



## DO YOUR FEDERAL TAXES FOR FREE

Filing your taxes costs less than this penny

It's all free. Brand-name software that does the hard work for you. Online tax prep. E-file. Direct Deposit. Save more of your pennies with Free File.



### WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

## 70 PERCENT OF ALL TAXPAYERS

That's how many taxpayers can do their taxes for free. That's 100 million people! Depending on your income, you are eligible for Free File's brand-name software and free e-file.

Not eligible for the software? There's still an option: Free File Fillable Forms, the electronic version of paper forms.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?



#### VISIT

IRS.gov/freefile. Convenience at your finger tips. It's ready when you are, 24/7.

#### REVIEW

Select the best match for you from our partner's offerings or use a "help me" tool to narrow your choices.

#### CONTINUE

Click "Leave IRS site" to continue. You'll be directed to our partner's website to begin your return safely and securely.

### WHAT DO I NEED?



EMAIL ADDRESS



COPY OF PRIOR YEAR'S TAX RETURN



DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR INCOME AND DEDUCTIONS

### BENEFITS



#### SAVE TIME

Some providers offer state tax returns, too.



#### GET MONEY FASTER

Combine e-file and direct deposit to get your refund faster.



#### TRACK YOUR REFUND

Click "Where's My Refund?" on IRS.gov.

IT'S FAST. IT'S SAFE. IT'S FREE. VISIT [IRS.GOV/FREEFILE](https://www.irs.gov/freefile) TO START NOW





## About the Free File Program

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Use Free File Software if your income is \$66,000 or less and Free File Fillable Forms if your income is greater than \$66,000.

IRS Free File is a partnership between the IRS and the [Free File Alliance](#), a group of industry-leading private-sector tax preparation companies that have agreed to provide free commercial online tax preparation and electronic filing. [Read more about our partnership.](#)

We do not endorse any individual Free File Alliance company or retain any taxpayer information entered on the Free File site.

**Are these programs safe?** Yes. Your information is protected from any unauthorized access while it is sent to the IRS. The companies may not disclose or use tax return information for purposes other than tax return preparation without your informed and voluntary consent. These companies are also subject to the Federal Trade Commission Privacy and Safeguards Rules and IRS e-file regulations.

**What information will the IRS collect or retain about me using Free File?** None. Our policy prohibits the use of permanent Internet cookies. We sometimes use “temporary” or “session” cookies to make sure you are the correct recipient of information you requested. These are deleted when your Internet visit ends.

**What can I do if I am not able to get into a Free File company from IRS.gov?** This problem may be due to your Internet service provider, your Internet security software and/or your IT department blocking expected information in the web request from your browser. This information is necessary to protect both you and IRS.gov systems from improper use such as phishing and other security threats. Unfortunately, due to the many differences between Internet browsers and individual computer configurations, we are unable to suggest Internet settings or configurations for you. Try selecting another company; use another computer or another browser.

**How do I check the status of my refund?** Get up-to-date refund information using [Where's My Refund?](#)

**How do I get a copy of my return?** Always remember to print your return after you successfully e-file. If you forget to print your return, order a free [transcript](#) from IRS. Depending on the type of transcript you request, you'll get more or less of the information from your return.

**What is Direct Pay?** Use [Direct Pay](#) to pay your individual tax bill or estimated tax payment directly from your checking or savings account at no cost to you.

**What happens if I access the Value Added button on the company's Free File landing page?**

You will exit the IRS Free File Program and if you continue, you may be charged fees for various services.

See the most [commonly filed forms](#).

[More About Free File Software](#)

[More About Free File Fillable Forms](#)

### About Free File Software

Free File Software provides free federal tax prep and e-file for taxpayers. Select a brand name software program, create an account and then the software guides you through return preparation.

- Use free brand-name software to prepare and print.
- Software guides you through return preparation.
- Need Help with an error or the software? Contact the company for free customer service.
- State return preparation and e-file is available for free but fees may apply.
- Available if your [Adjusted Gross Income](#) (AGI) is \$66,000 or less in 2018.
- Offers the most commonly used forms.

### About Free File Fillable Forms

File Fillable Forms is a FREE forms-based tool enabling you to select your income tax forms, enter your tax information, print and e-file your federal tax return. If you're not comfortable completing a paper return by hand, without software to guide you, you should consider another method of filing your tax return.

- The program performs only basic calculations.
- The program doesn't have extensive error checking.
- Are you a first time user? Check out the User Guide before you begin.
- Make sure to check your work before you e-file.
- You are responsible for all the information on the return.
- State tax return preparation is not part of the program.
- You can only file your current year tax return.
- Once your return is accepted, you can't make changes with this program.
- Need Help? If your return was rejected, you may use our Help page to fix the problem.
- If you can't fix your problem, use another e-file program.
- Important: If you have an older browser, make sure to update your version to get a better experience. Outdated browsers are known to cause display and printing errors. For more information, see [minimum computer requirements](#).

*Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 21-Nov-2018*



# Free File: What You Need to Get Started

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## Personal Information You Need

- A copy of last year's tax return in order to access your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)
- Valid Social Security numbers for yourself and your spouse, if applicable
- Valid Social Security numbers for your dependents, if applicable

## Income and Receipts

- Social Security benefits
- Unemployment Compensation
- All receipts pertaining to your small business, if applicable
- Income receipts from rental, real estate, royalties, partnerships, S corporation, trusts

## Other income

- W-2s, showing your annual wages from all of your employers
- Forms 1099-INT, showing interest paid to you throughout the year
- Form 1099-G, showing any refund, credit or offset of state and local taxes
- Forms 1099-DIV and Forms 1099-R, showing dividends and distributions from retirement and other plans paid to you during the year

## ACA Filers

- Form 1095A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement
- Form 8962, Premium Tax Credit
- Form 8965, Health Coverage Exemption and ECN

## File Electronically

- Verify your identity by using your 2018 AGI. If you created a 2018 personal identification number, that will work too. The personal identification number required that you create a five-digit PIN that could be any five numbers (except all zeros) that you choose which serves as your electronic signature.
- Don't have your AGI or PIN? If you do not have a copy of your 2018 tax return, you may use the IRS Get Transcript self-help tool to get a **Tax Return Transcript** showing your AGI.

- Use [Get Transcript Online](#) to immediately view your AGI. You must pass the [Secure Access](#) identity verification process. Select the **Tax Return Transcript** and use **only** the “Adjusted Gross Income” line entry.
- Use [Get Transcript Online](#) or call 800-908-9946 if you cannot pass [Secure Access](#), and need to request a **Tax Return Transcript**. Please allow 5 to 10 days for delivery. Use **only** the “Adjusted Gross Income” line entry.

## Contact Information

- To get a notification from the Free File software company that your return was accepted by IRS, you need a valid email address

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