TAXPAYER ADVOCATE SERVICE

YOUR VOICE AT THE IRS

www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/



TAS Leadership

Erin M. Collins

National Taxpayer Advocate





ABOUT TAS – WHO WE ARE

- Independent organization within the IRS
- Provide free service to all eligible taxpayers, including:
 - Individual taxpayers
 - Businesses
 - Tax-exempt organizations
 - More
- No income limits for eligibility

Your Voice at the IRS



ABOUT TAS

TAS Functions by Law

- Assist taxpayers in resolving tax problems with the IRS
- Identify areas where taxpayers have problems dealing with the IRS
- To the extent possible, propose changes in the administrative practices of the IRS to mitigate problems
- Identify potential legislative changes to mitigate such problems



About TAS – Offices

- Office of the Taxpayer Advocate
 - Washington, D.C.
- Local TAS offices nationwide
 - One (or more) in every state
 - One in Washington, D.C.
 - One in Puerto Rico

Your Voice at the IRS



About TAS – What We Do

- Protect your rights by striving to ensure you are treated fairly and understand your rights as outlined in the Taxpayer Bill of Rights.
- Help taxpayers where a system failed to operate as intended or efforts failed to resolve the problem within the IRS.
- If you qualify for help, TAS is with you at every turn and does everything possible to assist – TAS is Your Voice at the IRS!

Your Voice at the IRS



HOW WE'VE HELPED OTHERS

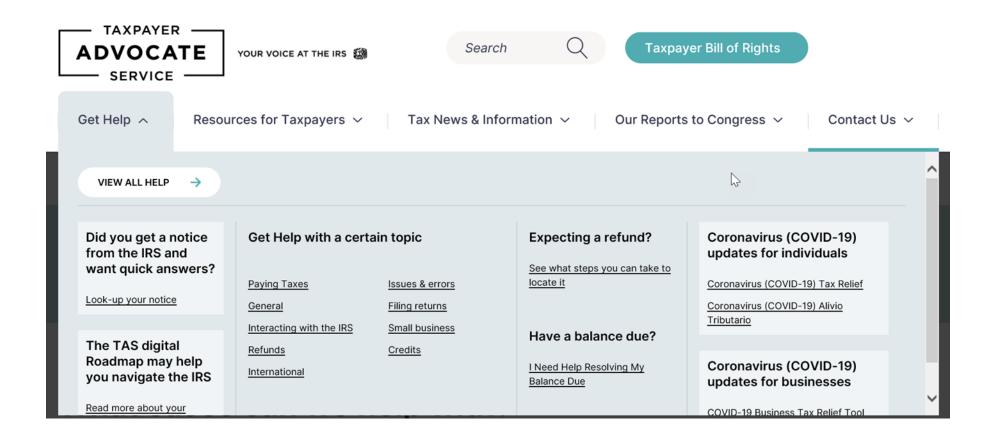
To see how TAS has helped others, read about our success stories at:

www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/news-category/success-stories/

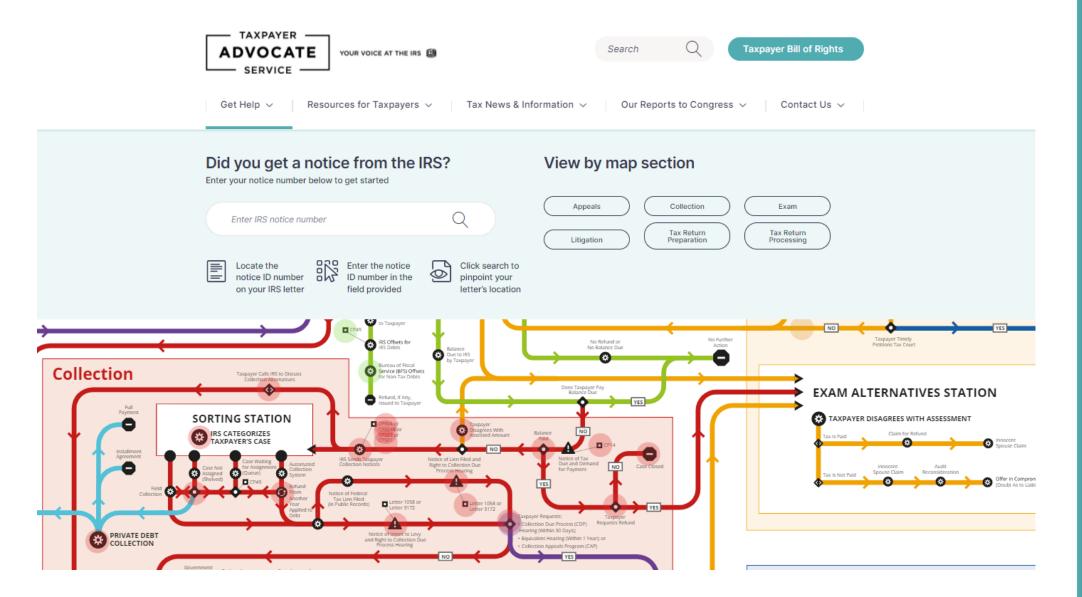




TAS OPTIONS FOR SELF-HELP



TAXPAYER ROADMAP





When to come to us for tax account help

In general, come to us when:

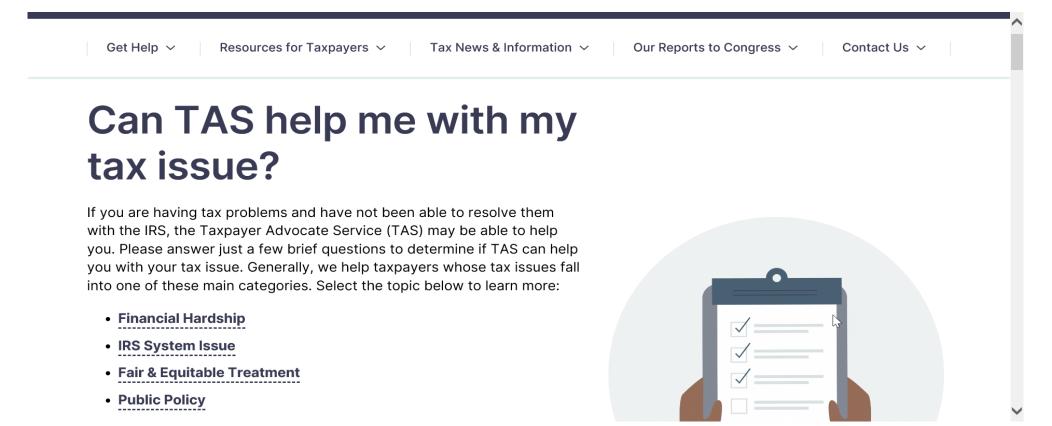
- You are experiencing a financial/economic hardship or an immediate threat of adverse action
- You are not able to resolve the issue through normal IRS channels
- You've tried to contact the IRS, but no one has responded, or the IRS hasn't responded by the date promised

Learn more about eligibility at:

www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/can-tas-help-me-with-my-tax-issue/



Try our online tool to determine if TAS can help you



www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/can-tas-help-me-with-my-tax-issue/

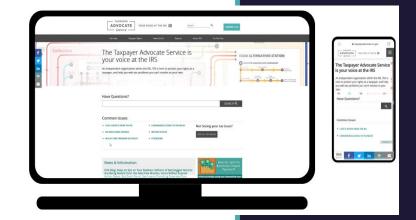


CONTACTING TAS FOR CASE HELP

• Use the 'Can TAS help me with my tax issue?' tool: www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/can-tas-help-me-with-my-tax-issue/

If the answer is yes:

- Fax or phone your Local Taxpayer Advocate listed in Publication 1546, Your Voice at the IRS or at www.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/contact-us/
- Call the NTA Case Intake Line: 1-877-777-4778
- Download Form 911, Request for Taxpayer Advocate Service Assistance www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f911.pdf





WORKING WITH TAS – WHAT TO EXPECT

TAS will advocate with you on your client's behalf = **Your Voice at the IRS**.

Case assigned to *one* Advocate for the duration of the case.

Contact is generally made within *seven days* (or less) from the date you contacted us or the date your inquiry was referred to us.

Receive estimated expected completion date and next contact dates.

You will also be provided with a clear, complete, and correct explanation of what was done to resolve the problem when we are done.



What Else Does TAS Do?

- We also address large-scale, systemic issues that affect many taxpayers.
- We raise these concerns to senior leaders at the IRS.
- Know of a tax problem that affects more than one taxpayer?

Use our Systemic Advocacy Management System at:

www.irs.gov/advocate/systemic-advocacy-management-system-sams



TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS = YOUR RIGHTS



Taxpayer Bill of Rights

You Have the Right to...

Be Informed

El Derecho de Estar Informado

Quality Service

El Derecho de Recibir Servicio de Calidad

- Pay No More Than the Correct Amount of Tax
 El Derecho de Pagar No Más de la Cantidad Correcta de Impuestos
- Challenge the IRS's Position and Be Heard
 El Derecho de Cuestionar la Posición del IRS y de ser Escuchado
- Appeal an IRS Decision in an Independent Forum
 El Derecho de Apelar una Decisión del IRS en un Foro Autónomo
- Finality

El Derecho de Llegar a una Resolución

Privacy

El Derecho de Privacidad

Confidentiality

El Derecho de Confidencialidad

Retain Representation

El Derecho de Contratar a un Representante

A Fair and Just Tax System

El Derecho de Tener un Sistema de Impuestos que sea Justo y Adecuado





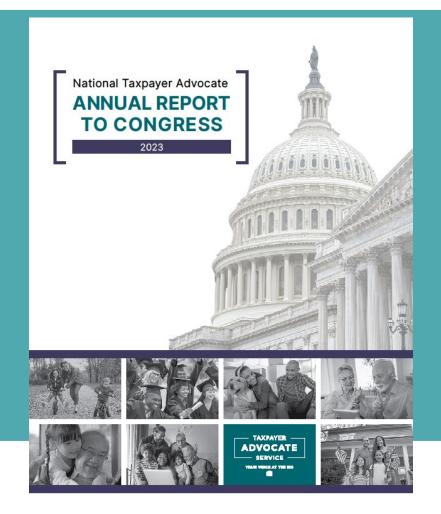


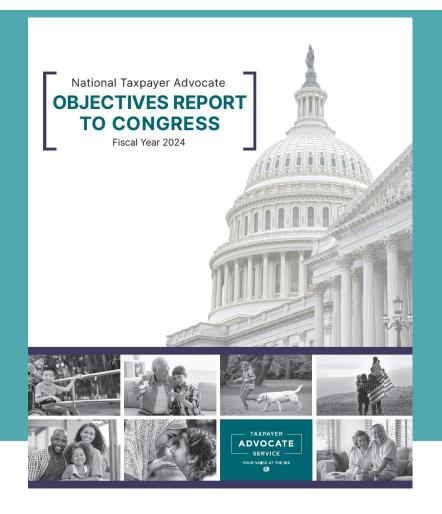
Learn more about your rights at TaxpayerAdvocate.irs.gov/taxpayer-rights.

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TAS REPORTS TO CONGRESS





https://www.TaxpayerAdvocate.irs.gov/reports



LITC Low Income

Taxpayer Clinics

OTHER TAS PROGRAMS

Low Income Taxpayer Clinics

- LITCs represent low-income individuals who have a tax dispute with the IRS, and provide education and outreach to individuals who speak English as a second language
- LITCs provide services for free or no more than a nominal fee (except for reimbursement of actual costs incurred)
- Find the nearest LITC at: www.irs.gov/advocate/low-income-taxpayer-clinic-map



Other TAS Programs

Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP)

- Independent panel of citizen volunteers
- Suggests ways to improve the IRS
- Contact TAP at 1-888-912-1227 or https://improveirs.org/





ACCESSIBLE IRS TAX PRODUCTS

Available options for obtaining accessible tax products

If a taxpayer needs a tax product in an alternative format, they can:

- Download it from the Accessible Forms and Publications page on IRS.gov, or
- Request paper copies in Braille or large print by calling the toll-free tax form telephone number at 800-TAX-FORM (800-829-3676).

www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/information-about-the-alternative-media-center



IRS NOTICES AND LETTERS

Taxpayers can request tax notices and letters in Braille or large print

If a taxpayer receives a notice or letter but would prefer to have it in Braille or large print, they have the following choices. They can:

- 1. Use **Form 9000**, *Alternative Media Preference*. Taxpayers can attach the form to their tax return or mail it separately to the IRS.
- 2. Call the toll-free tax assistance telephone number at 800-TAX-1040 (800-829-1040).

IRS Alternative Media Center

Taxpayers can call the **Accessibility Helpline** at 833-690-0598 with questions on IRS accessibility services.



IRS MULTILINGUAL RESOURCES

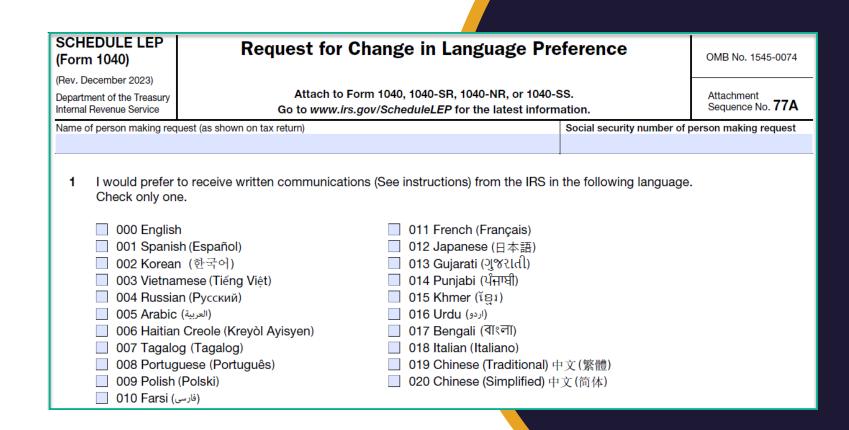


www.irs.gov/help/languages



Requesting a Language Preference

You can ask to receive certain IRS information in the language you prefer by filing a **Schedule LEP**, Request for Change in Language Preference, with your individual tax return. Available under www.irs.gov/formsinstructions





INTERPRETER SERVICES

Over-the-phone interpreter services are available, if needed.

- For assistance in English and Spanish:
 call 800-829-1040
- For assistance with all other languages:
 call 833-553-9895





WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For more information, visit:

- taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/
- <u>es.taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/</u> (Spanish)
- taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/get-help/roadmap/
- taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/tax-professionals/

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter:

• <u>taxpayeradvocate.irs.gov/contact-us/subscribe-to-tas/</u>

The Taxpayer
Advocate Service
is
YOUR VOICE
AT THE IRS

GET CONNECTED





YourVoiceAtIRS



TASNTA



www.TaxpayerAdvocate.irs.gov/blog

