



GOVERNMENT OF RIVERS STATE OF NIGERIA RIVERS STATE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

PRESS RELEASE

The Covid-19 pandemic and the related lockdowns has resulted in major disruption in economic activities, resulting in negative economic impact, particularly on micro, small, medium sized enterprises (MSMEs). Most of these MSMEs operates at the rural areas, with many having limited online connectivity to be able to file and pay their taxes electronically.

It has therefore become expedient and equitable for the Rivers State Government to ease the compliance requirements for taxpayers, giving them waivers on penalties and interest for late filing and payment of taxes to the extent that they are related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Rivers State Government in her bid to mitigate and cushion the impact of Covid-19 on tax payers in the State, the Executive Governor of the State, Chief (Barr.) Nyesom Ezenwo Wike (CON) has graciously granted tax relief and incentives to tax payers in the State as follows:

- i. Extension of the deadline of self-assessment and annual returns by individuals and companies operating in Rivers State to 31 December, 2020 since the restriction of movements on lockdowns as occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic has greatly affected the ability of these individuals and companies to carry out their filing obligation.
- ii. Grant waivers of penalty and interest associated with late filings and taxes to 31st December 2020.
- iii. Grant of 1% bonus for all self-assessment paid on or before 31 October, 2020.
- iv. Grant a waiver of 50% on all assessed Capital Gains Tax (CGT) until December 2020.
- v. Grant a 20% discount on all Personal Income Tax (PIT) assessment issued to owners of Schools, Hotels, Pharmacies and Hospitals and other allied businesses in the year to 31st December, 2020.
- vi. Suspension of all informal sector tax drive for year 2020 since they are the worst hit in terms of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The informal sector constitutes the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), a few as categorized below:
 - Market Stalls
 - Hair and Barbing Saloons
 - Mini Supermarket and Kiosks
 - Technicians, Mechanics and Artisans
 - Passenger Vehicle operators,
 - Welders, Vulcanizes and allied vocations etc.
- vii. Suspension of all Local Government taxes and levies for the 2020 tax year, except tenement rate.
- viii. For further inquiries, please contact us at: Office of the Executive Chairman, Revenue House, Plot GS/1 Amadi Ama Layout, Port Harcourt, E-mail: info@riversbirs.gov.ng Tel: +234(0) 9087900031, 907900034. Twitter: Riversbirs.

T. ADOAGE NORTEH
(Executive Chairman)