

# Helpful Tools for Tax-Filing Season

The deadline for filing individual income tax returns for the 2025 season is quickly approaching. This year, it falls on Tuesday, April 15. The extended due date for filing a return is October 15, 2025.

Need help filing your taxes? Free and low-cost resources are available.

## Free Tax Filing Assistance Programs

- [The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Service and Tax Counseling for the Elderly](#) programs offer free tax help for individuals making \$67,000 a year or less, people 60 years of age or older, individuals with disabilities, and taxpayers with limited English-speaking skills.
- The [AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program](#) provides free tax assistance, with a special focus on taxpayers over the age of 50 or who have low-to-moderate income. Program availability is determined at the local or community level (AARP membership not required).
- In Chicagoland, the [Ladder Up Tax Assistance Program](#) (TAP) provides free basic tax return preparation for families earning up to \$67,000 and individuals earning up to \$35,000 annually.

## Free On-Your-Own Filing Options

[IRS Direct File](#) is now available in Illinois, allowing eligible taxpayers to submit their 2024 federal returns directly to the IRS. What's even better is that federal return information can be transferred into [MyTax Illinois](#), where Illinois individual income taxes can also be filed for free.

Only need to file a state return? Taxpayers can use [MyTax Illinois](#) to file for free with its easy question-and-answer format.

## Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) Taxpayer Assistance

- Individuals with tax questions should contact IDOR's Taxpayer Assistance Division at 1-800-732-8866 or 1-800-544-5304 (TTY).
- Taxpayers may also [visit any of IDOR's offices](#) located in Chicago, Des Plaines, Fairview Heights, Marion, Rockford, and Springfield to receive assistance. Staff at these locations can help with any Illinois state income tax filing inquiries and are available weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Use [Where's My Refund?](#) to find out if IDOR has initiated the refund process. For more specific information about the status of a refund after IDOR has finished processing, taxpayers can check the Illinois Comptroller's [Find Your Illinois Tax Refund System](#).