

2018 Income Tax Filing for International Students

Anyone who earns income in the United States is required to file and pay taxes to the federal government. However, international students must follow special regulations when paying taxes on their income. **In general, international students that worked and earned income during 2018 and your income was more than the personal exemption amount, you must file your income taxes by the deadline, which is April 15, 2019.**

Lake Washington Institute of Technology is not responsible for international students filing their taxes and we do not have the training or legal authority to provide assistance or advice in regards to filing taxes.

What Forms to Fill Out

Typically F-1 students who have been here less than 5 years would be considered nonresident aliens for tax purposes and would complete/file two forms: (view [Taxation of Nonresidents](#))

1. [Form 8843](#) – this form is an informational statement required by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for nonresidents, simply telling the U.S. government that you were in the U.S. (*see page 2 of the form for instructions*)
2. [Form 1040 NR-EZ](#) (with no dependents) **or** [Form 1040-NR](#) (with dependents) - You will complete *one* of the 1040NR forms using a W-2, a 1042-S, or a 1099 form that you receive by mail.

How To Get Tax Help

If you have questions about a tax issue, need help preparing your tax return or want to download free publications the following resources are available to assist you:

- 🔗 [The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\)](#) program provides free tax assistance in preparing tax returns
- 🔗 [IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers](#) provides over-the-phone interpreter service in over 170 languages
- 🔗 [Local Taxpayer Advocate \(LTA\) in Washington](#)
- 🔗 [Tax Education Seminars & Tax Assistance](#)
- 🔗 [International Taxpayers Help & Resources](#)
- 🔗 Free Federal Tax Return Tools:
 - [Free File](#)
 - [IRS2Go](#)

Additional information

If you need more information, please use the links below:

- 🔗 [2018 Tax Resource Guide for Foreign Students](#)
- 🔗 [Who Must File](#)
- 🔗 [U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens](#) **** not yet updated for 2018****
- 🔗 Find tax information IRS.gov in the following languages:
 - Spanish ([IRS.gov/Spanish](#))
 - Chinese ([IRS.gov/chinese](#))
 - Russian ([IRS.gov/russian](#))
 - Korean ([IRS.gov/korean](#))
 - Vietnamese ([IRS.gov/vietnamese](#))
- Which Form to File:
 - [Form 1040 NR-EZ](#) (if you do not have dependents)
 - [Instructions](#)
 - [Form 1040-NR](#) (if you have dependents)
 - [Instructions](#)
 - [International Taxpayers Videos](#)

Sprintax is not a free service, but is a reliable one. They charge a fee of \$15.95 for helping file just the Form 8843; and \$35.95 for filing both the Form 8843 and 1040/1040NR-EZ. Their website is [Sprintax.com/lwtech](#)

**Note: If you were not present in the U.S. on an F or J visa during the year 2018, then you may disregard this information*