration is required is \$22,000, the amount obtained by placing anticipated income of \$11,000 upon an annual basis. Since the taxpayer's anticipated gross income from wages when placed upon an annual basis is in excess of \$20,000, he is required to file a declaration of estimated tax for the short taxable year unless the estimated tax can reasonably be expected to be less than \$100. However, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1966, the amount which the individual estimates as the amount of self-employment tax imposed by chapter 2 shall be computed on the actual selfemployment income for the short period.

[T.D. 6500, 25 FR 12108, Nov. 26, 1960, as amended by T.D. 7427, 41 FR 34028, Aug. 12, 1976]

§1.6015(h)-1 Estates and trusts.

An estate or trust, though generally taxed as an individual, is not required to file a declaration.