

# Latest arrangement of Inland Revenue Department public services

In order to achieve more rigorous social distancing to stop COVID-19 from further spreading in the community, the Inland Revenue Department announced today (July 19) that from July 20, the department will suspend the provision of all of its services, except the following:

Offices	Opening hours
Central Enquiry Counter (only for enquiries relating to tax clearance for taxpayers leaving Hong Kong)	From 9am to noon; 1.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday
Central Telephone Enquiry	From 9am to 12.30pm; 1.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday
Business Registration Office	From 9am to noon; 1.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday*
Stamp Office	From 9am to noon; 1.30pm to 4pm, Monday to Friday

\* For service users who have made online appointments for counter services before 9am on a day, please come to the Business Registration Office at 9am or 10am of the day; for those who have made online appointments for counter services after 4pm on a day, please come to the Business Registration Office at 2pm of the day.

The department appeals to members of the public for their understanding that the above services will only be provided at a much reduced scale and that services in all other areas will not be provided at the service counters. They should also be prepared to experience a longer waiting time before they can be served. The department encourages the public to use its electronic services to handle their tax affairs as much as possible. A list of such services can be found in the department's website at [www.ird.gov.hk/eng/ese/index.htm](http://www.ird.gov.hk/eng/ese/index.htm).

The department further announced that deadlines for tax payments, lodgement of objections and holdover applications, and submission of tax returns and information that fall between July 20 and July 26 will be automatically extended to July 27.

The department will review the situation and make further announcements as necessary.