

JULY 2023

IRS Tax Tips **P.1**

Tax Scams **P.2**

Calendar/Recipe **P.3**

IRS TAX TIPS

The Internal Revenue Service is encouraging nearly 1.5 million people across the nation to submit a tax return to claim their refunds for tax year 2019 by the July 17, 2023, deadline.

The IRS estimates almost \$1.5 billion in refunds remain unclaimed because people haven't filed their 2019 tax returns yet. Available data includes a special state-by-state estimate of how many people are potentially eligible for these refunds in each state and each state's median potential refund. The average median refund for tax year 2019 was \$893.

"Time is running out for more than a million people to get their tax refunds for 2019," said IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel. "Many people may have overlooked filing a 2019 tax return due to the pandemic. We don't want people to miss their window to receive their refund. We encourage people to check their records and act quickly before the deadline. The IRS has several important ways that people can get help."

Under the law, taxpayers usually have three years to file and claim their tax refunds. If they don't file within three years, the money becomes the property of the U.S. Treasury.

For 2019 tax returns, however, people have more time than usual to file to claim their refunds. Usually, the normal filing deadline to claim old refunds falls around the April tax deadline, which was April 18 this year for 2022 tax returns. But the three-year window for 2019 unfiled returns was postponed to July 17, 2023, due to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. IRS Notice 2023-21, issued on Feb. 27, 2023, provided legal guidance on claims made by the postponed deadline. The law requires taxpayers to properly address, mail and ensure the tax return is postmarked by July 17, 2023.

Taxpayers could lose more than just their refund of taxes withheld or paid during 2019. Many low- and moderate-income workers may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). For 2019, the credit was worth as much as \$6,557. The EITC helps individuals and families whose incomes were below certain thresholds in 2019.

The IRS reminds taxpayers seeking a 2019 tax refund that their checks may be held if they have not filed tax returns for 2020 and 2021. In addition, the refund will be applied to any amounts still owed to the IRS or a state tax agency and may be used to offset unpaid child support or past due federal debts, such as student loans.

Current and prior-year tax forms (such as the tax year 2019 Forms 1040 and 1040-SR) and instructions are available online on the IRS **Forms, Instructions and Publications** page or by calling toll-free **800-TAX-FORM** (800-829-3676).

Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence. John Hancock was the first to sign the document, most likely because he was the President of Congress at that time. Although, the document was dated July 4th, 1776, Congress actually voted for Independence from Great Britain on July 2, 1776.

Three Presidents who signed the document actually died on July 4th – John Adams and Thomas Jefferson in 1826 and James Monroe dies July 4, 1831. Calvin Coolidge is the only President ever born on the 4th of July. The very first 4th of July fireworks show took place in Philadelphia in 1777.

Crabby Road 7-1-11



©Hallmark Licensing, Inc.

Maxine.com

TAX SCAMS CONTINUE: The Internal Revenue Service continues to warn taxpayers of new scams that urge people to use wage information on a tax return to claim false credits in hopes of getting a big refund.

One scheme, which is circulating on social media, encourages people to use tax software to manually fill out **Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement**, and include false income information. In this W-2 scheme, scam artists suggest people make up large income and withholding figures as well as the employer it is coming from. Scam artists then instruct people to file the bogus tax return electronically in hopes of getting a substantial refund – sometimes as much as five figures – due to the large amount of withholding.

The IRS along with the Security Summit partners in the tax industry and the states, are actively watching for this scheme and others. In addition, the IRS works with payroll companies and large employers – as well as the Social Security Administration – to verify W-2 information.

The IRS and Summit partners warn people not to fall for these scams.

"We are seeing signs this scam is increasing, and we worry that innocent taxpayers could be at risk of being tempted into falling into a trap that puts them at risk of financial and criminal penalties," said Acting IRS Commissioner Doug O'Donnell. "The IRS and Security Summit partners remind people there is no secret way to get free money or a big refund. People should not make up income and try to submit a fraudulent tax return in hopes of getting a huge refund."

Two variations of this scheme are also being seen by the IRS; both involve misusing Form W-2 wage information in hopes of generating a larger refund:

- One variation involves people using **Form 7202, Credits for Sick Leave and Family Leave** for Certain Self-Employed Individuals, to claim a credit based on income earned as an employee and not as a self-employed individual. These credits were available for self-employed individuals for 2020 and 2021 during the pandemic; they are not available for 2022 tax returns.
- A similar variation involves people making up fictional employees employed in their household and using **Schedule H (Form 1040), Household Employment Taxes**, to try claiming a refund based on false sick and family wages they never paid. The form is designed to report household employment taxes if a taxpayer hired someone to do household work and those wages were subject to Social Security, Medicare or FUTA taxes, or if the employer withheld federal income tax from those wages.

The IRS reminds people who try this that they face a wide range of penalties. This may include a frivolous return penalty of \$5,000. Filers also run the risk of criminal prosecution for filing a false tax return.

For anyone who has participated in one of these schemes, there are several options that the IRS recommends. People can amend a previous tax return or consult with a trusted tax professional.



Blueberry-Lemon Energy Balls

If you're looking for a midday pick-me-up, these irresistible blueberry-lemon balls come together in minutes and make a perfect on-the-go snack. Walnuts add a boost of plant-based protein and help keep you energized, while a bit of maple syrup adds sweetness. You can substitute honey for the maple syrup, and coconut for the walnuts if you have a nut allergy. Try dried cranberries for a different flavor!

By Wendy Lopez

<https://www.eatingwell.com/recipe/7964794/blueberry-lemon-energy-balls/>

Active Time: 10 mins **Total Time:** 10 mins

Ingredients

- ¾ cup walnuts
- ½ cup pitted dates
- ¼ cup dried blueberries
- ¾ cup old-fashioned rolled oats
- 2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Directions

Add walnuts, dates and blueberries to a food processor; process until chopped and combined, 7 to 10 seconds. Add oats, maple syrup and lemon juice. Continue processing until a smooth, thick paste forms, 20 to 30 seconds. Transfer the paste to a small bowl; add lemon zest and mix to combine. With your hands, form and roll the mixture into 18 small balls.

Nutrition Facts (per serving)

Calories 190; Fat 9g; Carbs 27g; Protein 4g

July

Jul 3

International Joke Day

Jul 4

Independence Day

Jul 8

National Blueberry Day

Jul 11

Nat'l Blueberry Muffins Day

Jul 13

Nat'l French Fries Day

Jul 15

Cow Appreciation Day



Jul 17

World Emoji Day

Jul 22

Hammock Day



Jul 24

National Tequila Day

Jul 30

Paperback Book Day

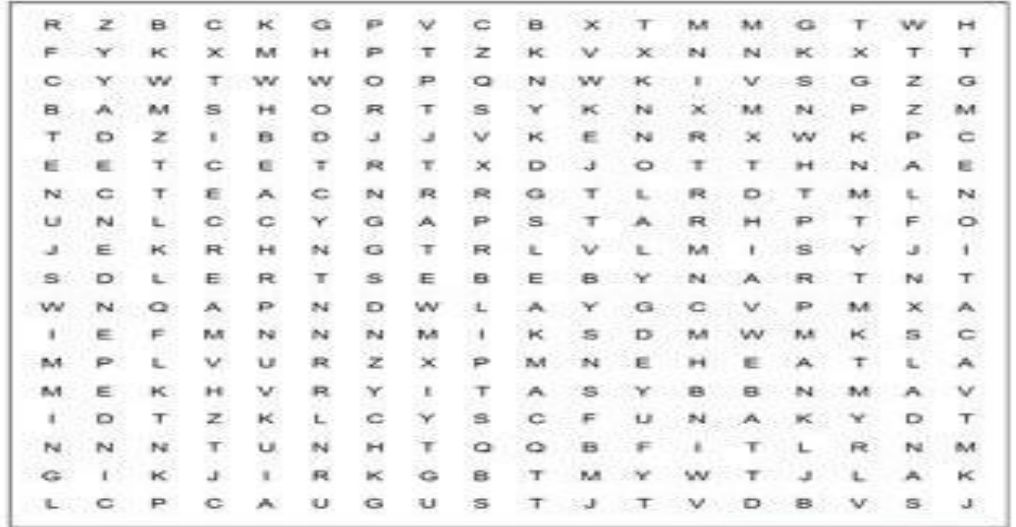
corinnejthompson@sedillolllc.com

602-241-0712

FORMS OF
PAYMENT NOW
ACCEPTED:

- VISA
- MASTERCARD
- AMERICAN EXPRESS
- DISCOVER CARD
- ZELLE
- FACEBOOK PAY
- CASH
- PERSONAL CHECK

Summer Word Search



- | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| August | ice cream | sandcastle |
| baseball | Independence | shorts |
| beach | Day | swimsuit |
| camping | July | swimming |
| gardening | June | travel |
| heat | picnic | vacation |
| hot | sandals | thunderstorms |



© 2014 - RealLifeAtHome.com

Tax Times July 2023

SEDILLO &
ASSOCIATES, LLC

10220 North 31st Ave, Suite 129
Phoenix, AZ 85051
602-241-0712 ph
602-241-1177 fax
corinnejthompson@sedillollc.com

We Love Referrals!