

# TRIAL BALANCE GUIDE

FOR TAX YEAR 2023

Last Updated: January 10, 2024

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# **CHAPTER 1: USING TRIAL BALANCE**

Trial Balance is browser-agnostic and does not require a client download.

## **OPENING TRIAL BALANCE**

To access Trial Balance:

- 1. Go to **Returns** on the top menu in RS Browser.
- 2. Select a 1065, 1120, or 1120S return.
- 3. The Trial Balance option will appear in the **Returns** menu bar.

Note that Trial Balance is available only in 1065 and 1120/1120S returns.

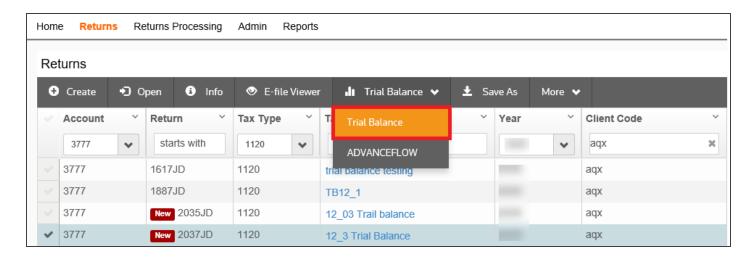


Figure 1:1

There are seven screens in Trial Balance:

- Preliminary Balances (page 2)
- Adjustments (page 9)
- Schedule M-2 (page 26) and Schedule M-3 (page 27)
- Compute (page 30)
- Working Trial Balance (page 21)
- Charts: Trial Balance Manual Entry (page 13)
- Rolling Over Trial Balance Information from 2019 (page 32)

## PRELIMINARY BALANCES

When you first open Trial Balance, the **Preliminary Balances** screen appears. You can use **Import** to import the Chart of Accounts (**Trialbal.xls**).

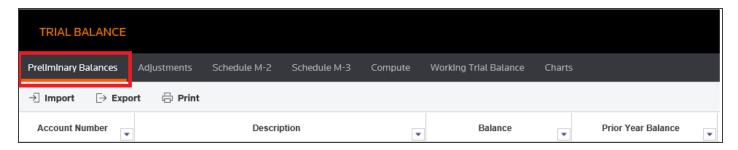


Figure 1:2

#### UPLOADING A FILE FOR IMPORT

1. For a user-defined or audit package import, click **Import** on the menu bar to import the chart of accounts.

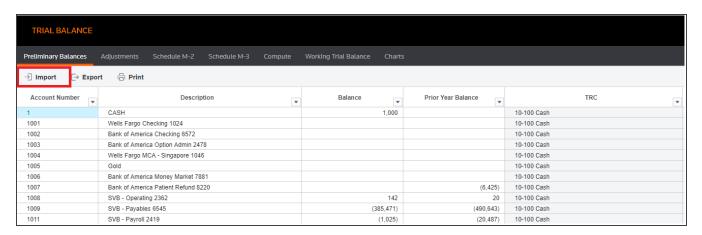


Figure 1:3

2. The **Import Balances** screen appears. Trial Balance will use a drag-and-drop interface for importing balances. You can drag a file to the open area, or click **Browse for File** to import a file.

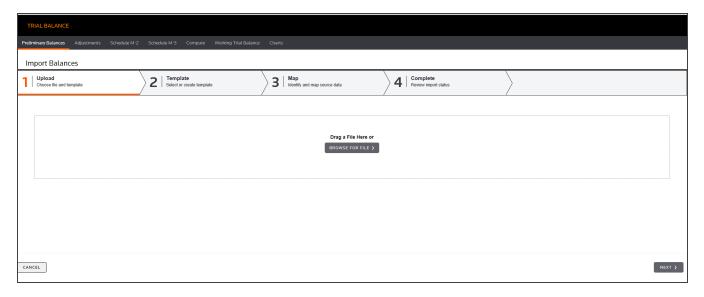


Figure 1:4

3. Select a file to export from the prior year's Trial Balance Bridge.

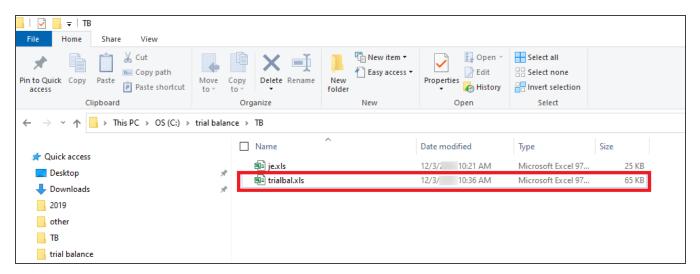


Figure 1:5

4. After you attach the file, click **Next**. The filename of the attached file and its file size appear in the file area beneath **Browse for File**.

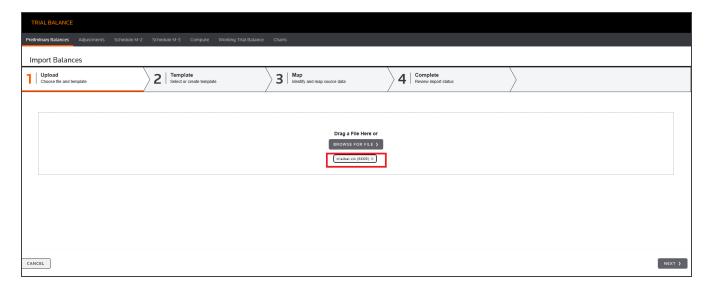


Figure 1:6

#### **USING TEMPLATES**

1. You can create a new template or use an existing template for mapping.

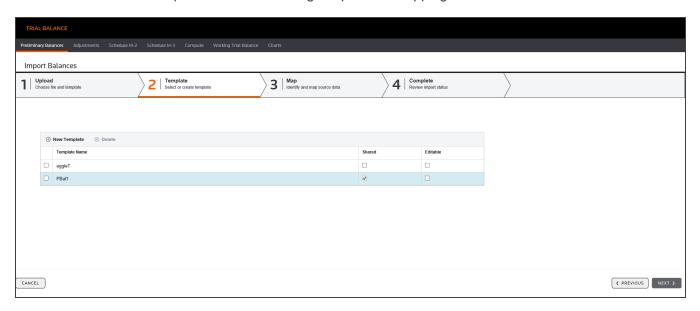


Figure 1:7

#### Chapter 1: Using Trial Balance

**Preliminary Balances** 

2. Map the column with the correct value (for example, Account number, Account description, etc.).

 $ACCT_NUM \rightarrow *Account Number$ 

ACCT\_DESC → \*Account Description

TRC → \*TRC

6

TCC → \*TCC

TCC caption (description) → TCC CAPTION

PC number → Activity number (1065 and 1120S) only

PC description → Activity description (1065 and 1120S) only

PY\_BAL → Prior Year account balance

CY\_BAL → Account balance

MRC → MRC

 $MCC \rightarrow MCC$ 

MCC CAPTION (description) → MCC Caption

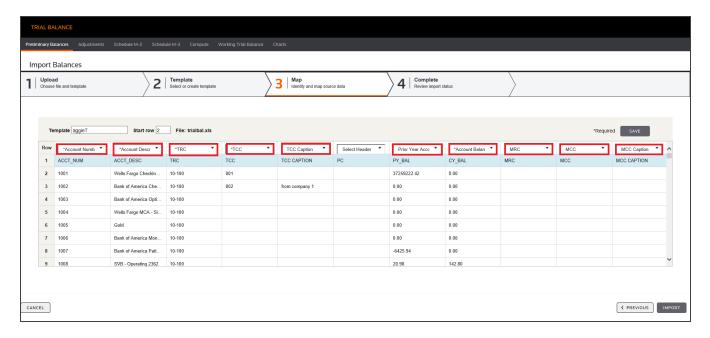


Figure 1:8

3. Click **Save** to save your mapping.

4. After the mapping is saved, click Import.

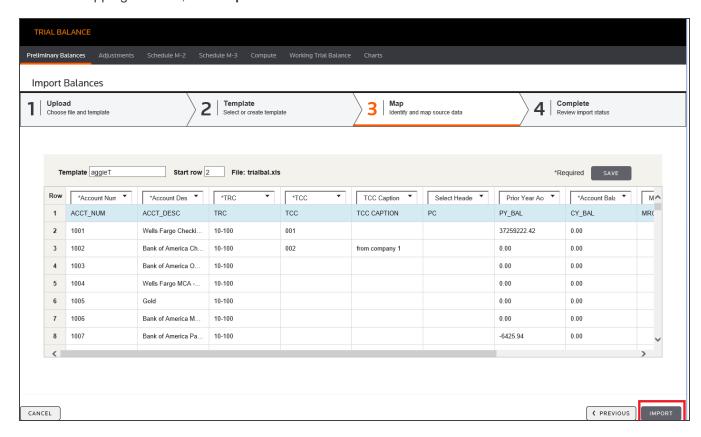


Figure 1:9

5. Trial Balance will validate the import file and list any errors. If the Excel file is incorrect, it will show *Import completed with errors* on the top of the screen and list all errors on the screen.

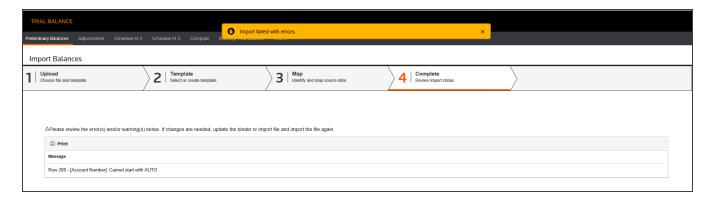


Figure 1:10

If you are using an audit package, you must perform the import in the preliminary balance. See **Uploading a File for Import (page 3)**.

### **ADJUSTMENTS**

You will be able to add, import, export, or print adjustments (journal entries) on the **Adjustments** screen. You can adjust book basis balances to tax basis balances using various types of adjusting entries (book, reclass, tax).

A separate row appears for each type of adjustment assigned to the binder (Book, Reclass, Tax). Each row contains entries, set up at the chart level, with account numbers and descriptions. Depending on the type of adjustment you select, the system provides different features to assist you with entering, editing, and viewing adjustments.

#### UPLOADING A FILE FOR IMPORT

Only if you are using a user-defined template do you need to import the Journal Entry file separately.

1. Click **Import** on the menu bar to import the Journal Entry adjustments.

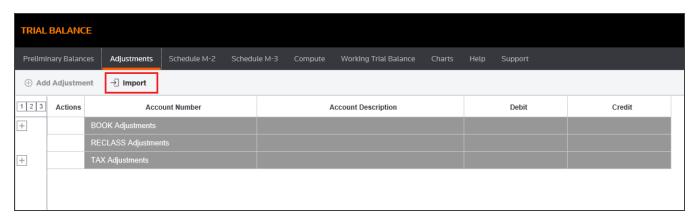
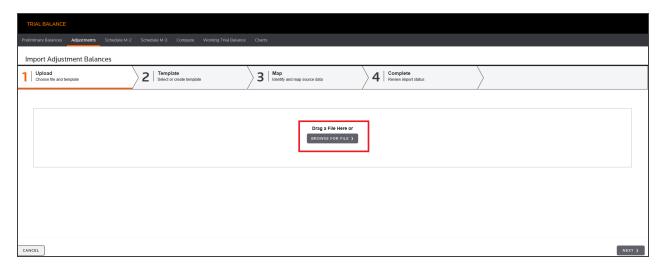


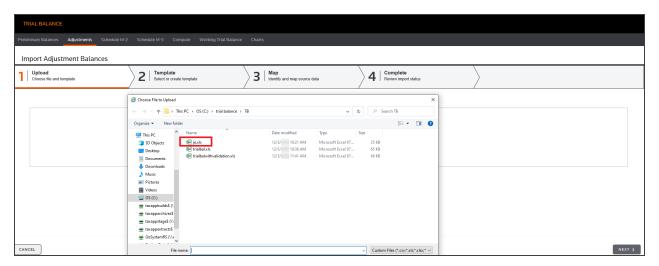
Figure 1:11

2. You can drag a file to the open area, or click **Browse for File** to import a file.



**Figure 1:12** 

3. Select a file to import from the prior year's Journal Entry (je.xls).



**Figure 1:13** 

4. After you attach the file, click **Next**. The filename of the attached file and its file size appear in the file area beneath **Browse for File**.

#### **USING TEMPLATES**

1. Select the **Retained Earning** account before you import Journal Entry.

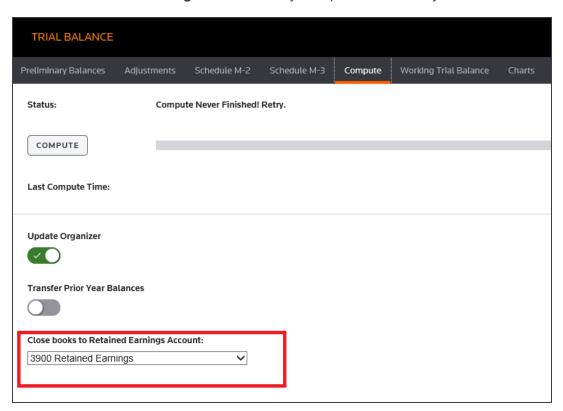
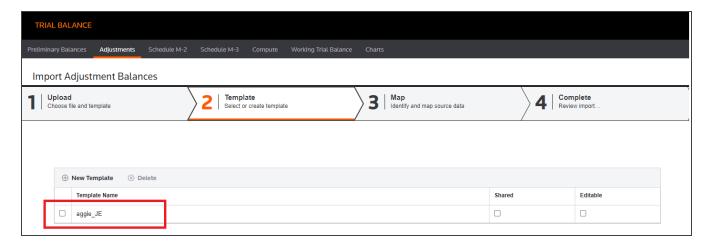


Figure 1:14

2. You can create a new template or use an existing template for mapping.



**Figure 1:15** 

3. Map the column with the correct value:

JE\_TYPE → \*Adjustment Type

JE\_NUM → \*Adjustment number

DESC → Adjustment Name

JE\_T/P → Temporary/Permanent Indicator

AMOUNT → \*Adjustment Balance

SA\_NUM → \*Account Number

4. Click **Save** to save your mapping.

5. After the mapping is saved, click **Import**.

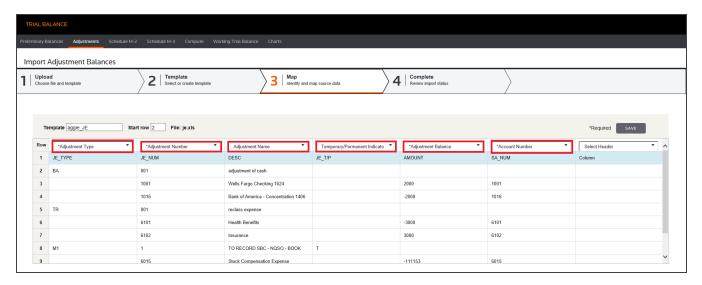


Figure 1:16

#### **CHARTS: TRIAL BALANCE MANUAL ENTRY**

#### ADDING OR EDITING THE CHART OF ACCOUNTS

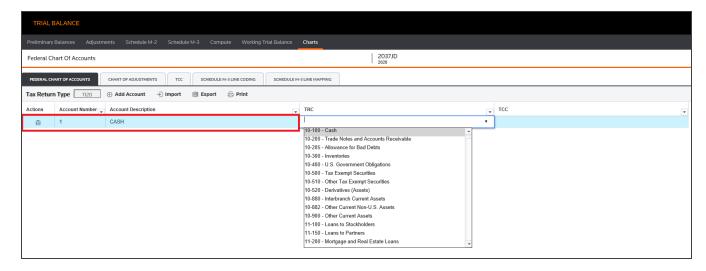
You can edit the Chart of Accounts through the Charts.

1. On the Charts screen, select Federal Chart of Accounts.



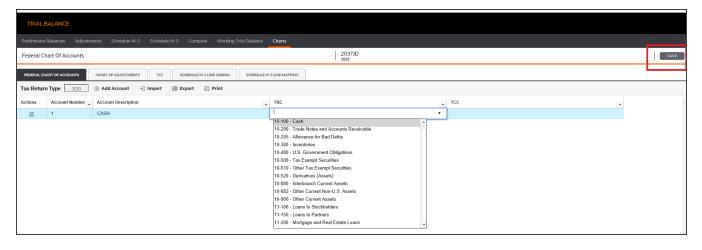
**Figure 1:17** 

2. Click **Add Account** to add a new row. Enter the account number and description, select *TRC* from the drop-down list, and enter the TCC number.



**Figure 1:18** 

3. Modify the account information on the spreadsheet row. When your edits are complete, select **Save** to return to the Preliminary Balances area.



**Figure 1:19** 

4. Enter the appropriate balances for your edits and click **Save**.

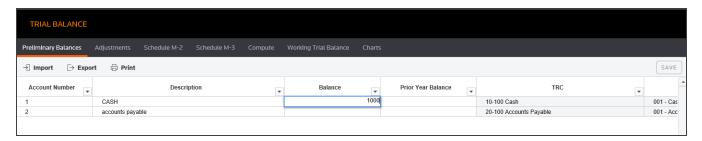
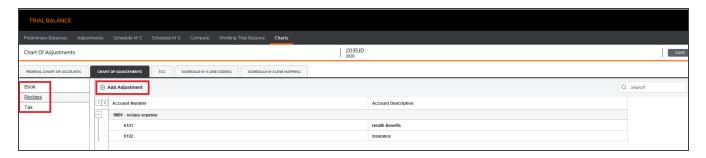


Figure 1:20

#### ADDING OR EDITING THE CHART OF ADJUSTMENTS

1. Determine your adjustment type (book, reclass, tax), then click **Add Adjustment**.



**Figure 1:21** 

 For any account you need to make into an adjustment, check the box to the left of the account, then click Add. To delete accounts add on adjustment, click Remove. After making an Add Adjustment entry, click Save.

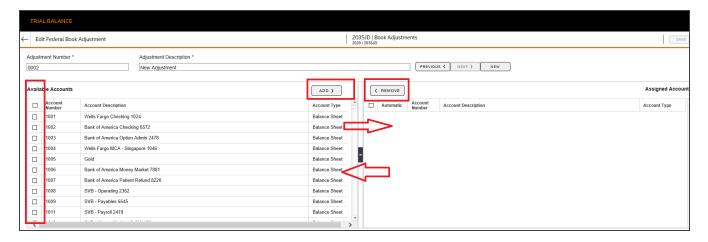


Figure 1:22

3. Navigate back to the **Adjustments** screen, and expand the adjustment added. Enter the amount in the debit or credit column. Click **Save**.

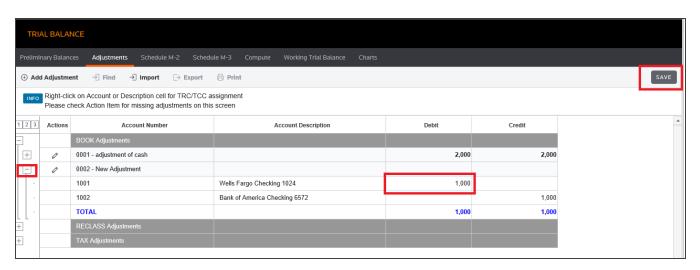


Figure 1:23

4. In the M-1/M-3 tax adjustment, make sure that the tax adjustment includes at least **one** balance sheet account. Fill out the tax return presentation area. Debit or credit the same M-1 account. Click **Save**.

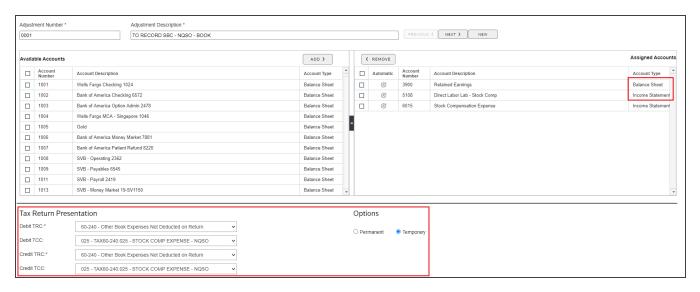


Figure 1:24

 Navigate back to the **Adjustments** screen, and expand the adjustment added. Input the amount in the debit or credit column. Click **Save**. (M-1 accounts do not require an amount input and will be automatically updated.)

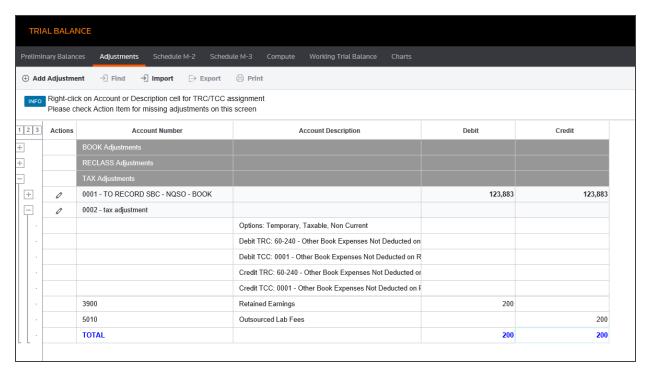


Figure 1:25

# Automatic Adjustments

Adjusting entries can be set to automatically adjust certain items of taxable income and expense based on selected limitations or computations. Automatic calculations include the following:

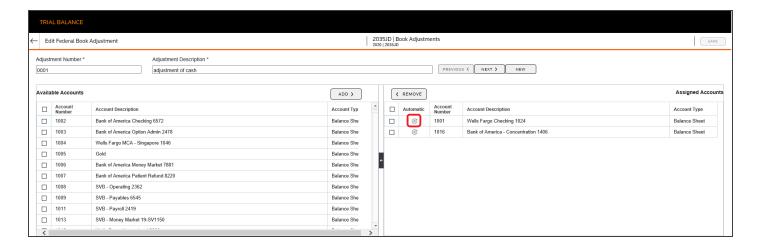
- · Reverse account balances to zero
- Adjust for differences between beginning and ending balances
- · Close net income
- Reduce amounts by a user defined percentage.

Adding new automatic adjustments or changing existing automatic adjustments impacts all associated entities and locators.

#### SETTING AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENTS

- 1. Open the **Adjustments** screen.
- 2. Expand the adjustments.
- 3. Select an adjusting entry and click **Edit**.
- 4. Select the **Account** radio button on the **Automatic Adjustment** dialog box and make the following selections:
  - Accounts (first drop-down list): The target journal entry account. This account comes from the journal entry.
  - **Source Account** (second drop-down list): The balance for the target account used in the journal entry comes from this source account. Use the drop-down list to choose the appropriate source account.
  - **Balance Type** (third drop-down list): Select the balance type of the source account (for example, preliminary, book, reclassification, or tax).
  - **Percentage**: This allows you to indicate a percent of an account to be adjusted and thus create custom calculations.
  - Reversing and Balance Options: You must select Ending, Beginning, or Difference first, and then Negate, if applicable.
  - **Beginning/Ending**: This applies the automatic adjustment to the beginning or ending account balance (commonly used for tax exempt income).
  - **Difference**: This takes the difference in target and source account balances to calculate the adjustment (commonly used for reserve liability accounts).
  - **Negate**: This reverses the amount in the selected target account (commonly used to reverse the FIT general ledger account).

An individual account can be used in only one "account" type automatic adjustment per chart type (book, reclass, tax, and so on). The offsetting account must be marked as Balance Entry.



**Figure 1:26** 

#### **Common Automatic Adjustments**

Commonly used automatic adjustments are identified below along with their corresponding setup instructions.

ENTRY	DROP-DOWN LIST	BALANCE ENTRY ACCOUNT	REVERSE OPTION	END/BEG DIFF	% OF DIFF
Reverse federal income tax Provision (FIT)	Target Account: Fed Income Tax Provision Source Account: Fed Income Tax Provision	Retained Earnings (Unappropriated)	Negate	Ending	100%
Meals and Entertainment	Target Account: Meals & Entertainment Source Account: Meals & Entertainment	Retained Earnings (Unappropriated)	Negate	Ending	50%
Allowance for Bad Debt	Target Account: Bad Debt Reserve Source Account: Bad Debt Reserve	Bad Debt Expense	Negate	Difference	100%

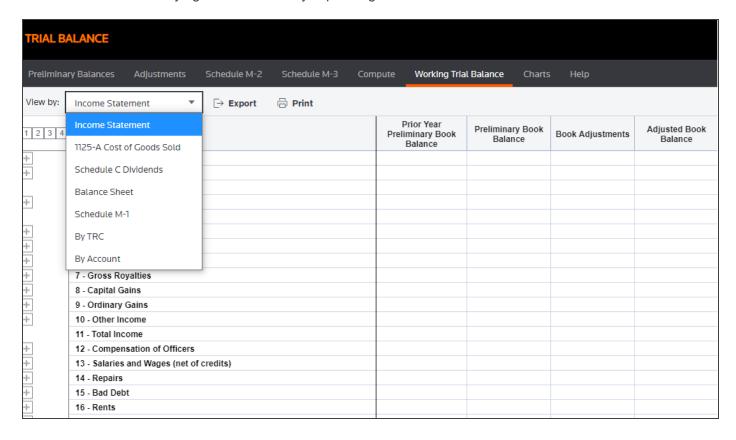
## **WORKING TRIAL BALANCE**

Working Trial Balance (WTB) enables you to review your tax information in an accounting working trial balance format and displays prior year historical balances for comparison. The WTB shows the flow of the amounts on the books to the amounts on your tax return in a spreadsheet format conveniently on one page.

You can view the trial balance in two ways:

- TRC: View all information by the list of TRCs
- · Account Number: View all information by account.

You can also view underlying levels of detail by expanding lines on the WTB.



#### Figure 1:27

You can also view underlying levels of detail by expanding lines on the WTB. The Working Trial Balance information is not updated until you perform a compute inside Trial Balance using **Compute** on the **Compute** screen.

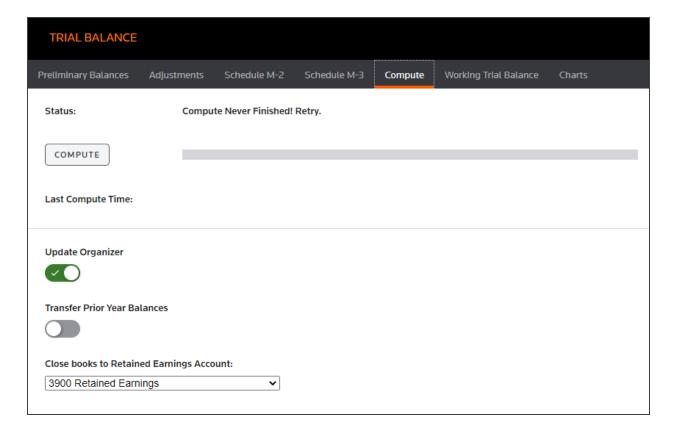


Figure 1:28

Listed below are the available tax return or schedule you can view.

TAX RETURN	SCHEDULES	TAX RETURN	SCHEDULES
1065	1065 Page 1	1120PC	Schedule A Taxable Income
	1125-A Cost of Goods Sold		Schedule C Dividends
	Schedule K		Balance Sheet
	Schedule L		By TRC
	Schedule M-1		By Account
	By TRC		
	By Account		

TAX RETURN	SCHEDULES	TAX RETURN	SCHEDULES
1120	Income Statement	1120REIT	Part I - REIT Taxable Income
	1125-A Cost of Goods Sold		Schedule L
	Schedule C Dividends		Schedule M-1
	Balance Sheet		By TRC
	Schedule M-1		By Account
	By TRC		
	By Account		
1120F	Not Effectively Connected	1120S	1120S Page 1
	1125-A Cost of Goods Sold		1125-A Cost of Goods Sold
	Schedule C Dividends		Schedule K
	Effectively Connected		Schedule L
	Schedule L		Schedule M-1
	Schedule M-1		By TRC
	By TRC		By Account
	By Account		
1120L	Page 1 Taxable Income		
	Schedule A Dividends		
	Schedule B Investment Income		
	Schedule F Reserves		
	Schedule L		
	By TRC		
	By Account		

#### USING THE WORKING TRIAL BALANCE

The WTB displays debits as positive amounts and credits as negative amounts. As a result, income appears as negative and losses and expenses appear as positive.

There are many options for reviewing your tax information through Working Trial Balance.

1. Select the tax return or schedule you want to view by selecting the View by drop-down list.

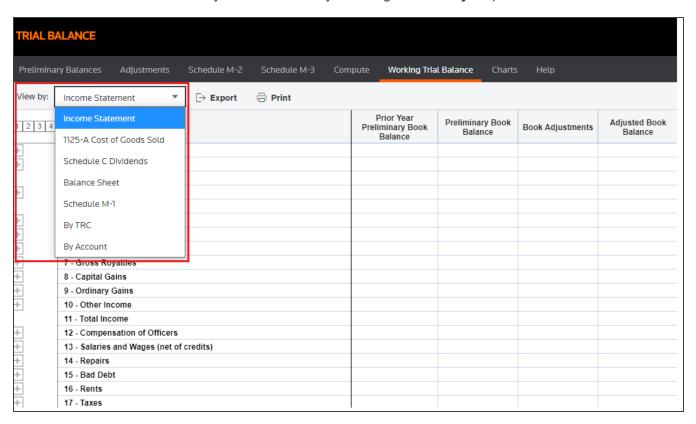


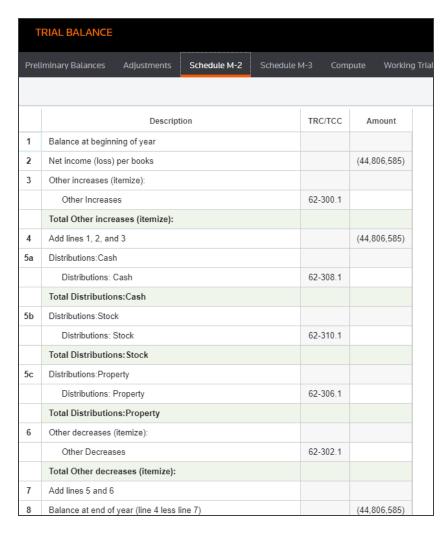
Figure 1:29

- 2. Review the WTB by line and by the column headings.
  - Prior Year Preliminary Book Balance
  - · Preliminary Book Balance
  - · Book Adjustments
  - · Adjusted Book Balance
  - Tax Reclass
  - Balance After Tax Reclass
  - Prior Year Balance after Tax Reclass
  - Tax Adjustments
  - · Historical Tax Adjustments
  - · Adjusted Tax Balance
  - Prior Year Adjusted Tax Balance
- 3. Expand the lines to view detail for each entry by selecting 1, 2, 3, or click the plus (+) sign.
- 4. Click 4 and 5 to display detailed adjustments with the JE number.
- 5. Select **Print** to print a copy of the WTB.
- 6. Select **Export** to export the workpaper.

## **OTHER SCHEDULES**

#### SCHEDULE M-2

You will be able to review Schedule M-2 line items with the TRC/TCC and accompanying amounts.



**Figure 1:30** 

#### SCHEDULE M-3

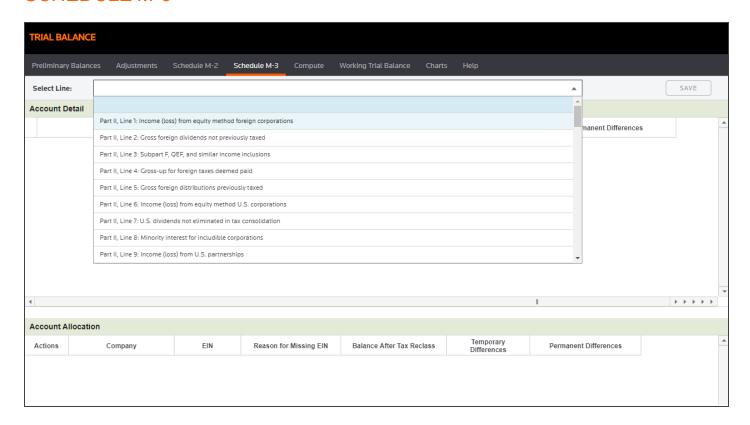


Figure 1:31

#### CHARTS: TAX COMBINATION CODES

Add and modify the TCC number and description under the **TCC** screen. Click **Add** to add a new TCC number and description. Direct edit the TCC number and description on the row.

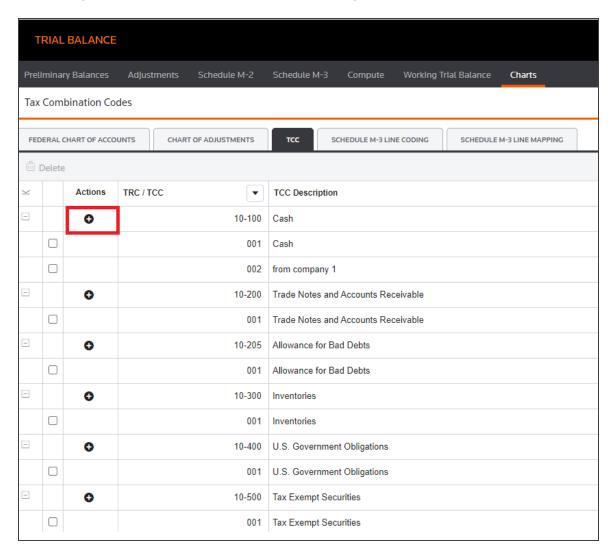


Figure 1:32

#### SCHEDULE M-3 LINE CODING

Add/edit MCC numbers and descriptions under Schedule M-3 Line Coding.

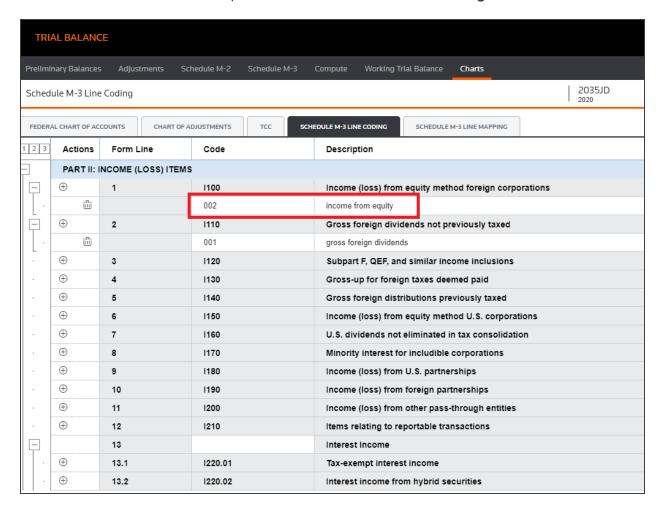


Figure 1:33

#### MAPPING ACCOUNTS INTO SCHEDULE M-3 LINES

Select the accounts you need to map into Schedule M-3. Then select which line item the account should flow to. Click **Map**, and then click **Save**.

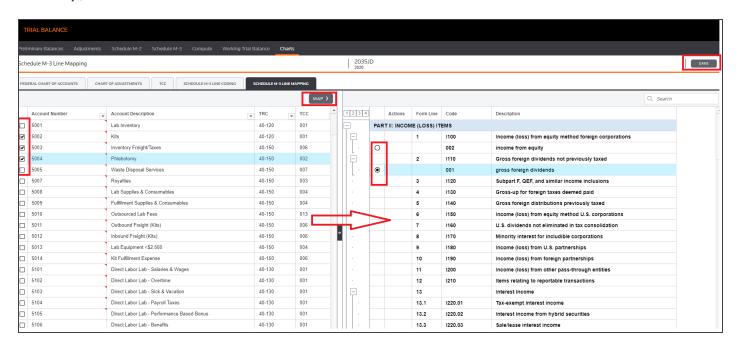


Figure 1:34

## **COMPUTE**

After you finish reviewing, go to the **Compute** screen to transfer the amounts in the trial balance into the tax application.

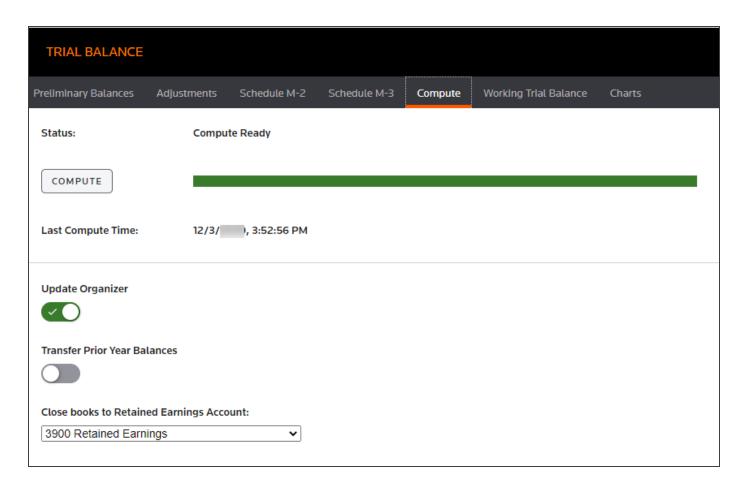


Figure 1:35

# CHAPTER 2: ROLLING OVER TRIAL BALANCE INFORMATION FROM 2019

Rollover from 2019 is available after 2/5/2021.

#### IMPORT PRIOR YEAR BALANCE

- 1. In RS Browser, select Returns > Access > Trial Balance.
- 2. On the **Preliminary Balances** screen, you will see the **Import Prior Year Balances** button on the top left corner.

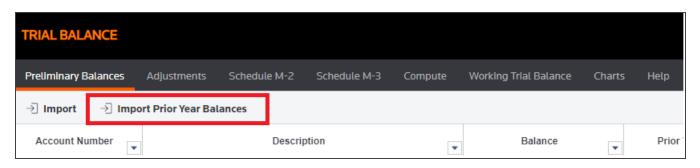


Figure 2:1

Import Prior Year Balance

3. Click the **Import** push button.

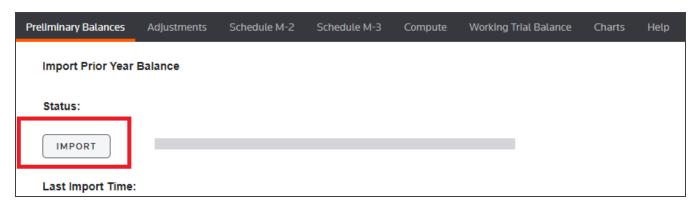


Figure 2:2

4. Wait for the prior year financial data to transfer.

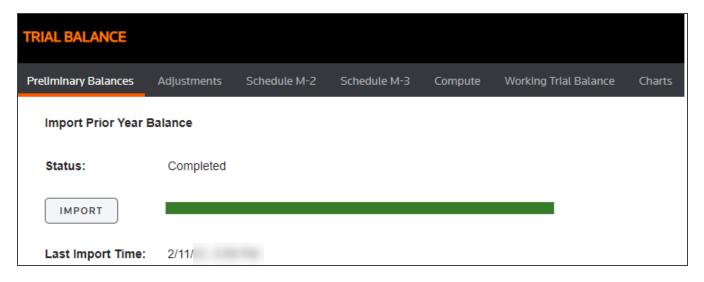


Figure 2:3

5. When the status shows *Completed*, click **Preliminary Balances** to return to the **Preliminary Balances** screen.

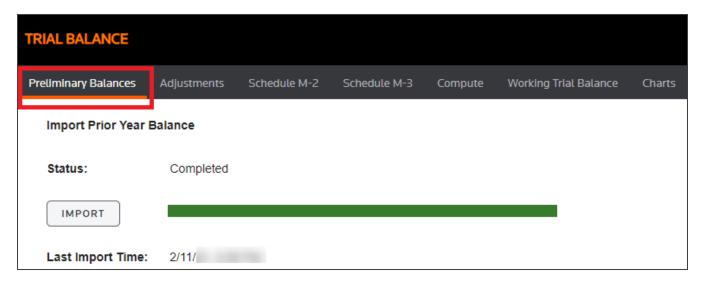


Figure 2:4

# **CHAPTER 3: TAX RETURN CODES (TRCS)**

Select the appropriate link below to view a list of Tax Return Codes (TRCs) for the type of return you are preparing.

- Tax return codes for Form 1065: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1065\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120-C: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120-C\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120-F: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120-F\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120-L: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120L\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120-PC: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120PC\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120-REIT: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120-REIT\_TRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120-RIC: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120-RIC\_TRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1120S: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120S\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 1125A: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1125A\_TRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Form 8825: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/8825\_TRC.pdf
- Tax return codes for Schedule F: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/SchF\_TRC.pdf

# **CHAPTER 4: M-3: RETURN CODES (MRCS)**

Select the appropriate link below to view a list of MRCs for the type of return you are preparing.

- 1065 Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1065\_MRC.pdf
- 1120 Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120\_MRC.pdf
- 1120-C Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120-C\_MRC.pdf
- 1120-F Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120-F\_MRC.pdf
- 1120-L Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120L\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- 1120-PC Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120PC\_TRC\_MRC.pdf
- 1120S Schedule M-3 MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/1120S\_MRC.pdf
- Form 8916A MRCs: https://www.riahelp.com/html/2023/reports/trial\_balance/8916A\_MRC.pdf