

# Free Tax Filing Assistance Philadelphia

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## 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](https://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

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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/](https://unitedforimpact.org/vita/) to learn more.

## Campaign for Working Families

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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/](https://cwphilly.org/freefile/) to learn more.

## Online

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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/](https://unitedway.org/myfreetaxes/)

[cwphilly.org/freefile/](https://cwphilly.org/freefile/)

[apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile/](https://apps.irs.gov/app/freeFile/)