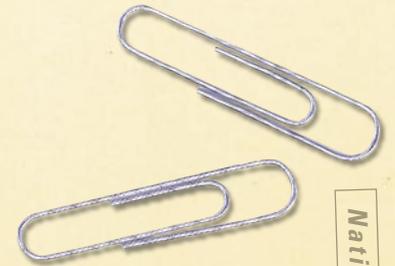


Enrolled Agents (EAs) are federally-authorized tax practitioners who have technical expertise in the field of taxation and are licensed to represent taxpayers before the Internal Revenue Service at all administrative levels for audits, collections, and appeals. In addition, Enrolled Agents are the only tax practitioners required by federal law to maintain their expertise through continuing professional education. When you need up-to-date tax assistance, see an Enrolled Agent.

Enrolled Agents – The Tax Professionals

Haven't Filed in a While?

Owe Money to the IRS? Now What?!



National Association of Enrolled Agents

1120 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 460
Washington, DC 20036
202-822-NAEA (6232); 202-822-6270 fax
800-424-4339 (EA referral)
info@naea.org • www.naea.org

Tax laws are subject to change at any time. Consult your local Enrolled Agent for the latest information. Please Note: This information is provided to you by NAEA for use as general guidance. The association is not engaged in rendering specific legal, tax, or accounting advice. Only a qualified professional with all the facts at his or her disposal can determine the appropriateness of the application of any law to a given fact situation. If assistance is required, an Enrolled Agent should be consulted.

National Association of Enrolled Agents



Haven't Filed in a While?

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HAS IT BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU FILED A TAX RETURN?

Are you feeling guilty? Scared? Uncertain where to turn for help? Do you know if you even need to file?

Your first step to solving these problems is calling an Enrolled Agent. You can call the toll-free NAEA referral line at 1-800-424-4339 or visit the NAEA Web site at www.naea.org to find an Enrolled Agent near you.

VOLUNTEER TO FILE DELINQUENT RETURNS

If you come forward and voluntarily file your missing tax returns, the system works more in your favor. Because nearly three out of four tax returns filed are due a refund, there is a good chance the IRS might owe you money. The only catch is that if you don't ask for your refund within three years, the IRS isn't going to give you what was yours in the first place.

Members of the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA) are available to help you file your returns and, if necessary, act as your representative before the IRS. Enrolled Agents work for you, not the IRS.

PENALTY ABATEMENT

Sometimes things just happen. If there is a good reason for not filing a tax return, some of the penalties can be reduced. Generally, if the IRS owes you a refund there are no penalties at all.

SCARED OF VOLUNTEERING?

If the IRS decides to come looking for you, life can become very difficult and frequently embarrassing. There is a chance that your employer might be requested to send part of your paycheck to the IRS instead of handing your paycheck to you. Your bank account could be frozen or even seized. A lien could be placed on your house. In the worst case, you could face criminal prosecution.

WHAT IF YOU OWE MONEY?

- ▶ Installment agreements
If you owe less than \$25,000 and can pay the full amount within five years, you may be able to set up a monthly payment plan and make regular installment payments. Check with your EA for details about this streamlined plan.

WHAT IF YOU OWE A LOT OF MONEY?

If you owe so much money that you will never be able to pay your tax liability, your Enrolled Agent may be able to work out a compromise where the IRS will accept less than you actually owe. If the IRS accepts your Offer-In-Compromise (OIC), your total tax liability, including interest and penalty, is considered paid in full. An OIC is a mathematical formula, not an amnesty program. Professional assistance is strongly recommended when compromising a tax liability.

PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE

Don't be afraid to ask for help. By law, you have the right to professional representation. Only an Enrolled Agent, CPA, or tax attorney can represent your case before an IRS Collections Officer. Remember, your representative is working for you.