

The 2026 tax filing season is drawing near. Taking a few steps today can save you time and help ensure you're filing an accurate return in the coming months.

In preparation, the [IRS Get Ready](#) campaign offers a series of tips, reminders, and new information you need to know. For example, the [One Big Beautiful Bill](#) brings several changes and additions that can significantly affect federal taxes, credits, and deductions. Tax deductions for tips, overtime, car loan interest, and seniors are just a few of the many recent updates.

Here are some of the things you can do now.

#### Access or Log In to an Existing IRS Online Account

An [IRS online account](#) allows you to access personal tax information, including recently filed returns, securely. Through this tool, you can:

- View tax records, including adjusted gross income and transcripts.
- Make, schedule, and view payments.
- Get or view your [Identity Protection PIN](#).
- Authorize a tax professional to access your tax records digitally.
- Access available Forms W-2 and certain 1099s.
- View and edit communication preferences from the IRS and alternative media such as Braille, large print, and more.
- Set up or change payment plans and check your balance.

#### Gather And Organize Tax Records

Having organized tax records helps you file a complete and accurate tax return and avoid errors that could delay refunds. This may also help you identify overlooked deductions or credits.

Remember, most income is taxable, including unemployment compensation, refund interest, and revenue from the gig economy and digital assets. Be on the lookout for and gather essential forms, such as [Forms W-2 \(Wage and Tax Statement\)](#) and other income documents, when they become available in 2026.

## Speed Tax Refunds with Direct Deposit

Direct deposit is the fastest way to receive a tax refund. Additionally, in accordance with Executive Order 14247, the IRS began [phasing out paper tax refund checks](#) on Sept. 30, 2025, meaning most people must provide their routing and account numbers to receive refunds directly deposited into their bank accounts.

If you do not have a bank account, prepaid debit cards, digital wallets, or mobile apps may support direct deposit. To use these options, you must have routing and account numbers associated with their personal accounts. Check with the mobile app provider or financial institution to confirm which numbers to use.

## Schedule A Tax Return Meeting Today

There's no time like the present to schedule your tax return review meeting with us. Avoid the rush and [give our office a call](#) to schedule your meeting well before the April tax deadline.