IRS NEWS FOR SMALL BUSINESS October 2022

► UPCOMING WEBINARS

No Upcoming National Webinars Planned

► RECENT ARCHIVED VIDEOS

 Topic:
 Digital Day by IRS' Online Services

 Aired:
 Thursday, September 15, 2022

 View:
 IRS Video Portal - https://www.irsvideos.gov/Individual/Resources/DigitalDaybyIRSOnlineServices

► HOT TOPICS

Using Voice and Chat Bots to Improve the Collection Taxpayer Experience

• Taxpayer service remains a top IRS priority, and we recently put in place some new technology involving voice and chat bots to help make it easier for people to get the help they need.

Repeated Message: Did You Remind Your Employees To Check Their Income Tax Withholding This Year? It's Not Too Late to Make the Necessary Changes!

- Paycheck Checkup | Internal Revenue Service (irs.gov)
- Tax Withholding Estimator FAQs | Internal Revenue Service (irs.gov)

► HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?

IRS advises that improperly forgiven Paycheck Protection Program loans are taxable

• The Internal Revenue Service recently issued guidance addressing improper forgiveness of a Paycheck Protection Program Ioan (PPP Ioan).

Help wanted? Businesses that are hiring should know about the work opportunity tax credit

• Businesses hanging up their Help Wanted signs should be sure to check out the work opportunity tax credit. This credit encourages employers to hire workers certified as members of any of ten targeted groups facing barriers to employment. The credit has been extended through the end of 2025.

\$1.2 billion in IRS penalty relief refunds coming for certain 2019 and 2020 tax returns

• To help struggling taxpayers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the IRS recently issued Notice 2022-36, which provides penalty relief to most people and businesses who filed certain 2019 or 2020 returns late.

► BEWARE OF TAX SCAMS

IRS reports significant increase in texting scams; warns taxpayers to remain vigilant

• The Internal Revenue Service warned taxpayers of a recent increase in IRS-themed texting scams aimed at stealing personal and financial information.

Repeated Message: Get An Identity Protection PIN | Internal Revenue Service (irs.gov)

- Internal Revenue Service reminds all taxpayers particularly those who are identity theft victims of an important step they should take to protect themselves from tax fraud.
- Some identity thieves use taxpayers' information to file fraudulent tax returns. By requesting Identity Protection PINs from the <u>Get an IP PIN</u> tool on IRS.gov, taxpayers can prevent thieves from claiming tax refunds in their names.

► TAX TIPS

Got a letter or notice from the IRS? Here are the next steps

• When the IRS needs to ask a question about a taxpayer's tax return, notify them about a change to their account, or request a payment, the agency often mails a letter or notice to the taxpayer. Getting mail from the IRS is not a cause for panic but, it should not be ignored either.

All taxpayers should know the types of authorizations for third-party representatives

• When working with the IRS, taxpayers have a right to represent themselves. They can also choose a third-party agent to represent them, like a tax professional or family member.

► NEWS RELEASES

IRS: Hurricane lan victims in Florida qualify for tax relief; Oct. 17 deadline, other dates extended to Feb. 15

• Hurricane Ian victims throughout Florida now have until February 15, 2023, to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments, the Internal Revenue Service announced today.

IRS updates answers to states and local governments on taxability and reporting of payments from Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

• The IRS updated its frequently-asked-questions on Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFR Funds).

► OUTREACH CONNECTION

Free tax content you can share: Outreach Connection

- If you need to share information about taxes with your staff, clients, customers or colleagues, we have content you can include in your:
 - Website e-Newsletter Other Social Media (Twitter/Instagram)

e-NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS and SOCIAL MEDIA

Taxpayers can stay "in the know" by following IRS social media and subscribing to e-News

• People can get the latest IRS news through the agency's verified social media accounts and by subscribing to e-News services. These communication channels keep taxpayers "in the know" about important tax matters all year, not just during filing season.

e-News Subscriptions

• The IRS offers several e-News subscriptions on a variety of tax topics. Click above for information about subscribing.

IRS Social Media

• The IRS uses social media tools to share the latest information on tax changes, scam alerts, initiatives, products and services. Connect with the IRS through social media tools.

► HOW TO SHARE IRS INFO ON SOCIAL MEDIA

When you find an article you want to share, click on the "Share" link. Like so:

• Scroll to the bottom of any page on IRS.gov. Look for "Share / Print"



- Click on Share
- You can share on Facebook, Twitter, or Linkedin.

► CONSIDER SHARING IRS TWEETS WITH YOUR FOLLOWERS



#IRS warns the public of a recent increase in IRS-themed texting scams aimed at stealing personal and financial information. See: <u>http://ow.ly/VFji50KWalE</u>

#IRS-themed smishing has increased exponentially in the last few weeks. Stay alert and learn more: <u>http://ow.ly/VFji50KWalE</u>



The #IRS updated information on the tax credit helping businesses hire certain categories of workers. Find out more about the Work Opportunity Tax Credit: <u>http://ow.ly/SOoG50KNVZI</u>#WOTC

The #IRS made recent updates to the pre-screening and certification process for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. Learn about these updates here: <u>http://ow.ly/SOoG50KNVZI</u> #WOTC