

IRS NEWS FOR SMALL BUSINESS

January 2025

► UPCOMING WEBINARS

(1) Steering clear of mistakes- A review of refundable credits eligibility rules

This free webinar will discuss the:

- Review the tax year 2024 eligibility rules for:
 - Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
 - Child Tax Credit/Additional Child Tax Credit/Credit for Other Dependents (CTC/ACTC/ODC)
 - American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)
- Review the top filing errors when claiming these Credits
- And More
- Plus, a live Q & A

Date: Thursday, **January 16, 2025**

Time: 2:00 p.m. (ET), 1:00 p.m. (CT), 12:00 a.m. (MT), 11:00 a.m. (PT)

Registration: To register for the event, visit the [Internal Revenue Service webinar](#)

Questions? Email us at: cl.sl.web.conference.team@irs.gov

(2) Document Upload Tool

This free webinar will discuss the:

- Get to know digitalization work at the IRS and its impacts
- Understand the Document Upload Tool and its benefits
- See how the Document Upload Tool works for you
- Plus, a live Q & A

Date: Tuesday, **January 21, 2025**

Time: 2:00 p.m. (ET), 1:00 p.m. (CT), 12:00 a.m. (MT), 11:00 a.m. (PT)

Registration: To register for the event, visit the [Internal Revenue Service webinar](#)

Questions? Email us at: cl.sl.web.conference.team@irs.gov

► HOT TOPICS

[Prepare to file in 2025: Get Ready for tax season with key updates, essential tips](#)

- With the 2025 filing season quickly approaching, the Internal Revenue Service encouraged taxpayers to take key steps now to prepare for filing their 2024 federal income tax returns.

► HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?

[IRS announces Jan. 27 start to 2025 tax filing season; agency continues historic improvements to expand, enhance tools and filing options to help taxpayers](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service announced that the nation's 2025 tax season will start on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, and will feature expanded and enhanced tools to help taxpayers as a result of the agency's historic modernization efforts.

► BEWARE OF TAX SCAMS

[Highlights from National Tax Security Awareness Week | Internal Revenue Service](#)

- The IRS and its Security Summit partners recently held the ninth annual [National Tax Security Awareness Week](#), an annual event that emphasizes the importance of protecting sensitive financial information from identity theft and tax scams, especially as the holidays and the 2025 tax season approach.

[IRS Criminal Investigation releases FY24 Annual Report; details agency's global reach, billion-dollar impact](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation (IRS-CI) released its Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Annual Report that details significant cases involving crimes ranging from tax fraud to cybercrime, enhanced domestic and foreign partnerships and investigative statistics from FY24 that took place from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 30, 2024.

► TAX TIPS and FACT SHEETS

[IRS announces launch of new enforcement campaign; highlights importance of whistleblowers and proper disclosure statements](#)

- The IRS is launching a new enforcement campaign and highlighting continued focus on improving taxpayer compliance among those with complex returns or those who intentionally evade tax responsibilities.

[Business Tax Account now available for Corporate Designated Officials; Income Verification Express Service open to designated officials and sole proprietors](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service continues to open its Business Tax Account (BTA) to a growing number of business taxpayers, expanding the useful features available.

► NEWS RELEASES

[IRS announces special payments going this month to 1 million taxpayers who did not claim 2021 Recovery Rebate Credit; encourages non-filers about approaching deadline to claim credits](#)

- As part of continuing efforts to help taxpayers, the Internal Revenue Service announced plans to issue automatic payments later this month to eligible people who did not claim the Recovery Rebate Credit on their 2021 tax returns.

[IRS Free File opens Friday: Free tax filing service available to millions on IRS.gov](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service announced that the IRS Free File Guided Tax Software will be available Friday for taxpayers ahead of the official start of tax season later this month.

[National Taxpayer Advocate delivers Annual Report to Congress; flags Employee Retention Credit, Identity Theft Victim Assistance processing delays and calls for adequate funding to improve taxpayer services](#)

- National Taxpayer Advocate Erin M. Collins released her 2024 Annual Report to Congress, finding overall improvement in IRS taxpayer service but also highlighting persistent challenges, particularly delays in processing Employee Retention Credit (ERC) claims and resolving Identity Theft Victim Assistance cases.

[Treasury, IRS issue proposed regulations on new Roth catch-up rule, other SECURE 2.0 Act provisions](#)

- The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service issued proposed regulations addressing several SECURE 2.0 Act provisions relating to catch-up contributions, which are additional contributions under a 401(k) or similar workplace retirement plan that generally are allowed with respect to employees who are age 50 or older.

[Treasury, IRS issue proposed regulations on new automatic enrollment requirement for 401\(k\) and 403\(b\) plans](#)

- The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service issued proposed regulations addressing certain SECURE 2.0 Act provisions, including a provision generally requiring newly-established 401(k) and 403(b) plans to automatically enroll eligible employees beginning with the 2025 plan year.

[IRS increases the standard mileage rate for business use in 2025; key rate increases 3 cents to 70 cents per mile](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service announced that the optional standard mileage rate for automobiles driven for business will increase by 3 cents in 2025, while the mileage rates for vehicles used for other purposes will remain unchanged from 2024.

► DISASTER INFORMATION – NEW OR EXPIRING

The below articles may impact your clients in neighboring states.

[Essential resources to rebuild records after a natural disaster](#)

- It may be important for victims of a disaster to reconstruct their tax and financial records to help prove and document their losses so they can get federal assistance or insurance reimbursement.

[IRS reminder to disaster area taxpayers with extensions: All or parts of 14 states, 2 territories need to file 2023 returns by Feb. 3; others have until May 1](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service reminded disaster-area taxpayers who received extensions to file their 2023 returns that, depending upon their location, their returns are due by Feb. 3 or May 1, 2025.

[Access retirement funds in a disaster](#)

- The SECURE 2.0 Act makes it easier for qualified individuals impacted by a federally declared major disaster to access their retirement savings.

[IRS provides relief for Helene; various deadlines postponed to May 1, 2025; part or all of 7 states qualify](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service announced disaster tax relief for all individuals and businesses affected by Hurricane Helene, including the entire states of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina and parts of Florida, Tennessee and Virginia.

[IRS help available to victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton; May 1 deadline now applies to individuals and businesses](#)

- In the wake of the devastating hurricanes that have ravaged Florida and the Southeast in recent weeks, the Internal Revenue Service reassured victims that it stands ready to provide the tax-related assistance they need to recover from these storms.

[IRS provides Hurricane Milton relief; May 1 deadline now applies to individuals and businesses in all of Florida; many businesses qualify for deposit penalty relief](#)

- Due to Hurricane Milton, the Internal Revenue Service announced relief for individuals and businesses in 51 counties in Florida.

[IRS provides relief to victims of severe storms and flooding in Connecticut and New York; various deadlines postponed to Feb. 3, 2025](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service announced tax relief for individuals and businesses in Connecticut and New York affected by severe storms and flooding from torrential rainfalls that began on Aug. 18, 2024. Some communities in western Connecticut also experienced landslides and mudslides from these storms.

[IRS relief now available to Debby victims in parts of Pennsylvania; various deadlines postponed to Feb. 3, 2025](#)

- The Internal Revenue Service announced disaster tax relief for individuals and businesses in parts of Pennsylvania affected by Tropical Storm Debby.

See [FAQs for Disaster Victims](#) for information about the definition of an affected taxpayer.

See the Disaster Page for all other declarations: [Tax relief in disaster situations | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#)

► OUTREACH CONNECTION

Free tax content you can share: [Outreach Connection](#)

- If you need to share information about taxes with your staff, clients, customers or colleagues, we have content you can include in your:
 - Website - e-Newsletter - Other Social Media (Twitter/Instagram)

► e-NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS and SOCIAL MEDIA

[e-News Subscriptions](#)

- The IRS offers several e-News subscriptions on a variety of tax topics. Click above for information about subscribing.

[IRS Social Media](#)

- The IRS uses social media tools to share the latest information on tax changes, scam alerts, initiatives, products and services. Connect with the IRS through social media tools.

► HOW TO SHARE IRS INFO ON SOCIAL MEDIA

When you find an article you want to share, click on the “Share” link. Like so:

- Scroll to the bottom of any page on IRS.gov. Look for “Share / Print”



- Click on Share
- You can share on Facebook, X - formally Twitter, or LinkedIn.