

2019 Tax Season

Completing 2018 Returns

We want customers just like you! Please refer your friends and family.

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FEE CHANGES FOR 2019 -

We are increasing our prices by \$5 for each return that is not already at the \$65 rate. All returns after April 1st will be a minimum \$65.

GET IN EARLY - If you wait until after April 1st to make your appointment, there is a chance that we may not be able to complete your tax return until after the deadline.

STATES! - We do not prepare state tax returns for the following states: California, Maryland, New York, and Oregon. These states require special registration and education that is too expensive for us to be profitable.

W2 / 1099 PREPARATION

- We generally do not prepare very many 1099's and W2's. We can prepare your W2's and 1099's and electronically file them with the IRS or SSA or you can prepare and file them by using efilemyforms.com. You will not have to send anything to the Government. We can also mail the 1099's or W2's to your payees and you won't have to do anything. We will charge \$5.00 for each W2 or 1099.



MANY CHANGES THIS YEAR!

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act brought about many changes for this tax return filing season. The new postcard Form 1040 may look simplified at first glance, but a look at the new schedules with the form will soon disabuse you of that notion.

Standard vs Itemized

The standard deduction will increase this year and will likely mean that many more taxpayers will be better off with the standard deduction vs itemizing.

Single12,000
Married Joint 24,000
Head of Household ..18,000

Medical Deductions -

To include medical expenses in itemizing you must first reduce them by 7.5 % of your income.

Casualty Losses

Losses may not be deducted unless for a federally declared disaster.

Charitable Contributions

Deductions are limited to 60% of adjusted income. No deduction if the contribution secures athletic event seating rights. Must have a written record from donee, obtained no later than when donor files tax return.

Mortgage Interest

Deductions are limited to \$1 million or \$750,000 in home value. No home equity or 2nd loans unless you can prove it was to buy, build, or improve the home.

Sales or State Tax Deduction

Sales and/or State Taxes deductions are limited to \$10,000 max this year.

Miscellaneous Deduction

Is no more. This means no unreimbursed employee business expenses, mileage, investment expenses, tax preparation fees, uniforms, or hobby expenses.

20 Percent Deduction

This deduction is new for some Businesses and may take a little longer to do this year.

Exemption

Exemptions for each claimed on a tax return have been eliminated.

Child Tax Credit

Increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for children under age 17.

Qualifying Relative Credit

This \$500 credit replaces the exemption deduction for eligible dependents.

Moving Expenses

Gone for everyone except members of Armed Forces.

Entertainment/Meal Exp

There is no longer a Business deduction for entertainment expenses. You may still claim 1/2 of the Meal Expenses for business purposes.

Divorce

The new tax law makes alimony non-tax-deductible for the one paying, and the one receiving alimony will not pay tax on it for Divorces final after 12/31/2018.

HEALTH INSURANCE IS Still REQUIRED IN 2018 -

You, your spouse, and all dependents on your tax return are required to have Medical Insurance that meets Minimum Effective Coverage (MEC) or pay a shared responsibility payment or have an exemption. Given this, I will need to know if each member of your family had medical insurance coverage for each month of 2018. You should bring proof of medical insurance for each person on your return.

You may receive any one of the following documents if you were covered by medical insurance:

1095-A -bring if you acquired insurance through the Marketplace (ACA) (Obamacare). **Must have to file!**

1095-B -bring if you bought insurance directly through a carrier.

1095-C -bring if you have insurance through your large group employer

2018 ACA PENALTIES

If you did not have medical insurance a penalty may be assessed as follows:

\$695 per adult

\$347.50 per child

The maximum is \$2,085 or 2.5% of income of all family members, whichever is higher.

The requirement to have Medical Insurance ended January 1, 2019.

DO IT ONLINE YOURSELF?

Simple is Free!
Basic-\$19.95
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Fast, easy, affordable online tax returns. Smart because it is simple, simple because it is smart.

Easy interview gives you just the forms you need.

Free preview of your federal return, pay only when you file.

No credit card needed! Pay with your federal refund.

Refunds as soon as 8 days with e-filing and direct deposit.

With 1040.com you don't have to choose between different packages. Just step through the easy interview and fill out the needed forms and you'll always get the lowest cost option possible for you. Guaranteed.

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www.curtiscline.com
click on link at right of page

Call for an Appointment – we prefer all first time Customers come in the office.

Drop it Off – we'll prepare your taxes and give you a call.

Email or Fax it – give us a call to discuss this option.

Mail it – mail copies of your tax documents and we'll prepare and arrange for signature.

DropBox it – TRANSFER DATA TO US - We will again be able to use Dropbox to get data from you and send data to you this year. This will be particularly helpful for those of you who are out of town and send information to me. Just send me an email at taxman@curtiscline.com and I'll send you a private link where we can put information that only we can share.



Free 2gb Storage in the cloud
Go to our website at
www.curtiscline.com and look for
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To get your own free 2gb of
Cloud Storage.

WHAT DO I NEED TO SEND or BRING?

It is very important to send or bring the documents needed to prepare your taxes.

----- ALL FILERS! -----

* **Driver License** for you, spouse, and children. If a license is not available, bring a Government / State ID or Birth Certificate.

* **New or changed address**

* **New phone numbers or email**

* **W-2's and 1099's**

* **Interest Statements**

* **Unemployment Statements**

* **Social Security Statements**

* **Routing & Account No** - for direct deposit

* **Proof of Medical Insurance** for all on return

* **1095A, 1095B, and/or 1095C** for Health Ins

* **Last Tax Return**, if new client

* **Any Mail from IRS**

* **Identity Protection Pins from IRS** – If you received a CP 01A notice, which is an Identity Protection PIN, be sure to bring it with you in order to file your tax return.

----- ITEMIZING -----

* **Proof of contributions**

* **Proof of Medical Expenses Paid** - Sales tax receipts for car, boat

* **Property Tax Statement** - for Real Estate Taxes Paid

* **First Mortgage Interest Statement**

--- CLAIMING CHILDREN/FAMILY ---

If you claim children or other family members on your tax return, you will need to bring the following items (copies are ok):

* **ID for children** - Social Security Cards and birth certificates for each child.

* **Gov't ID Card** for children, if available.

* **Proof each person lived with you in 2018...**
Should show each child/person name, current year, and your address. Examples include - School records (school profile printed by school), Medical Records, or Letter from school, medical provider, social service agency, place of worship, on their letterhead showing name of child, name of parent or guardian, child's address, and dates child lived with taxpayer, Daycare records with name of Daycare provider.

* **Proof of Disability**, if child/person is disabled. Letter from child's doctor, healthcare provider, or social service program or agency verifying child is permanently and totally disabled.

* **If Child/Person > 18** - Bring a document showing full time student - time and dates of attendance and name of school. If not full time student bring proof of their income.

* **Day-Care Statement** with their name, address, SSN or Employee ID number.

----- EDUCATION CREDIT -----

If you will be claiming Education Credits this year, the following will be required:

* **1098-T** from all schools attended in 2018. 1098T is not proof of your payment.

* **Proof that child was a full time student for 5 months** – should show dates.

* **Proof of amount you paid for tuition & books**

* **Financial printout from the school** that shows all charges, and all payments and who made the payments. All ins and outs including charges, scholarship grant and personal payments.

----- SELF EMPLOYED -----

If you or your spouse are self-employed (Schedule C or receive 1099s), Bring the following:

* **Proof you are in business:** - At least 2 of the following - Business license, Business Card, 1099 Forms, Records of gross receipts provided by taxpayer, Taxpayer summary of income, Records of expenses provided by taxpayer, Taxpayer summary of expenses, Bank statements, advertisements, other tax returns.

* **Records of income & expense** – accounting records, invoices/receipts, log books, computer records, car/truck expenses, ledgers, business bank accounts.

----- HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD -----

* **Divorce decree or separate maintenance agreement** – if divorced or legally separated.

* **Proof of 6 month separation** – if legally separated.

* **Substantiate cost of maintaining more than half the cost of keeping up home** – Utility bills, property tax bills, grocery receipts, rent/mortgage/interest statement, maintenance and repair bills, other household bills.

----- AFSP -----

We have complied with the IRS requirements for receiving the Annual Filing Season Program (AFSP) Record of Completion for 2019. We are listed in the public directory of tax return preparers - <https://irs.treasury.gov/rpo/rpo.jsf>