



Dear Client,

We hope that you had a happy holiday season and a great start to the new year. As we begin the 2023 tax filing season, we want to remind you that the deadline for filing federal individual income tax returns is April 15, 2024.

There are minimal notable changes for the 2023 filing season. Many provisions and credits that were introduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic have now expired, additional energy credits have been added and, in some cases, expanded, and several items have been adjusted for inflation. The standard deductions for the 2023 tax year are:

- Single & Married Filing Separate: \$13,850.00
- Head of Household: \$20,800.00
- Married Filing Joint: \$27,700.00

It was expected that the IRS was going to require third party settlement organizations like Venmo and Cash App to report payments received by individuals totaling more than \$600. This in turn, would require individual taxpayers to document who sent them the funds and what the funds were for in order to determine if the funds received should be considered income. In November, the IRS announced via a press release that the implementation of this reporting requirement that was signed into law under the American Rescue Plan would be delayed, avoiding complications and confusion for taxpayers trying to file their 2023 income tax returns. The plan is to phase in this reporting requirement over the next couple of years.

As was the case for the 2022 filing season, the IRS is suggesting taxpayers who bought an electric vehicle in 2023 should review the changes implemented under the [Inflation Reduction Act of 2022](#) to see if they qualify for tax credits.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 also expanded the credit amounts for qualifying expenses related to energy improvements made to taxpayer's homes. For a full list of the potential qualifying expenditures, it is recommended taxpayers review the [credits and types of qualifying expenses allowable](#) under these new provisions.

As of right now, the IRS has not indicated a specific date it will begin accepting efiled tax returns for tax year 2023, but did acknowledge it would be sometime in late January 2024. Historically, states begin accepting efiled returns shortly after the IRS opens their systems to accept returns.

Please review this [checklist](#) to help ensure that we have all or most of your tax information. The checklist can also be downloaded by visiting our [website](#). An organizer will also be uploaded to your portal access in the coming days. If you do not receive an email notification that the organizer is available and you would like one, please feel free to email us at [info@childsaccounting.com](mailto:info@childsaccounting.com) or call our office at 774.215.0042 to request one.

We look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Childs", written in a cursive style.

Rick Childs, EA

## Tax Documentation Checklist

- If you would like your refund direct deposited to your checking/savings account, we need the name of your bank, routing number and account number.
- Contact information – Phone number, email address
- Driver’s License – If you renewed your drivers’ license in 2023, we will need a copy of your updated driver’s license.
- Filing status including your date of birth
- Full name, social security number and date of birth of all dependents. We also need a copy of the dependents’ social security cards if we do not already have them on file.
- **If your filing status is Head of Household, we need proof that the dependent you are claiming lived with you for at least 6 months at your residence. Proof of residency can be school records, medical records, daycare records or a letter from one of these organizations.**
- **If you qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) please include proof of residency for each dependent. Proof of residency can be school records, medical records, daycare records or a letter from one of these organizations.**
- **W-2’s**
- **1099-INT** – Interest received from financial and other institutions
- **1095 A/B/C** – Health Insurance Marketplace Statement
- **1099-Div** - Dividend interest
- **1099-R** - Pension or IRA withdrawal
  - Were these disbursements rolled over? If yes, please provide the date of withdrawal, and the date of deposit to the new account.
- **1099-G** - State refunds from your 2022 individual tax returns if you itemized deductions on your 2022 federal return. This form is also used to report any unemployment income received during 2023. Please check online if you have not received the 1099-G in the mail.
- **SSA-1099** - Social security benefits received during 2023
- **W-2G** - Gambling winnings. **Gambling winnings can be offset by losses if you itemize your deductions.** You must have proof of losses such as betting slips, scratch tickets, and statements from gambling facilities.
- Alimony received in 2023 if your divorce was finalized prior to 2019.
- Alimony paid, social security number and name of recipient if your divorce was finalized prior to 2019.
- Sole Proprietorship 2023 – self employed
  - Income from business
  - Expenses for business
  - Vehicle expense for business - **Mileage log is required** - Total miles driven during 2023, and business miles driven, mileage rate for 2023 is \$.65 per mile.
  - Estimated federal and state income taxes paid - Date paid and amount paid.
- **1099-B** - Capital gains or losses from investments including detail report of all stock and fund trades
  - Crypto trades and swaps will be reported by exchanges on this form as well.
    - All crypto sells or swaps during 2023 must be reported as capital gains transactions.
- Rental real estate
  - Income and expenses
  - If you acquired the real estate in 2023 – please provide the HUD-1 or Closing Disclosure from the closing.
  - Amount of major repairs, renovations or improvements during 2023. Please be prepared to provide the date and value of each improvement made during 2023.

- **Sale of residence** – You must include date of purchase, cost of purchase, major improvements you made while owning the residence, and the HUD-1 or Closing Disclosure from the closing of the sale of the residence.
- IRA contributions – Amount of contributions for 2023, and the type of IRA account the contribution was made to.
- **Form 1098-T** - Tuition paid to a college or university on behalf of a 2023 dependent. **It is important to have the exact amount you paid in 2023. Please obtain the details of payments from the college or university.**
- **Form 1099-Q** – Distributions from Qualified Tuition Programs (529 Plans, ABLE Plans, etc.). Please provide the information for any funds used from the plan for educational purposes.
- **Form 1098-E** - Student loan interest paid in 2023
- Self-employed health and dental insurance premiums paid in 2023.
- Self-employed retirement contributions to a **SEP or SIMPLE IRA** plans for 2023.
- Amount of residential **RENT** paid in 2023 if you were a Massachusetts resident.
- If you commute using the Mass Transportation System, how much did you pay out of pocket expenses?
- Solar Power SREC Credits - SREC credits sold separately from electricity produced by solar renewable energy. Please supply the amount of SREC credits/amount sold to the energy company in 2023.
- Septic system replacement. We need the total cost, the approval date from the town where you reside, the certificate number of the approval, and the approving authority. This date must be in 2023.
- Childcare Expenses – Name of childcare facility, address, federal ID number, and the amount you paid.
- Home Energy Credits – Please provide the date, cost, and type of improvement made in 2023.
- Clean/Electric Vehicle Credits – Please provide the year, make, model, and VIN of any electric or clean vehicle purchased in 2023.

#### **THE FOLLOWING CAN BE INCLUDED IF YOU ITEMIZE YOUR DEDUCTIONS USING SCHEDULE A.**

- Out of pocket medical expenses paid. The deduction is subject to 7.5% of your adjusted gross income. Ex: AGI = \$75,000 - medical deduction exists for out-of-pocket expenses that exceed \$5,625.
- Real estate taxes paid, including second homes and vacation homes.
- State taxes paid via estimated tax payments made in 2022.
- **Form 1098** - Mortgage interest paid.
  - Interest paid on motorhomes and campers qualify for this deduction.
- **Form 1098** - Line of Credit Interest - This deduction can be taken only if you have proof that the funds were used for improvements to your main residence.
- **Form 1098** - Mortgage insurance premiums paid.
- Excise tax paid for automobiles, boats, or planes.
- Charitable Contributions
  - Cash - Cash donations require a receipt (cancelled check or documentation from the charitable organization that shows the amount donated)
  - Non-cash - Date of contribution, organization, federal identification number of the organization, description of donation, estimated value along with method of determining the value. All household items must be in good or better condition.

***There are many instances where additional types of income, deductions, or credits will affect your individual tax return. This checklist is not intended to be all encompassing, but rather a guideline in helping you gather the necessary documentation. If you have any questions, regarding the tax information required to complete your 2023 tax return, please feel free to call our office at 774.215.0042, or email us at [info@childsaccounting.com](mailto:info@childsaccounting.com).***