

From Our Constituent Services' Desk...

It's that time of year again; time to gather the information to file your taxes. Tax season officially opened January 27, 2020, with the [Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\)](#) accepting and processing federal returns. To help avoid identity theft, it's best to file as early as possible.

Did you know you can get free help in preparing and filing your taxes? According to Mr. Chuck Rettig, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service:

"The IRS reminds taxpayers there are many options to get help," Rettig said. "Our website has around the clock information available and is the fastest way to get assistance. We've made improvements to the Free File program and filing electronically with direct deposit remains the best way to speed refunds and minimize errors. As always, experts in the nation's tax professional community stand ready to help people navigate their tax issues. And we also remind people our IRS-trained community volunteers are ready to help file tax returns in locations across the country."

It is important to note, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act changed the way our taxes are calculated. The IRS encourages everyone to perform a "paycheck checkup" in January of every year to see if you have the correct amount of taxes withheld for your personal situation. Click for the [Tax Withholding Estimator](#), a [Tax Withholding Estimator FAQs](#) and an [FAQ on the 2020 Form W-4](#).

The IRS has numerous programs to help young families, military, and seniors with tax filing. Helpful links include:

- [Here are reasons for people to file a 2019 tax return.](#)
- Taxpayers who earned \$56,000 or less in 2019 and have simple returns can get free help preparing and [e-filing](#) their 2019 tax return at one of thousands of IRS supported [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance](#) sites nationwide.
- Taxpayers who earned \$69,000 or less in 2019 can find at least one free option for preparing and filing their 2019 tax return online through the [IRS's free file program](#). Free File is the IRS's partnership with private-sector tax software providers, each partner sets its own eligibility standards. Using the IRS' Free File program or [filing electronically](#) "e-filing" through a reputable tax software company and choosing [direct deposit](#) remains the fastest and safest way to file an accurate income tax return and receive a refund.
- Taxpayers who earned more than \$69,000 can use [free fillable forms](#) on the IRS website.

- [IRS helps workers, businesses with new Gig Economy Tax Center](#): The Internal Revenue Service has launched a new Gig Economy Tax Center online to help people in this growing area meet their tax obligations through more streamlined information.
- [Direct deposit fastest way to receive federal tax refund](#): With the tax season begun, the IRS reminds taxpayers that choosing to have their tax refund directly deposited into their checking or savings account is the fastest way to get their money.
- [IRS Free File offers free tax prep options for military personnel](#): The Internal Revenue Service reminds active duty military personnel that IRS Free File offers them multiple options for free federal tax preparation.
- [IRS Free File: Ideal for young and first-time filers](#): Filing taxes for the first time, or working part-time? IRS Free File may be the perfect match for people looking to save money on federal tax preparation.

If you have a specific problem with the Internal Revenue Service, please contact our office at caseworkga11@mail.house.gov or 770-429-1776. We look forward to serving you should you need our assistance.