

Free Tax Filing Assistance Philadelphia

Do I Need to File a Tax Return?

Every year the IRS issues a tool to check to see if you are required to file taxes. Visit irs.gov/help/ita/do-i-need-to-file-a-tax-return to learn more.

Even if you are not required to file a tax return, you may want to file one if you had income tax withheld from your paycheck. Potentially, you may have overpaid the treasury and could be due a refund from the government.

Ask Before You File

If you are dependent on others to help with expenses (parents, guardians, etc.), ask to find out if they are claiming you as a dependent before you file. Your family will have to decide which option is the best financially and may want to consult with an accountant or tax expert.

Look Out for Forms

Here are some of the forms you may receive as a student
W2s - Income from work. This includes Work Study and other jobs where you receive a regular paycheck.

1099-Miscs - Income from Contracted Services. This can include gigs or project based work where you're paid an agreed amount for services rendered and taxes are not withheld.

1098-E* - Student loan interest payments. You will only receive this if you've made enough qualified payments on your student loan interest.

1098-T* - Tuition statement includes information on qualified tuition paid and scholarships/grants received for education credits.

* These forms are used for credits/deductions. Make sure you've spoken to your family about who will use them for the credit prior to filing.

United Way VITA

Individuals earning less than \$55,000 in the greater Philadelphia region can go to a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance location for free tax filing with United Way. Visit unitedforimpact.org/vita/ to learn more.

Campaign for Working Families

There are over 42 sites for in-person filing across the Greater Philadelphia Region and South Jersey. No income restriction is listed. Visit cwphilly.org/freefile/ to learn more.

Online

The IRS, United Way, and Campaign for Working Families offer Free Filing Online for Individuals who earn less than \$66,000. Visit the following links to learn more:

unitedway.org/myfreetaxes/

cwphilly.org/freefile/

apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile/