The department is releasing a new version of the REV-1500, Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax Return, on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2014. The new version is designed to enhance processing efficiency. Form changes include:

Ovals 4 through 11 have been revised, and Ovals 12, 13 and 14 have been added.

- Oval 4 will be used when the estate is claiming an agriculture exemption.
- Oval 11 will be used to report non-probate transfers by the transferee that will not be reported on the probate return. It will be a separate and distinct return from the probate return filed by the estate. This return replaces the Advance Payment Worksheet.
- Oval 13 will be used to indicate that the estate contains business assets, whether an exemption is being claimed or not.
- Oval 14 will indicate that the spouse is the sole beneficiary of an estate whereby the assets pass outright and not in trust.

In addition to the aforementioned changes, the requirement for the Social Security number for the surviving spouse has been eliminated. There is a new box, which can be data captured, for the date stamp entry. This will enable the department to track returns based on the order in which they were filed. To accommodate the date stamp box, the signature section has been moved to the bottom of the second page.

The current version of the Instruction Book, REV-1501, is being replaced by the new REV-1500a, a seven-page document for the preparation and filing of the Inheritance Tax return, REV-1500. There will be separate instruction sheets available that correspond to most of the individual schedules. The department has also created a new pamphlet, REV-720, containing general information regarding the Pennsylvania inheritance tax.

Forms and schedules are available at www.revenue.pa.gov, or you may order any Pennsylvania tax form or schedule by calling our 24-hour answering service for forms ordering: 1-800-362-2050.