



Scott Walker
Governor

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Use Wisconsin e-File This Tax Season

Wisconsin Department of Revenue Launches Tax Filing Season

It is time to start thinking about filing your taxes. The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) is officially launching the start of the individual income tax season. We encourage you to file your income tax return electronically to get your refund faster. You must file your taxes by the **April 15** deadline.

"Filing and paying your taxes is easier with Wisconsin e-file," said Secretary Richard Chandler. "Our free service is fast, secure and easy to use, with a quick turnaround on getting your refund back to you. And this year, taxpayers may also get bigger refunds due to the tax rate reduction in Governor Walker's budget."

State taxpayers have made Wisconsin a national leader in e-filing. DOR expects three million income tax returns this year with more than 80% of those e-filed.

e-File for Free

DOR provides free e-filing for state tax returns from our secure, confidential website 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Go to revenue.wi.gov and click on the WI e-file button to get started.



Wisconsin e-file:

- Offers Wisconsin fill-in tax forms that do the math to help prevent errors
- Is secure and confidential so your information is protected
- Sends a confirmation once your return is electronically submitted and received
- Allows you to link to e-filing options for your federal income taxes by clicking on "web-based filing"

You can have your refund deposited directly into your bank account. If you owe taxes, you can use direct withdrawal. Simply e-file your taxes now and choose a date to pay your taxes on or before April 15, 2014.

What You Need to e-File

- All documents about income you received during the year, including W-2s and 1099s
- Legal names and social security numbers of everyone you'll include on your return
- Charitable donations
- Your federal income tax return, if filing using Form 1 or Form 1NPR
- Property tax bill or rent certificate, if claiming Homestead Credit
- Bank account information for direct deposit or withdrawal

The [Internal Revenue Service](#) will open federal filing on Friday, January 31.

Be sure to follow DOR on [Twitter](#) and download our [WI Revenue mobile app](#) for quick tips and helpful resources at your fingertips.

Below is additional information to help taxpayers throughout the filing season:

ID Verification

This tax season, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) is taking extra precautions to prevent someone else from stealing your identity and your tax refund. It is called [Identity Verification](#) and it is an extra guard against fraudsters.

- If asked to verify your identity, you will be asked to take a quiz consisting of four multiple choice questions with answers that help us verify your identity
- You can take the quiz online or by interactive telephone
- Tax return filers who are unable to take the quiz online or by phone can call our customer service representatives who will help
- Visit our [website](#) or watch [this video](#) for additional information

Free Tax Assistance

We have a variety of helpful videos on our website to help you with your tax filing questions. Go to [revenue.wi.gov](#) and watch a few!

You can also call 2-1-1 to find a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) or Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) site in your area. VITA/TCE sites have trained volunteers to help low-to-moderate income residents, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities prepare their tax returns for free. Volunteers at more than 200 sites across the state will help taxpayers with questions or with e-filing their returns.

You'll need to bring these documents to the volunteer tax site:

- ✓ Photo IDs for you and your spouse
- ✓ Social security cards for everyone you will include on your tax return
- ✓ All documents about the income you received during the year
(examples: wage statements, interest and dividend statements, retirement statements, social security statements, mortgage interest statement)
- ✓ Signed rent certificate or property tax bill if you will file for a Homestead Credit
- ✓ Your bank account numbers if you want refunds deposited into your account (example: bring a deposit slip)
- ✓ Any other tax documents
(examples: property tax receipts for any property taxes paid in 2013, tuition statement, closing agreement for home purchased or sold in 2013)

IMPORTANT: Your spouse must come with you if you are married and filing jointly.

Tax Forms Online

E-filing is the easiest, most secure way to file your income tax return. If you choose to file on paper, all of the 2013 state income tax forms are available online at [revenue.wi.gov](#). Click on Forms on our homepage, or click on Individuals from our homepage. Paper forms are also available at many libraries and all [DOR offices](#).

Form 1099-G Available Online

You can access your [Form 1099-G](#) using DOR's secure, confidential website application. Form 1099-G provides your annual state tax refund information from last year, which you need if you itemize deductions on your federal tax return. DOR is providing this information online to make it easier for you to look up information when you e-file your return.

What's New This Tax Season

Below are some of the tax law changes that may impact your 2013 income tax return:

- **Income tax rate reduction:** Because of tax rate reductions in the last budget, taxpayers may see a bigger tax refund this year. Taxes were cut by \$650 million and rates were reduced across the board with brackets being simplified from five to four.
- **Medical care insurance subtraction:** Increases subtraction from 45% to 100% of the amount paid by persons who are employees where the employer pays a portion of the cost of the insurance
- **Child and dependent care expenses:** You can now subtract \$2,250 for one child (or \$4,500 for more than one child) for child and dependent care expenses for qualifying children
- **Tuition expenses:** The amount you can claim for tuition and mandatory student fees for you, your spouse (if married and filing a joint return), and your dependent children has increased to \$6,943. The phase-out amounts are adjusted for inflation beginning in 2013. The subtraction is phased-out for persons with federal adjusted gross income between \$50,850 and \$61,020 if single or head of household; \$81,350 and \$101,690 if married filing a joint return; between \$40,680 and \$50,850 if married filing a separate return.
- **Research expense and research facilities credits:** Now available to an individual, a partner of a partnership, a shareholder of a tax-option "S" corporation, and a member of a limited liability company
- **Manufacturing and agriculture credit:** This is the first year this credit is available and it can be claimed by individuals, corporations, and other business entities that have qualified production activities income in Wisconsin. For 2013 returns filed in 2014, the amount of the tax credit is 1.875% of the eligible qualified production income.
- **Combat zone related death:** A subtraction is allowed for the income of a member of the U.S. armed forces who died as a result of injuries received in a combat zone. The subtraction also applies for the year prior to the year of death if a Wisconsin income tax return had not been filed for that year.
- **New Schedule S:** Schedule S is to be completed by same-sex couples who file a joint federal return
- **New Schedule M:** Schedule M, *Form 1NPR-Additions to and Subtractions from Income*, must be attached to Form 1NPR when reporting any of the various additions to and subtractions from income

Check On Your Refund

You can check on your refund 24 hours a day, seven days a week at your convenience using our website or automated refund line. They give the same information that our customer service representatives use to check the status of your refund.

Website

revenue.wi.gov

Click *Look Up: Refund* on the Individuals tab

By Telephone

(608) 266-8100

(414) 227-4907

Toll Free: 866-WIS-RFND (866-947-7363)

Customer Service Numbers

DOR Customer Service

revenue.wi.gov

Individuals: (608) 266-2486

Businesses: (608) 266-2776

DOR Refund Inquiry

Madison: (608) 266-8100

Milwaukee: (414) 227-4907

Toll-free: (866) 947-7363

Internal Revenue Service (federal)

www.irs.gov/

1-800-829-1040

Find a Free Tax Assistance Site

Call 211 from anywhere in the state to find a free tax assistance site in your area