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Individual Income Tax Season Begins January 27

MADISON — The individual income tax filing season begins on Monday, January 27, 2025, and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) is ready to help taxpayers with their tax preparation and filing needs.

Here's How You File

Wisconsin taxpayers have several options for filing their taxes:

1. **Direct File.** This new, free online service allows eligible taxpayers to file their federal income taxes directly with the IRS. Direct File integrates seamlessly with WisTax, allowing you to easily file your Wisconsin state return.
2. **Tax Filing Software.** Numerous software options are available, ranging from basic to advanced, offering varying levels of guidance and support.
3. **Tax Preparer.** Enlisting the help of a qualified tax professional can be beneficial for those with complex tax situations or who prefer personalized assistance.
4. **VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance).** Free tax preparation assistance is available to eligible taxpayers through the VITA program, offered by community organizations and IRS-certified volunteers. To locate a site near you, use the [VITA/TCE Locator Tool](#) or the [AARP Site Locator Tool](#).

Expanded Wisconsin Child and Dependent Care Credit

Check to see if you qualify for the expanded Wisconsin Child and Dependent Care credit ([Schedule WI-2441](#)). The qualifying expenses and maximum allowable credit amount have been increased for the 2024 tax year.

Where's My Refund?

DOR's [Where's My Refund tool](#) is the quickest way to check your refund status, as it gives taxpayers instant access to the same information call center agents provide.

Extended Call Center Hours

To further assist taxpayers during this busy time, DOR's Customer Service Call Center is extending hours in the weeks leading up to the filing deadline. Tax specialists will be available from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 1 – 3, April 7 – 10 and April 14 – 15 to accommodate taxpayers' schedules.

More Resources

Individual tax filers are encouraged to visit the DOR website's [Individuals page](#) where they will find answers to common questions, forms and instructions, tax credit information, payment options, instructional videos, and other resources.