

2021 TAX PREP CHECKLIST

What you need to file your taxes varies depending on your situation. This checklist will help you ensure you have everything you need to file your taxes accurately.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Government Issued Photo ID for yourself and your spouse (if filing together)
- Social security card or ITIN document for you and your Spouse (if filing jointly)
- Your spouse's full name and social security number or tax ID number (if filing separate)
- Bank Name, Routing Number and Account Number, or a voided check for direct deposit of your refund

DEPENDENT(S) INFORMATION

- Social Security Cards or ITIN documents for each person to be listed on return
- Dates of birth (month, date, & year) for each person on the return
- Childcare records (including the provider's tax ID number) if applicable
- Income of other adults in your home
- Form 8332 showing that the child's custodial parent is releasing their right to claim a child to you, the noncustodial parent (if applicable)

SOURCES OF INCOME

Employed

- Forms W-2

Unemployed

- Unemployment, state tax refund (1099-G)

Self-Employed

Forms 1099 NEC, 1099-MISC, 1099-K, Schedules K-1, income records to verify amounts not reported on 1099s

- Records of all expenses — check registers or credit card statements, and receipts
- Office in home information, if applicable
- Record of estimated tax payments made (Form 1040-ES)

Rental Income

- Records of income and expenses
- Rental asset information (cost, date placed in service, etc.) for depreciation
- Record of estimated tax payments made (Form 1040-ES)

Retirement Income

- Pension/IRA/annuity income (1099-R)
- Traditional IRA basis (i.e., amounts you contributed to the IRA that were already taxed)
- Social security/RRB income (1099-SSA, RRB-1099)
- Savings & Investments or Dividends
- Interest, dividend income (1099-INT, 1099-OID, 1099-DIV)
- Income from sales of stock or other property (1099-B, 1099-S)
- Dates of acquisition and records of your cost or other basis in property you sold (if basis is not reported on 1099-B)
- Health Savings Account or long-term care reimbursements (1099-SA or 1099-LTC)

Expenses related to your investments

- Record of estimated tax payments made (Form 1040-ES)
- Transactions involving cryptocurrency (Virtual currency)
- Other Income & Losses**
- Amount of first stimulus payment received during 2020 (generally \$1,200 per taxpayer and \$500 per child under 17)? \$_____
- Amount second stimulus payment received in late December 2020 or January 2021 (generally \$600 per taxpayer and child under 17)? \$_____
- Gambling income (W-2G or records showing income, as well as expense records)
- Jury duty records

- Hobby income and expenses
- Prizes and awards
- Trusts
- Royalty Income 1099–Misc.
- Any other 1099s received
- Record of alimony paid/received with ex-spouse's name and SSN

TYPES OF DEDUCTIONS

Home Ownership

- Forms 1098 or other mortgage interest statements
- Real estate and personal property tax records
- Receipts for energy-saving home improvements (e.g., solar panels, solar water heater)
- Mortgage Credit Certificate (MCC) if you participated in an MCC program
- All other 1098 series forms
- Charitable Donations**
- Cash amounts donated to houses of worship, schools, other charitable organizations
- Records of non-cash charitable donations
- Amounts of miles driven for charitable or medical purposes

Medical Expenses

- Amounts paid for healthcare insurance and to doctors, dentists, hospitals

Health Insurance

- Form 1095-A if you enrolled in an insurance plan through the Marketplace

Childcare Expenses

- Fees paid to a licensed day care center or family day care for care of an infant or preschooler
- Wages paid to a baby-sitter - *Don't include expenses paid through a flexible spending account at work*

Educational Expenses

- Forms 1098-T from educational institutions
- Receipts that itemize qualified educational expenses
- Records of any scholarships or fellowships you received
- Form 1098-E if you paid student loan interest
- Receipts for classroom expenses for educators in grades K-12 (up to \$250 taken as direct deduction / remainder itemized)

State & Local Taxes

- Amount of state/local income tax paid (other than wage withholding), or amount of state and local sales tax paid
- Invoice showing amount of vehicle sales tax paid

Retirement & Other Savings

- Form 5498-SA showing HSA contributions or IRA contributions
- All other 5498 series forms (5498-QA, 5498-ESA)

Federally Declared Disaster

- City/county you lived/worked/had property in
- Records to support property losses (appraisal, clean up costs, etc.)
- Records of rebuilding/repair costs
- Insurance reimbursements/claims to be paid
- FEMA assistance information
- Check FEMA site to see if my county has been declared a federal disaster area

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Last year's tax return if available
- Tax notices: Documents from the IRS, Health Insurance Marketplace, your state tax agency, or anything that says "IMPORTANT TAX DOCUMENT"
- IRS Letter 6419 provides the total amount of advance child tax credit payments taxpayers received in 2021. Bring this and any other IRS letters about advance child tax credit payments with your tax records. You can create a log in at [IRS.gov online account](https://www.irs.gov/onlineaccount) to securely access your child tax credit payment amounts.