

# IRS Guide to Free Tax Services

FILING OPTIONS  
HELPFUL TIPS  
PUBLICATIONS  
SEMINARS



TAX YEAR

2008



MORE THAN 100 MILLION  
TAXPAYERS GET FREE  
HELP FROM THE IRS.  
YOU CAN, TOO.

## This tax season, help yourself to free information.

When you're trying to figure out your taxes, it sure helps to have good information. And where better to start than the official source, the IRS? Visit [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) and help yourself to page after page of useful info in English and Spanish, including how to e-file your taxes and for some, how to file for free. All the current forms are there, too. Prefer the phone? Call our toll-free TeleTax line for info in English and Spanish on 150 tax topics with little or no waiting. Either way, it's all free and it's all yours 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Give us a try.

Visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or call toll-free 1-800-829-4477



Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service



# IRS Guide to Free Tax Services

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## **THE IRS MISSION**

“Provide America’s taxpayers top quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and by applying the tax law with integrity and fairness to all.”

## **PUBLICATION 910, IRS GUIDE TO FREE TAX SERVICES**

The IRS Guide to Free Tax Services identifies the many IRS tax materials and services available to you and how, when and where you can get them. Most material and programs are free and most are available year-round through the IRS. Internet, telephone and fax services, and tax tips are covered in this Guide. You will also find recorded tax information and automated refund information.

# Free Products and Services

The Internal Revenue Service produces and provides publications, forms, and other tax material and information to help taxpayers meet their tax responsibilities. Material is available by phone or mail at most local IRS offices and at other community locations. Most material can also be obtained via the Internet and on CD-ROM.

## **IRS WEB SITE – [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)**

This is the best place to get information on how to interact with the IRS electronically. The Web site includes information on electronic filing (e-file) and paying options for individuals and businesses, and provides all the information you need to get started.

In addition, you will find tax forms and publications, instructions, where to file addresses, the latest tax law changes, specific tax information for individuals and businesses, information on tax refunds, e-news subscriptions, and much more. There are also special information sections like “Where’s My Refund?” The Web site is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



## IRS DVD AND ONLINE RESOURCE GUIDE

■ Publication 1796, *IRS Tax Products DVD*, is a resource to help you navigate the tax aspects of your business. This how-to guide features information on filing and paying taxes electronically and includes forms, instructions, publications and much more for small business owners. Order at [www.irs.gov/smallbiz](http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz) or call 800-829-3676 to order by phone (free product).

■ New for 2009: Publication 3207, *Small Business Resource Guide* (formerly a CD-ROM) is now completely online. This how-to guide helps you navigate the tax aspects of your business and gives you important, up-to-date information about filing and paying taxes electronically, forms, publications and much more. Just go to [www.sbrg.irs.gov](http://www.sbrg.irs.gov) for instant access.

## COMMUNITY BASED OUTLET PROGRAMS (CBOP)

You can always get tax material at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and at most IRS offices. In addition, the IRS supplies federal tax materials to many public and private institutions to offer easy availability for taxpayers. Places where you can find additional tax material:

- Post offices
- Libraries
- Copy centers and office supply stores
- Places of employment
- Credit union
- Grocery stores and pharmacies, and
- Local government offices

## ACCESSIBLE IRS TAX PRODUCTS

Most IRS tax products are available in alternative formats such as Braille, large print, HTML, ASCII text, and speech friendly PDF. We recommend that you visit the accessibility page on [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for a current list of accessible products available for download. If you cannot find the product you are looking for on our Web site, please call our forms ordering number at 800-829-3676.

## E-NEWS SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

Free e-News subscription services are available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) – click on “Newsroom,” then “e-News Subscriptions.” You can subscribe to any of the electronic publications listed here.

**IRS Guidewire:** *Guidewire* subscribers are notified by e-mail when the IRS issues advance copies of tax guidance such as Revenue Rulings, Revenue Procedures, Announcements and Notices.

**e-News for Tax Professionals:** *IRS e-News for Tax Professionals* provides the latest national news for the tax professional community and links to resources on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov).

**IRS Newswire:** Subscribe to *IRS Newswire* to get news releases by e-mail from the IRS National Media Relations Office.

## NOTE

To protect your privacy, the e-mail addresses you furnish will only be used to provide the subscriptions you request and to make improvements to this service. Your e-mail addresses will not be sold, used, or shared for any other purpose or with any other party.

**Employee Plans News:** Quarterly newsletter geared to retirement plan professionals, providing them with information about current developments and upcoming events within the retirement plan area.

**Tax Stats Dispatch Mailing List:** Get announcements covering the most recent tax statistics.

**e-News for Small Businesses:** This is a source of updates, reminders, and other information for small business owners and self-employed individuals.

**FSLG Newsletter:** A newsletter from the Federal, State and Local Governments office of the Tax Exempt and Government Entities Operating Division, issued periodically and focusing on employment tax, information reporting, and other Federal tax issues affecting government entities.

**QuickAlerts:** QuickAlerts is a free, 24/7 online service that disseminates mass e-file messages, within seconds, to all subscribed individual and business e-file software developers, transmitters and Authorized IRS *e-file* Providers.

**Retirement News for Employers:** This quarterly newsletter provides information about establishing and maintaining retirement plans and is targeted at business owners.

**Exempt Organizations Update:** This update is for tax professionals and representatives of tax-exempt organizations who want e-mail updates and alerts from the IRS about developments in exempt organizations tax law and regulations, upcoming IRS training, events, and more.

## TAXPAYER ADVOCATE SERVICE

The Taxpayer Advocate Service is an independent organization within the IRS whose employees assist taxpayers who are experiencing economic harm, who are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, or who believe that an IRS system or procedure is not working as it should. You may be eligible for assistance if:

- You are experiencing economic harm or significant cost (including fees for professional representation),
- You have experienced a delay of more than 30 days to resolve your tax issue, or
- You have not received a response or resolution to the problem by the date that was promised by the IRS.

The service is free, confidential, tailored to meet your needs, and is available for businesses as well as individuals. There is at least one local taxpayer advocate in each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Because advocates are part of the IRS, they know the tax system and how to navigate it. If you qualify, you will receive personalized service from a knowledgeable advocate who will:

- Listen to your problem,
- Help you understand what needs to be done to resolve it, and
- Stay with you every step of the way until your problem is resolved.

You can reach the Taxpayer Advocate Service by:

- Calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 800-829-4059,
- Calling or writing your local taxpayer advocate, whose address and phone number are listed in the government listings in your local telephone directory and in Publication 1546, *Taxpayer Advocate Service – Your Voice at the IRS*,
- Filing Form 911, *Request for Taxpayer Advocate Service Assistance (and Application for Taxpayer Assistance Order)* with the Taxpayer Advocate Service, or
- Asking an IRS employee to complete Form 911 on your behalf.

To get a copy of Form 911 or learn more about the Taxpayer Advocate Service, go to [www.irs.gov/advocate](http://www.irs.gov/advocate).

### THE OFFICE OF PRIVACY

The Office of Privacy ensures that the personally identifiable information you provide to the IRS is protected. We review IRS information systems regularly to certify that they collect only the information we need to do our jobs or to enable us to respond to your requests for service. We want taxpayers to remain confident in our ability to protect personal information.

You can be sure that the personal and tax information you give us is safe and that it is used only for the purposes we state.

The Office of Privacy is here to help you with any privacy concern. If there is anything you wish to discuss with us, we can be reached at our e-mail address: [privacy@irs.gov](mailto:privacy@irs.gov).

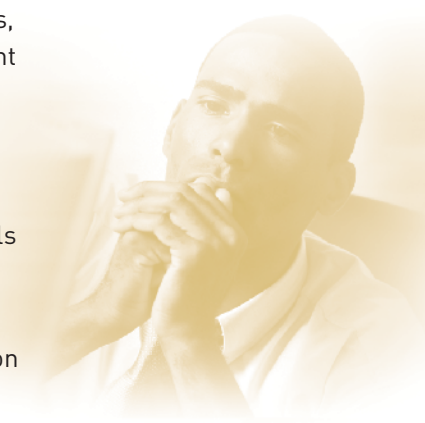
### REQUESTING IRS RECORDS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, provides public access to agency records unless protected from disclosure by one of the FOIA's nine exemptions or three exclusions. The FOIA applies to records created by federal agencies and does not cover records held by Congress, the courts, or state and local government agencies.

The Internal Revenue Service complies with the FOIA by:

- Maintaining publicly available materials on the Internet in the IRS Electronic Reading Room,
- Staffing the IRS Freedom of Information Reading Room at 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20224 (call 202-622-5164), and
- Responding to written requests for agency records not available in the Reading Room.

While many FOIA requests are processed without charge to the requester, some may be subject to fees for duplication and, in some cases, for the time expended searching for and reviewing responsive records. Additional information relating to fees and other FOIA access questions may be found at [www.irs.gov/foia/index.html](http://www.irs.gov/foia/index.html).



# Free Education and Assistance Programs

The IRS has programs that offer free assistance with tax return preparation and tax counseling through volunteers trained by IRS partners. Call the IRS toll-free at 800-829-1040 or go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), Search: *community network*, for more information on the times and locations of assistance or to learn how to become a volunteer.

## **VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE**

The VITA program offers free tax help to people with low-to-moderate incomes who cannot afford paid professional assistance. Volunteers trained in tax law help prepare basic tax returns at VITA sites generally located in community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations. Many locations also offer free electronic filing. Volunteers (which include college students, law students, members of professional business and accounting organizations, retirement, religious, military, and community groups, and others) can take part in various VITA program activities including:

- Preparing tax returns
- Screening taxpayers
- Recruiting volunteers
- Conducting quality reviews
- Assisting with computers

- Interpreting languages
- Teaching taxpayers to prepare their own returns
- Managing a VITA site, and
- Arranging publicity

For more information about the VITA program, or to find the location of a VITA site in your area, call the IRS at 800-829-1040.

If you wish to become a VITA volunteer, the IRS provides VITA training material. Training is conducted at times and locations convenient for volunteers. Generally, these sessions are offered December through January each year before the actual filing season starts.

## **TAX COUNSELING FOR SENIORS**

The Tax Counseling for the Elderly program provides free tax help to people age 60 and older. Volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with nonprofit organizations that receive grants from the IRS. Grant funds are used to reimburse volunteers for out-of-pocket expenses including transportation, meals and other expenses they incurred providing tax counseling assistance at locations convenient to the taxpayers. For more information on the TCE program or to find the locations, dates and hours of the nearest TCE site, call the IRS toll-free at 800-829-1040.





As part of the IRS-sponsored TCE program, The AARP Foundation offers an AARP Tax-Aide assistance and preparation program at approximately 7,000 sites nationwide during the filing season. Trained with IRS materials and certified by an IRS examination, AARP Tax-Aide volunteer counselors can help with most tax circumstances faced by low- and moderate-income taxpayers age 60 and older. Younger taxpayers are helped as counselor time permits.

To find an AARP Tax-Aide volunteer site in your community, call 888-227-7669, or access the Internet site locator at [www.aarp.org/taxaide/home.html](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide/home.html).

### **LOW INCOME TAXPAYER CLINICS (LITCs)**

LITCs are independent organizations that provide low income taxpayers with representation in federal tax controversies with the IRS for free or for a nominal charge. The clinics also provide tax education and outreach for taxpayers who speak English as a second language. Pub. 4134, *Low Income Taxpayer Clinic List*, provides information on clinics in your area. It is available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or your local IRS office.

### **TAX INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

Check out the educational Web site called Understanding Taxes on [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). It is divided into two content areas — the Hows of Taxes and the Whys of Taxes. Understanding Taxes is designed to teach

middle school, high school and community college students, and the general public about their federal tax rights and responsibilities and the economics and history on which our tax system is based. To find this site, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), then click Individuals, then Students, then Understanding Taxes.

- Tax tutorials in English and Spanish will guide students through the basics of tax preparation, introducing them to the concept of filing their tax returns electronically. The “How” section has fact sheets, lesson plans, assessments, teacher and student pages, tax tutorials, simulations and real-life examples of how and why taxes affect and influence our daily lives.

- A teacher’s page includes detailed lesson plans featuring both Web-based and downloadable print (PDF) material, along with interactive students’ activities, student assessments, and PowerPoint presentations.

### **PRACTITIONER EDUCATION**

Through this program, training is provided to people who prepare tax returns and counsel taxpayers for a fee. Classes are held in many state bureaus of revenue, colleges, universities, and professional accounting groups. Tax professional institutes alert participants of the tax law changes and work with participants to improve the quality of return preparation to reduce errors.

# Free Electronic Tax Filing

## USE IRS e-file

Join the more than 88 million taxpayers who filed their tax returns electronically in 2008 using IRS *e-file*, the most accurate and fastest way to file your taxes. It offers a fast refund (in as little as 10 days with direct deposit); a good possibility that the return will be error-free; the opportunity to file your federal and state returns at the same time; privacy, security, and proof within 48 hours that your return has been received by the IRS for processing. You can even sign electronically. If you owe tax, you can e-file and pay your taxes electronically in a single step by authorizing an electronic funds withdrawal from your checking or savings account. And you can even schedule your payment for withdrawal up to and including the return due date, or pay by credit card. IRS *e-file*...a quick, easy, smart way to get your taxes where you want them to be—Done! Check out the IRS Web site at [www.irs.gov/efile](http://www.irs.gov/efile) for more information on IRS *e-file*.

Here's how you can use IRS *e-file*:

**Use an Authorized IRS e-file Provider** – Look for an “Authorized IRS *e-file* Provider” sign. Or go to [www.irs.gov/efile](http://www.irs.gov/efile). Click on “Individual Taxpayers.” Then scroll down to “Authorized *e-file* Provider Locator” to find an authorized *e-file* provider in your Zip code.

**Use a Personal Computer** – A computer with Internet access and tax preparation software are all you need. You can e-file your tax return from the comfort of your home 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Best of all, you may qualify for Free File. See Free File Options below or visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for details. If you don't qualify for any of the Free File Options, our *e-file* Partners for Individuals page offers low-cost tax preparation and e-filing at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## IRS e-file through Employers and Financial

**Institutions** – Some businesses offer free e-file to their employees, members, or customers. Ask your employer or financial institution if they offer IRS *e-file* as an employee, member, or customer benefit.

## STARTING IN 2008, TAXPAYERS MUST ELECTRONICALLY SIGN E-FILED RETURNS

This year, IRS is requiring that all taxpayers sign their e-filed return with an electronic signature. Taxpayers will need to create a 5 digit PIN and authenticate it with the IRS. As part of the authentication process, you will need to provide your 2007 adjusted gross income or the PIN used to sign your 2007 return. If you do not have a copy of last year's return, you may get a transcript of your return from the IRS (see page 10) or call the IRS toll free at 1-800-829-1040 to get your 2007 AGI and/or 2007 PIN. The paper form some taxpayers may have used to submit their signature last year is no longer a valid way to sign an e-filed return. For more information about your electronic signature, go to <http://www.irs.gov/efile/article/0,,id=120000,00.html>.

## MILLIONS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE FILE

IRS Free File is the no cost way to electronically *prepare* and file your 2008 taxes. If your adjusted gross income was \$56,000 or less, take advantage of the free way to do your taxes using commercially available online tax preparation software. Free File is improved and easier to use this year. Go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and click on the Free File logo. You can select a tax preparation software company or use the helpful wizard to guide you to a company. It's easy, and it's all FREE.



## **ELECTRONIC FEDERAL TAX PAYMENT SYSTEM (EFTPS)**

EFTPS is the easiest way to pay all your federal taxes and, best of all, it's free.

With EFTPS, individuals and businesses can make tax payments using the Internet or phone.

Here's how it works: On the date you select, EFTPS will move funds electronically from your account to the U.S. Treasury. Your funds stay in your account until the date you select and your tax records will be automatically updated with the IRS when the funds move. You can do this on the Internet with EFTPS Online, or when you use EFTPS by Phone.

Use EFTPS via the Internet to make a payment, cancel a payment, review your payment history, change bank account information and more. EFTPS via the Internet is easy to navigate and secure. It requires a browser with 128 bit encryption. Also, the following information is required for identification and authorization:

- Taxpayer Identification Number (Employer Identification Number, Social Security number, or Individual Tax Identification Number),
- EFTPS Personal Identification Number, and
- Internet Password.

EFTPS offers you total convenience. It's available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and you can schedule payments in advance (businesses up to 120 days in advance of the tax due date, and individuals up to 365 days).

You can choose to use EFTPS through a service offered by a financial institution. If you decide to make tax payments using a service offered by a financial institution, you will instruct them to move funds from your account to the Treasury account. (Not all financial institutions offer EFTPS. Please check with your financial institution to learn if they offer EFTPS and if you are eligible to use it. Some may charge a fee.)

Tax professionals, accountants and payroll companies are discovering the added benefits of using EFTPS. There are three easy ways to make payments for your clients:

### **1. EFTPS Online**

Available to taxpayers or tax professionals who wish to make debit payments using the Internet or telephone.

### **2. EFTPS Batch Provider**

Enhanced, Web-based software is designed for payroll processors and tax professionals who wish to make multiple payments in a single transmission for business and individual clients. Registration is required and all clients must be enrolled and have a payment authorization on file.

### **3. EFTPS Bulk Provider**

Designed for payroll processors who initiate frequent payments from and desire automated enrollment through an Electronic Data Interchange compatible system.

To enroll in EFTPS visit [www.eftps.gov](http://www.eftps.gov). For additional information, call EFTPS Customer Service at 800-555-4477 (TDD 800-733-4829), (Spanish 800-244-4829).

The IRS produces two documents that provide additional information on EFTPS:

- Publication 966, *The Secure Way to Pay Your Federal Taxes (for taxpayers)*, and
- Publication 4169, *Tax Professional Guide to EFTPS (for tax professionals)*.

You can order these free by calling 800-829-3676. These publications are also available on the Web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

# Free IRS Resources

## **COPIES OR TRANSCRIPTS OF PRIOR YEAR TAX RETURNS**

You have two easy and convenient options for requesting copies of your tax return information from the IRS — by phone at 800-829-1040, or by mail using Form 4506, *Request for Copy of Tax Return*, or Form 4506-T, *Request for Transcript of Tax Return*, by mail or FAX.

### **Requesting Documents**

You can get transcripts, Form W-2 information, and verification of nonfiling by calling 800-829-1040, or by mailing or faxing Form 4506-T, *Request for Transcript of Tax Return*. (See instructions on Form 4506-T.) If you need photocopies of your tax return, use Form 4506, *Request for Copy of Tax Return*. This form must be mailed with payment to the appropriate address in the instructions. You can even direct the documents to a third party.

### **Tax Return Transcript**

A tax return transcript shows most line items contained on the return (1040 series only) as it was originally filed, including any accompanying forms and schedules. It does not reflect any changes made by you, your tax representative, or the IRS after the return was filed. In many cases, a return transcript will meet the requirements of lending institutions, such as those offering mortgages and student loans. Tax return transcripts are available for the current and three prior calendar years, are delivered in approximately two weeks, and are provided free of charge.

### **Tax Account Transcript**

A record of account transcript includes a combination of line items from the originally filed return (1040 series only) and later adjustments made by either you or the IRS after the return was filed. Record of account transcripts are available for the current and 3 prior tax years, are delivered by mail in approximately 2 weeks, and are provided free of charge.

### **Photocopies of Tax Returns**

When you need a copy of a tax return because a transcript does not meet your needs, the IRS can provide one for a fee of \$57, effective Oct. 1, 2008, for each tax year requested. You should wait at least six weeks after filing a current return before requesting copies. Copies are generally available for returns filed in the current year and past six years. Tax forms filed more than six years ago may not be available for making photocopies. However, record of account transcripts are generally still available for these periods. Certified photocopies for court or administrative proceedings are also available on request. Allow at least 60 days from IRS receipt for delivery.

### **Wage and Income Transcript**

A wage and income transcript includes data from these information returns: W-2, 1099 series, 1098 series, or 5498 series. State or local information is not included with the W-2 information. IRS may be able to provide wage and income transcript information for up to 10 years. Information for the current year is generally not available until the year after it is filed with the IRS. For example, W-2 information for 2007, filed in 2008, will not be available until 2009. Wage and Income transcripts are delivered by mail in approximately two weeks, and are provided free of charge.

## AN INSTALLMENT PLAN TO PAY YOUR TAXES

If you are not able to pay all your federal taxes by the due date, a monthly payment plan may be the answer. The process isn't automatic and there may be alternatives, but if you are eligible, this could be the solution that makes paying taxes easier.

Apply for a payment plan by completing Form 9465, *Installment Agreement Request*. This form also has details about eligibility requirements. You may be able to apply online. Check [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for the Online Payment Agreement Application.

Generally, you may have up to 60 months to pay, but paying the full amount as soon as possible will save you money in penalties and interest. The late payment penalty is usually 0.5 percent a month, every month, up to 25 percent of the tax owed. Interest rates vary because they are set quarterly. You can check the current interest rate by going to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), Search: *interest rate*. Interest and penalties are figured on the declining monthly balance throughout the life of the payment plan. There is also a \$105 set-up fee for an installment agreement, which is taken from your first payment under the plan. Do not send the \$105 with Form 9465.

## IRS TELETAX – RECORDED INFORMATION BY PHONE 800-829-4477

Recorded tax information and refund information are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through this Touch-tone phone service. For a directory of topics, listen to topic 123. Use option 2 then select as many topics as you like during the call. Have paper and pencil ready to take notes. See pages 12-13 in this publication for a list of topics.

For refund information, have a copy of your current tax return (Form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ), your Social Security number or the first SSN that appears on a jointly filed tax return, your filing status from the front of your tax return and the exact whole dollar amount of your refund.

## WHERE'S MY REFUND



You have online access to information about your refund 72 hours after IRS acknowledges receipt of your e-filed return, or three to four weeks after mailing a paper return.

Go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and click on "Where's My Refund?" Have a copy of your tax return handy. You will need to provide the following information:

- Your Social Security number (or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number),
- Your filing status, and
- The exact whole dollar amount of your refund.

If you do not have Internet access, call:

- 1-800-829-1954 during business hours; or 1-800-829-4477 for automated refund information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



**GovBenefits.gov ([www.GovBenefits.gov](http://www.GovBenefits.gov))** is the official benefits Web site of the U.S. Government. GovBenefits.gov provides citizens with a one-stop source for connecting to 1000+ government assistance programs; covering a broad range of categories including Tax Assistance, Food/Nutrition, Housing, and Disaster Relief.

GovBenefits.gov is continually expanding its program database to offer the American public access to government benefit resources with the added convenience of being accessible 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Once on the site, you can complete a confidential questionnaire that quickly matches you with programs you may be eligible to receive.

Getting started is free and easy.

**Step 1:** Go to [www.GovBenefits.gov](http://www.GovBenefits.gov)

**Step 2:** Click the **Start Here** button and begin the GovBenefits.gov questionnaire.

## TELETAX RECORDED INFORMATION – 800-829-4477

### TOPIC MENU NUMBERS

When prompted, enter the three digit number for the Tax Topic you want to hear.

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# Calling the IRS

## **BEFORE YOU CALL THE IRS**

We will be able to provide you with more accurate and complete answers to your tax questions if you have the following information available: the tax form, schedule, or notice to which your question relates; the facts about your particular situation; and the name of any IRS publication or other source of information that you used to look for the answer. (The answer to the same question often varies from one taxpayer to another because of differences in their age, income, or whether they can be claimed as a dependent, etc.)

To protect and maintain your individual account security, you may be asked for your Social Security number, date of birth, or IRS Personal Identification Number if you have one. You will also need to provide the amount of your refund, the filing status shown on your tax return, the “caller ID number” shown at the top of any notice you received, and the numbers in your street address, or your ZIP code.

**IRS tax forms and publications  
are available 24 hours a day, 7 days  
a week through the IRS Web site,  
[www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).**

If you are asking for an installment agreement to pay your tax, you will be asked for the highest amount you can pay each month and the date on which you can pay it.

## **BEFORE YOU HANG UP**

If you do not fully understand the answer to your question, or you believe the IRS representative did not fully understand the question, please tell the representative. The representative will take additional time to be sure he or she has answered your question fully.

By law, you are responsible for paying your fair share of federal income tax. If we should make an error in answering your question, you are still responsible for paying the correct tax. You will not be charged any penalty due to an IRS error.

Tax professionals contacting the IRS will also be asked questions to ensure that their client’s account security is protected.

The IRS uses several methods to evaluate our telephone service. One method is to record telephone calls (for quality assurance purposes only). A random sample of recorded calls is selected for review through the quality assurance process. Other methods include listening to live calls in progress and contacting a random selection of customers with a Customer Satisfaction Survey.



# IRS TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## TOLL-FREE SERVICE

### IRS Toll-free Tax Assistance

(in English and Spanish) ..... **800-829-1040**

Our normal hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. local time. (Alaska and Hawaii should follow Pacific Time.)

### IRS Business and Specialty Help Line

(in English and Spanish) ..... **800-829-4933**

Specialized help for businesses and other non-individual tax issues.

**Employer Identification Number** ..... **800-829-4933**

Call IRS to apply for an Employer Identification Number (EIN).

**Order Tax Forms** ..... **800-829-3676**

### IRS TE/GE Customer

**Accounts Services** ..... **877-829-5500**

You may direct your technical and procedural questions concerning charities and other non-profit organizations to IRS Tax Exempt and Government Entities Customer Account Services.

**IRS Refund Hotline** ..... **800-829-1954**

For refund information, have a copy of your current tax return, your Social Security number, filing status from the front of your return, and the exact whole dollar amount of your refund.

**TTY/TDD Telephone Service** ..... **800-829-4059**

Available for the deaf and hearing-impaired who have access to a teletypewriter/telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY/TDD). Note: This number is answered only by TTY/TDD equipment.

### Taxpayer Assistance Centers

IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers (TAC) are your source for personal tax help when you believe your tax issue cannot be handled online or by phone and you want face-to-face tax assistance. Taxpayer Assistance Centers are closed for all Federal Holidays.

To find your local telephone number, visit [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) and click on *Contact My Local Office* or call the Internal Revenue Service Toll-free Tax Assistance at **1-800-829-1040**.

### Tax Help for US Taxpayers

**Residing in Canada** ..... **215-516-2000**

**IRS Taxpayer Advocate** ..... **877-777-4778**

**Community Based Outlet Program** ..... **800-829-2765**

**Information Reporting Program** ..... **866-455-7438**

A centralized call site to aid in reporting IRS information returns – whether filed by paper, electronically, or magnetically.

**Identity Protection Specialized Unit** ..... **800-908-4490**

The hotline provides telephone assistance for individuals who believe they may be a victim of Identify Theft: with no known Tax Administration Impact or have a current identity theft related tax issue which has not been resolved.

Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. your local time (Alaska & Hawaii follow Pacific Time.)

## INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

IRS will answer your tax questions and help with account problems. Telephone assistance is available Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Eastern time (non-toll-free numbers).

### Taxpayers calling from

**outside the United States** ..... **215-516-2000**

fax: **215-516-2555**

## OVERSEAS OFFICES

You can phone, write, or visit one of our overseas offices. Just be sure to have a copy of last year's tax return, your wage and income statements, and your other tax records with you. Traveling IRS tax assistors will visit foreign cities during the 2009 filing season. Call your local U.S. embassy or consulate or visit one of our offices to find out the dates, times, and locations for assistance.

**Frankfurt, Germany** ..... **49-69-7535-3811**

fax: **49-69-7535-3803**

**London, England** ..... **44-207-894-0485**

fax: **44-207-495-4224**

**Paris, France** ..... **33-1-4312-2555**

fax: **33-1-4312-2303**

**Within France** ..... **01 4312 2555**

### Taxpayers residing overseas with technical

**account questions** ..... fax: **215-516-2555**

### Or write:

**Internal Revenue Service**

**P.O. Box 920, International Section**

**Bensalem, PA 19020-8518**

# Small Business Tax Resources

## **SMALL BUSINESS TAX WORKSHOPS**

Small business owners can learn more about their tax responsibilities by making use of free IRS tax workshops. There are several options available:

- Attend a live workshop coordinated by one of our partner organizations. Scheduled workshops are posted on [www.irs.gov/smallbiz](http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz).
- Take a workshop online, 24/7, through a self-directed e-learning session or a streaming video presentation that uses the same material as the live workshop.
- Take a workshop off-line using IRS Publication 1066C, *A Virtual Small Business Tax Workshop DVD*. You can order material via the Internet at [www.irs.gov/smallbiz](http://www.irs.gov/smallbiz).

## **WORKSHOPS FOR SMALL AND MID-SIZED EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS**

This one-day introductory workshop is designed for administrators or volunteers of small or mid-size exempt organizations who are responsible for the organizations' tax compliance. A small fee applies. For more information, visit [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo).

**Online Workshops:** A Web-based version of this workshop is available; details are at [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo).

## **ONLINE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS**

IRS Exempt Organizations makes available an online workshop and series of mini-courses for exempt organizations at [www.stayexempt.org](http://www.stayexempt.org).

## **SSA/IRS REPORTER**

The *SSA/IRS Reporter* is a quarterly newsletter that keeps employers up to date on changes to taxes and employee wage obligations. This newsletter, produced jointly by the Social Security Administration and the IRS, is mailed to approximately seven million employers along with each quarterly Form 941, *Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return*. You can also download a copy of the newsletter from [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## **ONLINE TAX TOOLKIT**

The Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS), an independent organization within the IRS, has partnered with the IRS to develop an electronic toolkit that explains basic tax laws and procedures. The toolkit, titled "Taxes: What You Need to Know – Responsibilities and Benefits," is available in English and Spanish at [www.tax-toolkit.com](http://www.tax-toolkit.com). It will help you:

- Understand basic tax information,
- Determine whether you need an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN),
- Learn about special tax credits,
- Prevent identity theft,
- Understand why it's important to follow the tax laws,
- Learn more about the tax aspects of starting a small business,
- Understand options when you owe the IRS money,
- Get a tax refund quickly and fairly, and
- Know where to go to get tax help.

## **IRS PUBLICATION 1, YOUR RIGHTS AS A TAXPAYER**

IRS Publication 1, *Your Rights as a Taxpayer*, and 1(SP), *Derechos del Contribuyente*, highlight some of the most important rights. You can download these publications from the IRS Web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or order the paper document by calling 800-829-3676.

## **IRS PUBLICATION 553, HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008 TAX CHANGES**

Publication 553, *Highlights of 2008 Tax Changes*, is a collection of the latest tax law changes that can affect your tax situation in the 2009 filing season. You can download Publication 553 and nearly 100 other tax publications listed in this booklet from the IRS Web site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). You can request a free copy of any IRS tax publication by calling 800-829-3676.

## **TAX PUBLICATIONS**

**Pub 1, *Your Rights as a Taxpayer*** – explains some of your most important rights as a taxpayer. It also explains the examination, appeal, collection, and refund processes. To ensure that you always receive fair treatment in tax matters, you should know what your rights are.

**Pub 1 (SP), *Derechos del Contribuyente (Your Rights as a Taxpayer)*** – Publication 1 in Spanish.

**Pub 3, *Armed Forces' Tax Guide*** – gives information about the special tax situations of active members of the Armed Forces. This publication contains information on items that are included in and excluded from gross income, combat zone exclusion, alien status, sale of residence, itemized deductions, tax liability, extension of deadline, and filing returns.

Forms 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, 1040NR, 1040X, 1310, 2106, 2848, 3903, 4868, 8822, 9465, W-2.

**Pub 15 (Circular E), *Employer's Tax Guide***  
Forms 940, 941, 944.

**Pub 15-A, *Employer's Supplemental Tax Guide***

**Pub 15-B, *Employer's Tax Guide to Fringe Benefits***

**Pub 17, *Your Federal Income Tax (For Individuals)*** – can help you prepare your individual tax return. This publication takes you step-by-step through each part of the return. It explains the tax law in a way that will help you better understand your taxes so that you pay only as much as you owe and no more. This publication also includes information on various credits you may be able to take to reduce your tax. (Note to tax professionals only: There is a fee to order this publication.)

Forms 1040 (Schedules A, B, D, E, EIC, R), 1040A, 1040EZ, 2106, 2441, 3903, W-2.

**Pub 17 (SP), *El Impuesto Federal sobre los Ingresos*** – Publication 17 in Spanish.

**Pub 51 (Circular A), Agricultural Employer's Tax Guide**  
Form 943.

**Pub 54, Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad** – explains the special tax rules for U.S. citizens and resident aliens who live and work abroad or who have income earned in foreign countries. In particular, this publication explains the rules for excluding income and excluding or deducting certain housing costs.

Forms 1040, 1116, 2555, 2555-EZ.

**Pub 80 (Circular SS), Federal Tax Guide for Employers in the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**

Forms 940, 941SS, 943.

**Pub 179 (Circular PR), Guía Contributiva Federal para Patronos Puertorriqueños (Federal Tax Guide for Employers in Puerto Rico)** – in Spanish.

Forms 940PR, 941PR, 943PR, W-3PR.

**Pub 225, Farmer's Tax Guide** – explains how the federal tax laws apply to farming, including the kind of farm income you must report and the different deductions you can take.

Forms 1040 (Schedules D, F, J, SE), 4562, 4684, 4797, 8903.

**Pub 334, Tax Guide for Small Business (For Individuals Who Use Schedule C or C-EZ)** – explains federal tax laws that apply to sole proprietors and statutory employees, including the kind of business income you must report and the different deductions you can take.

**Pub 463, Travel, Entertainment, Gift, and Car Expenses** – identifies business-related travel, entertainment, gift, and transportation expenses that may be deductible.

Forms 2106, 2106EZ.

**Pub 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information** – explains the rules for determining who must file a federal income tax return, what filing status to use, how many exemptions to claim, and who cannot take the standard deduction.

Forms 2120, 8332.

**Pub 502, Medical and Dental Expenses** – explains which medical and dental expenses are deductible, how to deduct them, and how to treat insurance reimbursements you may receive for medical care. This publication includes information on how to treat impairment-related work expenses, health insurance premiums if you are self-employed, and the health coverage tax credit.

Form 1040 (Schedule A), 8885.

**Pub 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses** – explains how you may be able to claim a credit if you pay someone to care for your dependent who is under age 13, or your spouse or dependent who is unable to care for himself or herself. Tax rules covering dependent care benefits from your employer are also explained. See Publication 926 for information on the employment taxes you may have to pay if you are a household employer.

Forms 1040A (Schedule 2), 2441.

**Pub 504, Divorced or Separated Individuals**

Form 8332.

**Pub 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax**

Forms 1040-ES, 2210, 2210-F, W-4, W-4P, W-4S, W-4V.

**Pub 509, Tax Calendars**

**Pub 510, Excise Taxes** – covers in detail the various federal excise taxes reported on Form 720. These include environmental taxes; communications and air transportation taxes; fuel taxes; manufacturer taxes; tax on heavy trucks, trailers, and tractors; and the ship passenger tax.

Forms 637, 720, 6197, 6627.

**Pub 513, Tax Information for Visitors to the United States** – briefly reviews the general requirements of

U.S. income tax rules for foreign visitors who may have to file a U.S. income tax return during their visit. Most visitors who come to the United States are not authorized to work in this country. Check with the office of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services before taking a job.

Forms 1040C, 1040-ES (NR), 1040NR, 2063.

**Pub 514, Foreign Tax Credit for Individuals** – explains the foreign tax credit that is allowed for income taxes paid to a foreign government on income taxed by both the United States and a foreign country.

Form 1116.

**Pub 515, *Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities*** – provides information for withholding agents who are required to withhold and report tax on payments to nonresident aliens, foreign partnerships, and foreign corporations. This publication includes information on required withholding upon the disposition of a U.S. real property interest by a foreign person. Also, it includes three tables listing U.S. tax treaties and some of the treaty provisions that provide for reduction of or exemption from withholding for certain types of income.

Forms 1042, 1042S, 8233, 8288, 8288-A, 8288-B, 8804, 8805, 8813, W-8 series (BEN, ECI, EXP, IMY).

**Pub 516, *U.S. Government Civilian Employees Stationed Abroad*** – discusses many of the allowances, reimbursements, expenses and property sales that U.S. Government civilian employees may have while working overseas.

**Pub 517, *Social Security and Other Information for Members of the Clergy and Religious Workers*** – discusses Social Security and Medicare taxes and exemptions for ministers and religious workers. This publication also explains the income tax treatment of certain income and expense items of interest to the clergy.

Forms 1040 (Schedules C-EZ, SE), 2106EZ, 4029, 4361.

**Pub 519, *U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens*** – gives guidelines on how nonresident aliens determine their U.S. tax status and figure their U.S. income tax.

Forms 1040, 1040C, 1040NR, 1040NR-EZ, 2063.

**Pub 521, *Moving Expenses*** – explains whether certain expenses of moving are deductible. For example, if you changed job locations last year or started a new job, you may be able to deduct your moving expenses. You may also be able to deduct expenses of moving to the United States if you retire while living and working overseas or if you are a survivor or dependent of a person who died while living and working overseas.

Forms 1040, 3903.

**Pub 523, *Selling Your Home*** – explains how to treat any gain or loss from selling your main home.

Form 1040 (Schedule D).

**Pub 524, *Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled*** – explains who qualifies for the credit and how to figure it.

Forms 1040 (Schedule R), 1040A (Schedule 3).

## **Pub 525, *Taxable and Nontaxable Income***

**Pub 526, *Charitable Contributions*** – explains how to claim a deduction for charitable contributions and describes organizations that are qualified to receive charitable contributions. It also describes contributions you can (and cannot) deduct and explains deduction limits. Forms 1040 (Schedule A), 8283.

**Pub 527, *Residential Rental Property*** – explains rental income and expenses and how to report them on your return. This publication also defines other special rules that apply to rental activity.

Forms 1040 (Schedule E), 4562.

**Pub 529, *Miscellaneous Deductions*** – identifies expenses you may be able to take as miscellaneous deductions on Form 1040 (Schedule A), such as employee business expenses and expenses of producing income. This publication does not discuss other itemized deductions, such as the ones for charitable contributions, moving expenses, interest, taxes, or medical and dental expenses.

Forms 1040 (Schedule A), 2106, 2106EZ.

## **Pub 530, *Tax Information for Homeowners***

Forms 1040 (Schedule A), 8396.

**Pub 531, *Reporting Tip Income*** – explains how tip income is taxed and the rules for keeping records and reporting tips to your employers. This publication focuses on employees of food and beverage establishments, but recordkeeping rules and other information may also apply to other workers who receive tips, such as hairdressers, cab drivers, and casino dealers. (See Publication 1244.)

Forms 4070, 4070A.

**Pub 534, *Depreciating Property Placed in Service Before 1987*** – This publication explains how to figure and claim deductions for depreciation under Accelerated Cost Recovery System (ACRS).

Form 4562.

**Pub 535, *Business Expenses*** – discusses in detail common business expenses and explains what is and is not deductible.

**Pub 536, *Net Operating Losses (NOLs) for Individuals, Estates and Trusts*** – discusses net operating losses (NOLs) for individuals, estates and trusts. Topics include: how to figure an NOL; when to use an NOL; how to claim an NOL deduction; and how to figure an NOL carryover.

Form 1045.

**Pub 537, *Installment Sales*** – explains the tax treatment of installment sales. (Installment sales are sales where part or all of the selling price is paid after the year of the sale.) If you finance the buyer's purchase of your property, instead of having the buyer get a loan or mortgage from a bank (or other lender), you probably have an installment sale.

Form 6252.

**Pub 538, *Accounting Periods and Methods*** – explains some of the rules for accounting periods and methods. This publication is not intended as a guide to general business and tax accounting rules.

Forms 1128, 2553, 3115.

**Pub 541, *Partnerships***

Form 1065 (Schedule K-1).

**Pub 542, *Corporations*** – discusses the general tax laws that apply to ordinary domestic corporations.

Form 1120.

**Pub 544, *Sales and Other Dispositions of Assets*** – explains how to figure gain and loss on various transactions, such as trading, selling, or exchanging an asset used in a trade or business. This publication defines capital and noncapital assets and the tax results of different types of gains and losses.

Forms 1040 (Schedule D), 4797, 8824.

**Pub 547, *Casualties, Disasters, and Thefts*** – helps you identify a deductible disaster, casualty, or theft loss. This publication also explains how to figure and prove your loss and how to treat the reimbursement you receive from insurance or other sources.

Form 4684.

**Pub 547 (SP), *Hechos Fortuitos, Desastres y Robos*** – Publication 547 in Spanish.

**Pub 550, *Investment Income and Expenses (Including Capital Gains and Losses)*** – covers investment income such as interest and dividends, expenses related to investments, and sales and trades of investment property including capital gains and losses.

Forms 1040 (Schedules B, D), 1099-DIV, 1099-INT, 4952, 6781, 8815.

**Pub 551, *Basis of Assets*** – explains how to determine the basis of property, which is usually its cost.

**Pub 552, *Recordkeeping for Individuals*** – highlights and serves as a ready reference on general recordkeeping for individual income tax filing.

**Pub 553, *Highlights of 2008 Tax Changes*** – provides detailed information about tax law changes that may affect you this filing season.

**Pub 554, *Tax Guide for Seniors*** – provides helpful information on tax topics that may be of interest to older Americans. This guide also covers certain provisions that give special tax treatment to them.

**Pub 555, *Community Property*** – provides helpful information to married taxpayers who reside in a community property state – Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, or Wisconsin. If you and your spouse file separate tax returns, you should understand how community property laws affect the way you figure your income on your federal income tax return.

**Pub 556, *Examination of Returns, Appeal Rights, and Claims for Refund*** – discusses general rules and procedures that the IRS follows in examinations. It explains what happens during an examination and your appeal rights, both within the IRS and in the federal court system. It also explains how to file a claim for refund of tax you already paid.

Form 1040X.

**Pub 557, *Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization*** – explains the rules and procedures that apply to organizations applying for exemption from federal income tax under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Forms 990, 990 EZ, 990 PF, 1023, 1024, 8871, 8872.

**Pub 559, *Survivors, Executors, and Administrators*** – provides helpful information for reporting and paying the proper federal income taxes if you are responsible for settling a decedent’s estate. This publication answers many questions that a spouse or other survivor faces when a person dies.

Forms 1040, 1041.

**Pub 560, *Retirement Plans for Small Business (SEP, SIMPLE, and Qualified Plans)*** – provides guidance relevant to retirement plans available to small businesses (including the self-employed). It covers simplified employee pensions (SEPs), qualified plans, and savings incentive match plan for employees (SIMPLE) retirement plans.

**Pub 561, *Determining the Value of Donated Property*** – defines fair market value and provides other guidance that may help you determine the value of property you donated to a qualified organization.

Form 8283.

**Pub 564, *Mutual Fund Distributions*** – explains the tax treatment of distributions paid or allocated to an individual shareholder of a mutual fund, and explains how to figure gain or loss on the sale of mutual fund shares. Forms 1040 (Schedules B, D), 1099-DIV.

**Pub 570, *Tax Guide for Individuals With Income from U.S. Possessions*** – provides tax guidance for individuals with income from American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This publication also gives information and addresses for filing U.S. possession tax returns, if required.

Forms 1040, 1040-SS, 4563, 5074, 8689.

**Pub 571, *Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans (403(b) Plans) For Employees of Public Schools and Certain Tax-Exempt Organizations*** – explains the contribution rules that apply to tax-sheltered annuity plans offered by qualified employers to eligible employees. Rules discussed include the limit on elective deferrals and the limit on annual additions.

**Pub 583, *Starting a Business and Keeping Records*** – provides basic federal tax information for people who are starting a business. It also provides information on keeping records and illustrates a recordkeeping system.

**Pub 584, *Casualty, Disaster, and Theft Loss Workbook (Personal-Use Property)*** – contains schedules for listing contents of your residence and is designed to help you figure your losses on personal-use property in the event of a casualty, disaster, or theft.

**Pub 584-B, *Business Casualty, Disaster, and Theft Loss Workbook*** – contains schedules for listing your income producing property and is designed to help you figure your losses on the property in the event of a casualty, disaster, or theft.

**Pub 584 (SP), *Registro de Pérdidas por Hechos Fortuitos Imprevistos, Desastres y Robos (Propiedad de Uso Personal)*** – Publication 584 in Spanish.

**Pub 587, *Business Use of Your Home (Including Use by Daycare Providers)*** – explains rules for claiming deductions for business use of your home and what expenses may be deducted.

**Pub 590, *Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*** – explains the tax rules that apply to IRAs and the penalties for not following them. Rules discussed include those affecting contributions, deductions, transfers (including rollovers) and withdrawals. This publication includes tax rules for traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs, and SIMPLEs. Forms 1040, 1040A, 1040NR, 5329, 8606.

**Pub 593, *Tax Highlights for U.S. Citizens and Residents Going Abroad*** – provides a brief overview of various U.S. tax provisions that apply to U.S. citizens and resident aliens who live or work abroad and expect to receive income from foreign sources.

**Pub 594, *The IRS Collection Process*** – defines your rights and duties as a taxpayer who owes federal taxes. This publication also explains how the IRS fulfills its legal obligation to collect these taxes.

**Pub 594 (SP), El Proceso de Cobro del IRS –**  
Publication 594 in Spanish.

**Pub 595, Capital Construction Fund  
for Commercial Fishermen**

Form 1040

**Pub 596, Earned Income Credit –** explains who may receive the credit, how to figure and claim the credit, and how to receive advance payments of the credit.

Forms 1040, 1040A, Schedule EIC, EIC Worksheets, W-5.

**Pub 596 (SP), Crédito por Ingreso del Trabajo –**  
Publication 596 in Spanish.

**Pub 597, Information on the U.S.-Canada Income Tax Treaty –** this publication explains certain tax provisions that may apply to U.S. citizens or residents who live or work in Canada.

**Pub 598, Tax on Unrelated Business Income of Exempt Organizations –** explains how the tax applies to most tax-exempt organizations. It explains the rules that apply if an organization regularly operates a trade or business that is not substantially related to its exempt purpose.

Form 990-T.

**Pub 721, Tax Guide to U.S. Civil Service Retirement Benefits –** explains how the federal income tax rules apply to civil service retirement benefits received by retired federal employees (including those who are disabled) or their survivors.

Forms 1040, 1040A.

**Pub 850, English-Spanish Glossary of Words and Phrases Used in Publications Issued by the Internal Revenue Service**

**Pub 901, U.S. Tax Treaties –** explains the reduced tax rates and exemptions from U.S. taxes provided under U.S. tax treaties with foreign countries. This publication provides helpful information for residents of those countries who receive income from U.S. sources. It may be useful to U.S. citizens and residents with income from abroad.

**Pub 907, Tax Highlights for Persons with Disabilities –** briefly explains tax laws that apply to persons with disabilities and directs readers to sources of detailed information on topics such as deductible expenses, tax credits, and taxable and non-taxable income.

**Pub 908, Bankruptcy Tax Guide –** explains the federal tax obligations of persons filing bankruptcy petitions and bankruptcy estates.

Forms 982, 1040, 1041.

**Pub 915, Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits –** explains taxability of Social Security and equivalent railroad retirement benefits.

Forms SSA-1042S and RRB-1042S, SSA-1099 and RRB-1099, Social Security Benefits Worksheets.

**Pub 919, How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding? –** discusses Form W-4 and offers guidance for getting the right amount of tax withheld from your pay.

Form W-4.

**Pub 925, Passive Activity and At-Risk Rules –** discusses two sets of rules that may limit the losses you can deduct on your tax return from any trade, business, rental, or other income-producing activity.

Form 8582.

**Pub 926, Household Employer's Tax Guide –** identifies "household employees." Included are tax rules you should know when you employ a household worker such as a babysitter, maid, yard worker, or similar domestic worker. This publication explains what federal employment taxes to withhold and pay and what records to keep.

Forms 1040 (Schedule H), W-2, W-3, W-4, W-5.

**Pub 929, Tax Rules for Children and Dependents –** explains filing requirements and the standard deduction amount for dependents. This publication also explains when and how a child's parents may elect to include their child's interest and dividend income on their return, and when and how a child's interest, dividends, and other investment income reported on the child's return are taxed at the parents' tax rate.

Forms 8615, 8814.

**Pub 936, Home Mortgage Interest Deduction –** discusses the rules for deducting home mortgage interest, limits on the deduction, and how to report it on your tax return.

Form 1040 (Schedule A)

**Pub 938, Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduits (REMICs) Reporting Information [And Other Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDOs)] –** contains directories of REMICs and CDOs to assist brokers and intermediaries with their reporting requirements. Available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).



**Pub 939, General Rule for Pensions and Annuities** – covers the method used to figure the tax-free part of pension and annuity payments from nonqualified plans, using life expectancy actuarial tables. The General Rule is used primarily for nonqualified plans, such as purchased commercial annuities, private annuities, and nonqualified employee plans.

**Pub 946, How to Depreciate Property** – This publication explains the general rules for depreciating property, how to figure and claim deductions for depreciation under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) and the special depreciation allowance. It also explains how you can elect to take a section 179 deduction for certain property and additional rules for listed property.

Form 4562.

**Pub 947, Practice Before the IRS and Power of Attorney** – explains who can represent a taxpayer before the IRS and what forms are used to authorize a person to represent a taxpayer or to receive information from IRS regarding a taxpayer.

Forms 2848, 8821.

**Pub 950, Introduction to Estate and Gift Taxes** – provides general information on the federal gift and estate taxes. It explains when these taxes apply and how they can be eliminated or reduced.

Forms 706, 709.

**Pub 954, Tax Incentives for Distressed Communities**

**Pub 957, Reporting Backpay and Special Wage Payments to the Social Security Administration**

**Pub 963, Federal-State Reference Guide** – Provides state and local government employers a comprehensive reference source for social security and Medicare coverage and Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) tax withholding issues.

**Pub 966, EFTPS – The Secure Way to Pay Your Federal Taxes for Businesses and Individual Taxpayers** – explains how taxpayers can enroll in the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System and make all federal tax payments electronically.

**Pub 967, The IRS Will Figure Your Tax** – explains the procedures for choosing to have the IRS figure the tax on Forms 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ.

**Pub 969, Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax Favored Health Plans** – explains what a health savings account is, who can have one, and how to report it. This publication also explains Archer and Medicare Medical Savings Accounts, Flexible Spending Arrangements, and Health Reimbursement Arrangements.

Forms 8853, 8889, 1099-SA, 5498-SA.

**Pub 970, Tax Benefits for Education** – explains the tax benefits that may be available to you if you are saving for or paying higher education costs for yourself or another student. Includes information such as deducting work-related education expenses and the taxability of scholarships.

Form 8839.

**Pub 971, Innocent Spouse Relief** – explains who may qualify for relief and how to apply for relief.

Form 8857.

**Pub 972, Child Tax Credit** – explains the child tax credit and provides Child Tax Credit Worksheets for those who cannot use the worksheet in their Form 1040 or Form 1040A instructions. It also provides the information on the additional child tax credit and worksheets that may be necessary in the preparation of Form 8812.

**Pub 1212, List of Original Issue Discount Instruments** – helps brokers and other middlemen use Pub. 1212 to identify publicly offered original issue discount debt instruments and to determine the amounts to be reported on Forms 1099-OID or Form 1099-INT. It also provides owners of publicly offered OID instruments the methods of calculating the amount of OID to report on their income tax returns. The tables are available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**Pub 1244, Employee's Daily Record of Tips and Report to Employers** – Forms 4070, 4070-A.

**Pub 1321, Special Instructions for Bona Fide Residents of Puerto Rico Who Must File a U.S. Individual Income Tax Return (Form 1040 or 1040A)** – provides detailed explanations (with examples) to help bona fide residents of Puerto Rico make sure their tax benefits are allocated properly when filing their Form 1040 or 1040A.

**Pub 1542, Per Diem Rates** – provides the maximum per diem allowances for business travel within the continental United States.

**Pub 1544, Reporting Cash Payments of Over \$10,000 (Received in a Trade or Business)** – explains when and how persons in a trade or business must file a Form 8300 when they receive cash payments of more than \$10,000 in a transaction or related transactions. It also discusses the substantial penalties for not filing the form.

Form 8300.

**Pub 1544 (SP), Informe de Pagos en Efectivo en Exceso de \$10,000 (Recibidos en una Ocupacion o Negocio)** – Publication 1544 in Spanish

**Pub 1546, The Taxpayer Advocate Service —Your Voice at the IRS** – describes the free, confidential assistance with tax problems that TAS provides to individuals and businesses, and includes a list of the Local Taxpayer Advocate offices where taxpayers can obtain help in each state.

**Pub 1546EZ** – gives information about TAS services and taxpayers' rights.

**Pub 1635, Understanding Your EIN** – provides general information on employer identification numbers. It offers guidance on when an EIN is required and how to obtain an EIN.

**Pub 3611, Electronic Payments** – describes how taxpayers can pay federal taxes electronically through an electronic funds withdrawal, by credit card or by using EFTPS.

**Pub 3998, Choosing a Retirement Solution for Your Small Business** – provides an overview of retirement plans available to small businesses and features a handy chart that showcases key features and benefits of common retirement plans. It was designed and produced in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor.

**Publication 4077, Tax Exempt Bonds for 501(c)(3) Charitable Organizations** – Provides an overview for state and local government issuers and 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organizations of the general post-issuance rules under the federal tax law that generally apply to municipal and financing arrangements commonly known as 501(c)(3) bonds.

**Publication 4079, Tax-Exempt Governmental Bonds Compliance Guide** – Provides an overview for state and local governments of the key rules under the federal tax law that generally apply to municipal financing arrangements commonly known as governmental bonds.

**Pub 4220, Applying for 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Status** – Provides a plain language explanation of the rules and procedures for obtaining recognition of tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3).

**Pub 4221 series, Compliance Guides for Tax-Exempt Organizations** – Provides a plain language explanation of tax compliance requirements for tax-exempt organizations.

**Pub 4418, What You Need to Know About the Federal Payment Levy Program** – provides information about levies on federal payments made to taxpayers who owe Federal taxes. This levy, up to 15 percent of your federal payment, continues until the entire amount of your debt is repaid or other payment arrangements are made.

**Pub 4419, What You Need to Know About the Mortgage Verification Process** – provides information about protecting and preventing misuse of your tax information when closing on a loan.

**Pub 4460, The Retirement Plan Products Navigator** – highlights many of the publications and brochures created by Employee Plans, Customer Education, and Outreach of IRS's Tax Exempt and Government Entities Division, dealing with different types of retirement plans.

**Pub 4484, Choose A Retirement Plan for Employees of Tax Exempt and Government Entities** – Provides an easy-to-read chart highlighting the advantages, sponsor eligibility, contribution limits, withdrawal provisions and vesting requirement, etc., for plan for tax-exempt organizations and government entity employers.

**Pub 4588, Basic Tax Guide for Green Card Holders**

**Pub 4588 (SP), Basic Tax Guide for Green Card Holders** – Publication 4588 in Spanish.

**Pub 4588 (VN), Basic Tax Guide for Green Card Holders** – in Vietnamese.

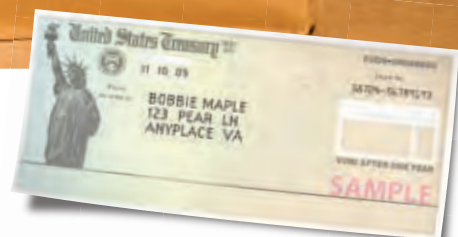
**Pub 4630, Exempt Organizations Products and Services Navigator** – Provides highlights of IRS products and services for tax-exempt organizations.

**Pub 4681, Canceled Debts, Foreclosures, Repossessions, and Abandonments** – explains the federal tax treatment of canceled debts, foreclosures, repossessions, and abandonments. Under certain circumstances, you may not have to include canceled or forgiven debt in income.



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