



IRS Special Edition Tax Tip 2015-01: New IRS Tool Can Help You Find a Tax Preparer

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IRS Tax Tips

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New IRS Tool Can Help You Find a Tax Preparer

The IRS has launched a new, online public directory of tax return preparers. Now you can use this tool to help you select a tax return preparer with the credentials and qualifications that you prefer. Here are some of the key features of the new Directory of Federal Tax Return Preparers with Credentials and Select Qualifications:

- **What types of tax preparers does the directory include?**

The directory lists enrolled agents, attorneys, CPAs, and those who have completed the requirements for the voluntary [IRS Annual Filing Season Program](#). All preparers listed have a valid Preparer Tax Identification Number, or PTIN, for 2015.

- **What types of tax preparers does it not include?**

The directory does not include tax return preparers with PTINs who are not attorneys, CPAs, enrolled agents or Annual Filing Season Program participants. Volunteer tax return preparers who offer free services are also not included.

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• How does the new directory work?

You may [search the directory](#) using the preferred credentials or qualifications you seek in a preparer. You may also search by a preparer's location, including those who practice abroad.

• What does a search result show?

Directory listings feature the name, city, state and zip code of included tax preparers.

You can use the directory as a tool to get help from a tax professional on the [Affordable Care Act tax provisions](#) that affect returns filed this year.

Go to IRS.gov/chooseataxpro to find out more about the different types of tax preparers. Use the new [partner page](#) on IRS.gov for links to the websites of national non-profit tax professional groups. These groups can also help you find the type of qualified tax help that you prefer.

Whether you pay a tax preparer, seek [volunteer help](#) or do your own taxes, you should file your tax return electronically. IRS e-file is the easiest way to file a complete and accurate tax return. Visit IRS.gov to check out your [e-file options](#).

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