

Key filing season dates

There are several important dates taxpayers should keep in mind for this year's filing season:

- **January 15.** IRS Free File opens. Taxpayers can begin filing returns through Free File partners; tax returns will be transmitted to the IRS starting Feb. 12. Tax software companies also are accepting tax filings in advance.
- **January 29.** Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day to raise awareness of valuable tax credits available to many people – including the option to use prior-year income to qualify.
- **February 12.** IRS begins 2021 tax season. Individual tax returns begin being accepted and processing begins.
- **February 22.** Projected date for the IRS.gov Where's My Refund tool being updated for those claiming EITC and ACTC, also referred to as PATH Act returns.
- **First week of March.** Tax refunds begin reaching those claiming EITC and ACTC (PATH Act returns) for those who file electronically with direct deposit and there are no issues with their tax returns.
- **April 15.** Deadline for filing 2020 tax returns.
- **October 15.** Deadline to file for those requesting an extension on their 2020 tax returns