

HOW TO FIND HELP WITH YOUR TAXES

If you have questions about or problems with your taxes, it is important to get help from a professional who is trustworthy and has the proper training.

With these resources you can find a reputable professional to help you.

FREE ASSISTANCE PREPARING AND FILING YOUR TAXES

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program: An official program in which IRS-certified volunteers offer free help in preparing and filing tax returns to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking taxpayers

Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) Program: An official IRS program that offers free tax help to those 60 years and over, specializing in questions about pensions, retirement, etc.

There are hundreds of VITA and TCE sites throughout NYC.

To find one near you call 1.800.906.9887 or use the online IRS locator tool: <https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/>

HOW TO FIND A REPUTABLE PAID TAX PREPARER

- ✓ Make sure the tax preparer has the proper training. Look for someone who is an Enrolled Agent (EA), an attorney, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), or who has completed the voluntary IRS Annual Filing Season Program.
- ✓ Make sure the preparer has a valid Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) for the current calendar year.
- ✓ Find someone with these qualifications by checking the IRS online directory: <https://irs.treasury.gov/rpo/rpo.jsf>
- ✓ You can also check the preparer's grade rating from the Better Business Bureau at <https://www.bbb.org>.

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE (LOW INCOME TAXPAYER CLINICS)

Low Income Taxpayer Clinics (LITCs) are an official IRS program through which local organizations provide legal assistance to taxpayers with low incomes or limited English proficiency. LITCs help with complex tax issues including audits, identity theft, penalties, appeals, fraudulent tax preparation, court proceedings, and many other issues. LITCs generally do not help with preparing and filing your tax returns.

Low Income Taxpayer Clinics in NYC:

Bronx Legal Services LITC: 718.928.3700

Brooklyn Legal Services Corp A LITC: 718.487.2300

South Brooklyn Legal Services LITC: 718.237.5528

Queens Legal Services LITC: 347.592.2178

Fordham Law School Tax Clinic: 212.636.7353

MFY Legal Services LITC: 212.417.3839

The Legal Aid Society LITC: 212.426.3013

LEGAL WELLNESS INSTITUTE

at THE FAMILY CENTER 

718.789.3841 x 150

www.thefamilycenter.org/lwi

The Family Center does not provide tax advice or assistance.

