## **CPA**

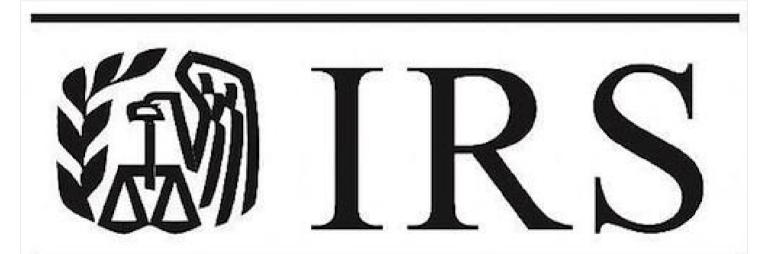
## Practice **Advisor**

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Day holiday, the Internal Revenue Service offers taxpayers several tips and various time-saving resources to get them the help they need quickly and easily.

Feb. 14, 2020



## Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

With a surge of tax returns expected the two weeks following the Feb. 17 Presidents Day holiday, the Internal Revenue Service offers taxpayers several tips and various time-saving resources to get them the help they need quickly and easily.

To help avoid this period of high telephone demand, the IRS encourages taxpayers and tax preparers to use online resources available at IRS.gov. And when it comes time to file, taxpayers are encouraged to file electronically and choose direct deposit for faster refunds. Filing electronically reduces tax return errors as the tax software

does the calculations, flags common errors and prompts taxpayers for missing

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Taxpayers can also call the IRS refund hotline at 800-829-1954.

- Taxpayers claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit or the Additional Child Tax Credit can use the "Where's My Refund?" tool to track refunds too. By law, the IRS cannot release refunds that include EITC or the ACTC before February 15. "Where's My Refund?" on IRS.gov and the IRS2Go app will be updated with projected deposit dates for most early EITC/ACTC refund filers by Feb. 22. IRS expects most EITC/ACTC related refunds to be available in taxpayer bank accounts or on debit cards by the first week of March, if they chose direct deposit and there are no other issues with their tax return.
- Use IRS.gov to find answers to tax questions. IRS offers a variety of online tools to help taxpayers answer common tax questions. For example, taxpayers can search the Interactive Tax Assistant, Tax Topics, Frequently Asked Questions, and Tax Trails to get faster answers.
- Let free tax software or free volunteer assistance do the work. Most taxpayers who
  want to prepare their own returns can file electronically for free with IRS Free File.
  Alternatively taxpayers who qualify can get free tax help from trained volunteers at
  community sites around the country.
- Turn to a trusted tax professional. To find more information about choosing a tax return preparer, including understanding the differences in credentials and qualifications, visit www.irs.gov/chooseataxpro.
- Use digital payment options if additional tax is owed. Some taxpayers may receive a smaller refund or even owe an unexpected tax bill when they file their 2019 tax return particularly if they didn't do a Paycheck Checkup in 2019. Taxpayers should use the IRS Tax Withholding Estimator to make sure they are withholding enough tax in 2020.
- Make an appointment before visiting an IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers. Anyone
  who needs face-to-face service should make an appointment before showing up.
  Most TAC visits can be avoided by using online tools available on IRS.gov.

• Call the employer first for that missing Form W-2. Those who have not received a

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