



News Release

Maryland Comptroller's Office Marks Six Months of Electronic Filing and Payment Progress

Since launching e-checks in November, Marylanders have saved an estimated \$780,000 in processing fees

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (May 20, 2026) — Six months after the Office of the Comptroller of Maryland launched electronic check (e-check) payment processing, the agency has seen significant progress in modernizing how Marylanders pay their tax obligations, progress driven by a robust public awareness campaign and direct community outreach.

Since the Comptroller launched the e-check payment option in November 2025, the agency has accepted 40,231 e-check payments, and the impact is already measurable. Marylanders paying by e-check have saved an estimated \$780,000 by avoiding credit card processing fees and received confirmations faster than when paying by check.

Most Marylanders are now filing and paying electronically. Paper returns are down 21.71% from the same period last year, with 65,705 processed so far this tax season. Electronic filing remains the fastest, most secure, and least expensive option available, with 90% of returns processed within two days.

The results follow a sustained, multi-channel outreach effort launched by the agency in the fall of 2025. The campaign, anchored by the tagline “Fast, Easy, and Secure,” reached Marylanders through targeted social media advertising and direct email outreach to prior paper-check filers. The agency also conducted outreach to tax preparers through the Maryland Association of CPAs (MACPA) and the Maryland

Society of Accounting and Tax Professionals (MSATP) to address a key finding from a 2025 Comptroller of Maryland taxpayer survey: that some filers were directed to pay by check by their own tax preparers, often without awareness of the electronic options available.

“When we launched e-checks last fall, we fulfilled our promise to Maryland taxpayers to make paying tax obligations easier, faster, and more secure,” said **Comptroller Brooke Lierman**. “Six months later, the results speak for themselves. More Marylanders than ever are filing electronically, paper returns are down by more than 21%, and Marylanders have saved nearly \$800,000 in processing fees. This initiative demonstrates what modernizing government looks like, and we’re just getting started.”

“By introducing an e-check payment option, we’re giving taxpayers a faster, more secure, and more convenient way to meet their obligations,” said **Rob O’Connor**, chief information officer for the Comptroller of Maryland. “Reducing our reliance on paper checks not only streamlines processing but also aligns our services with the expectations of Maryland taxpayers.”

Estimated payments for 2026 are now being accepted. The agency continues to encourage all taxpayers to file and pay electronically at MarylandComptroller.gov/Payments

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