

THE TAX PICTURE

Program Provides Free Access To Tax Prep Software

(NAPSA)—There's good news for taxpayers looking for a safe way to save money at tax time.

Thanks to a public-private partnership between the IRS and a coalition of industry-leading tax software companies, there's a program that provides qualified taxpayers with free, online, name-brand tax preparation software products.

Called the IRS Free File program, it's designed to make tax time easier by walking taxpayers who qualify through the filing process online and ensuring that they capture all the credits and deductions they deserve. To take advantage of the program, taxpayers must have an adjusted gross income of \$60,000 or less.

By using the program, eligible taxpayers can easily and accurately complete their federal tax return with trusted name-brand tax preparation software products.

Since its creation in 2003, the Free File program has donated 40 million federal tax returns. That translates to a total savings for taxpayers of more than \$1.3 billion in tax preparation costs donated. Approximately 70 percent of U.S. taxpayers are eligible for the Free File program.



Thanks to a public-private partnership, eligible taxpayers can have free access to name-brand tax preparation software products when filing their federal taxes.

The Power Of Technology

Ed Black, president and CEO of the Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA), said that the Free File program is a great example of the power of technology to improve the lives of all Americans. Black added that CCIA is proud to support Free File and will be working this year to help ensure all eligible taxpayers are aware of this "important program."

Additionally, 20 states plus the District of Columbia sponsor a state-level Free File program, allowing eligible residents to easily and accurately complete both their federal and state taxes for free.

For more information, visit the websites at www.irs.gov/freefile and www.taxprehelp.org.