



Mission Statement:

The statutory mission of the Iowa Department of Revenue is to serve Iowans and support state government by collecting all taxes required by law, but no more.

Iowa Tax Information For Students

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS





1. Since I'm a student, do I need to file an Iowa income tax return?

You must file an Iowa income tax return if you maintained a legal place of residence in Iowa for all or part of the tax year and meet any of the following requirements. The income of both husband and wife must be combined in meeting the filing requirements.

- **Filing status single** (unmarried, divorced, or legally separated on December 31): You must file if you had a net income of more than \$9,000.
- **Filing status other than single:** You must file if you had a net income of more than \$13,500.
- **Claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return:** You must file if you had a net income from all sources of \$5,000 or more.
- **Nonresident:** You must file if you were a nonresident and your net income from Iowa sources was \$1,000 or more, unless your total income is below the applicable income thresholds above.

2. None of these requirements apply to me. Is there any other reason I should file an Iowa return?

Yes! Even if you aren't required to file, you may be eligible for a refund of any Iowa tax withheld from your paycheck. To get that money back, you have to file an Iowa return.

3. When are Iowa tax returns due?

Iowa current-year income tax returns are due on April 30 of the following year. If April 30 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the due date is the following business day.

4. What if I need more time to file my Iowa return?

Iowa has no extension request form. If you have at least 90% of the tax due paid by the original due date, you will automatically have until October 31 to file the return. You can also pay online through eFile & Pay. eFile & Pay offers free direct debit. If 90% of the correct tax is not paid timely, penalty and interest apply. Interest will accrue on any tax not paid by the original due date.

5. Isn't there an Iowa short form or "EZ" form?

No, all filers must use the IA 1040. It may be that many of the questions do not apply to you so it is not as complicated as you think.

6. If I file an Iowa return, can my parents still claim me as a dependent on their Iowa return?

Yes, if they were able to claim you as a dependent on their federal return.

7. Can I take the \$40 personal exemption credit if I'm claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return?

Yes, dependents filing their own Iowa returns can claim a \$40 personal exemption credit even though they are claimed as a dependent on another person's Iowa return.

8. Can I deduct the interest I pay on my student loans on my Iowa Return?

Yes. Iowa allows the same Student Loan Interest Deduction that is allowed on your federal return. This deduction is taken on line 24 of the IA 1040.

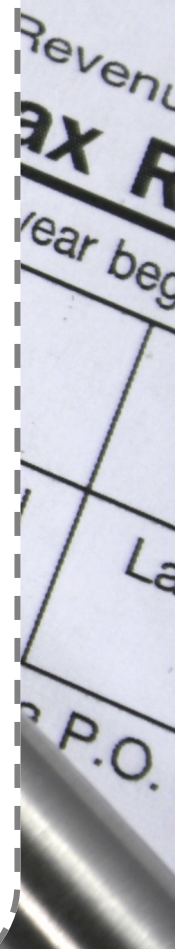
9. How do I file my Iowa Income Tax return?

IDR strongly encourages taxpayers to file their returns electronically. There are many reasons this method is preferable.

- ⇒ **It's more accurate.** Electronic filing software does the calculations for you. It also may provide prompts which help ensure you claim all the deductions and exemptions to which you are entitled.
- ⇒ **It might be free.** It is estimated that up to 70% of Americans are eligible to file their returns for free depending upon factors including age, income level, and veteran status. Through Iowa's participation in the Freefile Alliance, you can access multiple software providers at the touch of a button. IDR's e-file portal can be found at <https://tax.iowa.gov/individual-income-tax-electronic-filing-options>.
- ⇒ **It's safe.** IDR partners with the IRS, tax software providers, and other Departments of Revenue to combat fraud and identity theft.
- ⇒ **It's faster.** When you file electronically you don't spend time hand-writing on forms, doing calculations, and getting your return to the post office. IDR in turn doesn't spend time opening your envelope and data-entering your return information. **That means you will get your refund more quickly by filing electronically.**
- ⇒ **It's direct.** If you file electronically you are eligible to have your refund direct deposited into your bank account. **The direct deposit option is not available for paper returns.**

10. What if I have more questions?

No problem! There is a wealth of information on our website: <https://tax.iowa.gov>. We have a powerful Google search engine as well as helpful [Expanded Instructions](#) to guide you through your returns.





Questions?

Email: idr@iowa.gov

Postal Mail:

Taxpayer Services
Iowa Department of Revenue
P.O. Box 10457
Des Moines, IA 50306-0457

Or call:

1-800-367-3388
515-281-3114

TDD - Deaf and hearing assistance: 515-242-5942

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Vision Statement

Iowa will be a state where it is easy to understand and comply with tax obligations.

<https://tax.iowa.gov>