

KEEPING IT LEGAL

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IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN...

The IRS has started accepting and processing Taxes for the 2021 Tax Year. The federal deadline for submission is April 18, 2022.

Where do I begin?

Start by gathering your documents

Common documents include:

- W-2: Employment Income
- Other miscellaneous income, including retirement income
- Deductions, including mortgage interest; charitable contributions; and student loan interest
- Form 1095: Health Care Info
- Social Security Numbers

Documents required by military members and retirees can be accessed at: <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

How do I file?

In person?

While there is no Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site open to the public on Fort Bragg, you can find the closest VITA center on Military OneSource: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/vita-location-lookup/>.

Online?

IRS.gov has free e-filing filing software, fillable forms, and the most accurate information (<https://www.irs.gov/filing/free-file-do-your-federal-taxes-for-free>).

Military OneSource has free e-filing software and tax consultants (<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/financial-legal/tax-resource-center/miltax-services/>).

WELCOME TEAM POPE

Your local JA office is here to help!

To Request an Appointment:

Call: 910-394-2341

Email: 43AMOG/JA.org

Visit: <https://www.pope.af.mil/About-us/Legal-appointment/>

We provide notaries, power of attorneys, wills, and attorney consultations by appointment only

For after-hours emergencies, call the Command Post, (910) 394-9000, to reach the on-call JAG.

Military Gold Star families are eligible for tax services at the Soldier Support Center, First Floor, Wing D. For an appointment, call the Survivor Outreach number (910-396-9901) or walk-in. Office is open from (0900-1600).

What if I am deploying?

If you are an eligible member (AD/Reserve) and served in a designated combat zone during the applicable tax year, you may qualify for INCOME TAX EXCLUSION.

What is excluded?

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| -Basic pay | -Imminent danger/hostile fire pay |
| -Re-enlistment bonuses | -Discharge benefits |
| -School Loan repayments | -Awards/financial incentive |

Filing Deadlines:

If you are deployed, you can get 2-month extension if your tour of duty includes the filing due date or you can get an additional 4-month extension by filing IRS Form 4868 by June 15 (see "How Do I File" above).

If you are serving in a combat zone, your deadline is extended for 180 days after your last day of service in a combat zone. When you are calculating the new deadline, add the number of days you had to take action when you entered into the combat zone (i.e., if you had 30 days to file when you started serving in a combat zone, you will have 180+30 days to file when you leave the combat zone).

ETHICS CORNER

Today's Topic: Endorsement

Did you know that advertising support of other outside agencies could be an ethical violation?

Government employees cannot use their DoD position or title in a manner that could be construed to imply that the Government supports said activities.

To prevent this, not only should you reach out to our office, but you should also avoid using words such as "endorse" "support" "encourage" "recommend" or "urge."

References: DoD 5500.07-R (JER) § 3-209 and 5 CFR 2635.702(c).

This paper is for general legal education, and should not be substituted for legal advice.