

TAXES

International students and scholars on F or J visas must prepare and file tax () for the previous calendar year. **If you were in the U.S. even one day in 2019, you must complete at least one form.** Generally, taxes must be filed annually on April 15, for earnings from the previous year.

TAXABLE INCOME

Employers withhold taxes from your paycheck and send it to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS). It may not equal the exact amount due at the end of the year. If your employer pays too much, you are eligible for a refund.

This guide is intended to help you understand your tax obligation, and what you need to submit. It is not legal tax advice, and International Student & Scholars Services cannot give specific tax advice. If you have questions, you may wish to consult with a tax professional.

A WARNING ABOUT IDENTITY THEFT AND SCAMS

Please be careful about any emails or phone calls you receive that claim to be the IRS or another similar agency trying to collect your personal information or money. **The IRS does not contact people by phone, email or text, or involve the police.** If you receive a call or email demanding your personal information or payment or offering a tax refund, and want to verify it, contact International Student & Scholar Services before giving out any information (like your name, Social Security number, address, bank account information, pin number, etc.).

You can [learn more about scams](#) on the IRS website, and also report scams on that same website.

Before you begin filling out your tax forms, make sure you have the necessary information:

Form W-2 Wage & Tax Statement: W-2 forms are sent to you by your employers during the previous year. This form shows how much you earned last year and how much was taken out for taxes.

1042-S: If you received scholarship or fellowship money that exceeds tuition and fee-related charges, you will get a form indicating the amount of taxable income. *You need to submit paperwork to university in order to get this form. Check with the university financial aid office if you have not yet submitted that form.*

Immigration documents: passport; I-20 or DS-2019; I-94
Social Security number or ITIN*

to the U.S., you may still be eligible for those benefits. You can find more