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## A Word About CRA Penalties and Interest

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We're often approached by folks who've experienced compliance problems related to filing and paying on time. Mostly they want to know if there's any chance they could get some relief on the penalty and interest. The short answer: Maybe!

The thing to keep in mind is this; Canada Revenue Agency do not "negotiate" penalty and interest relief. There's no negotiation. There is however legislation and published guidelines that provide a framework under which folks may **apply** for relief.

Successful applicants are usually people that have a compelling story to tell, and have taken the time to familiarize themselves with the categories for relief, and the Agency's decision-making factors. Picking the right application category and emphasizing the right decision-making factors can improve your odds. But even when you do that, there remains peril. As important as it is to say all the right things, it's equally important not to say any of the wrong things. By "wrong" things, we mean things that will get you DISQUALIFIED rather than qualified for relief.

If you're not familiar with the categories or the decision-making factors used by the Agency, think twice about writing your own submission. At Debbie Sitzer Professional Corporation we have a longstanding relationship with Frank Flynn, the go-to expert on the subject of taxpayer relief. Information about his services can be found [www.taxpayerreliefletters.ca](http://www.taxpayerreliefletters.ca)