



Taxpayer Services

**STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS,
EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION**

Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)



Introduction

Revisions to Internal Revenue Code 6109 created the process for issuing an IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to individuals who require a Taxpayer Identification Number for federal tax purposes, but who do not qualify for a Social Security Number.



Objectives

- Define an ITIN and explain its purpose
- Determine who needs an ITIN
- Identify and explain the special rules that apply to dependents and spouses
- Distinguish an Acceptance Agent (AA) from a Certifying Acceptance Agent (CAA)



Objectives (continued)

- Determine where to submit **Form W-7/W-7(EN/SP)**
- Determine what documentation needs to be attached to the ITIN application
- Determine how a tax return should be prepared when the taxpayer has an ITIN/SSN mismatch using TaxSlayer software
- Identify resources for more information



What is an ITIN?

An ITIN is:

- A tax processing number, issued by the IRS, for certain resident and non-resident aliens, their spouses, and dependents;
- All valid ITINs are a nine-digit number in the same format as the SSN (9XX-8X-XXXX), begins with a “9” and the 4th and 5th digits range from 50 to 65, 70 to 88, 90 to 92, and 94 to 99.
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs) that haven’t been included on a U.S. federal tax return at least once in the last three consecutive tax years will expire.



Purpose of ITINs

- ITINs are IRS assigned numbers issued only for federal tax purposes. An ITIN doesn't entitle you to social security benefits and doesn't change your immigration status or your right to work in the United States.
- ITINs provide a means to efficiently process and account for tax returns and payments for those not eligible for Social Security Numbers.
- ITINs assist the IRS with collection of taxes from foreign nationals, nonresident aliens and others who have filing or payment obligations under U.S. tax law.



Purpose of ITINs, Cont...

ITINS do NOT

- Entitle the recipient to social security benefits or replace a SSN.
- Qualify an applicant for ALL credits
- Change the individual's immigration status
- Give the individual the right to work in the U.S.
- Serve as identification outside the federal tax system.



Who Needs an ITIN?

Any individual who is not eligible for a SSN, but who must furnish a taxpayer identification number for U.S. tax purposes or to file a U.S. federal tax return.



Who Needs an ITIN? (continued)

Examples

- A nonresident alien individual claiming reduced withholding under an applicable income tax treaty for which an ITIN is required.
- A nonresident alien individual not eligible for a SSN who is required to file a U.S. federal tax return or who is filing a U.S. federal tax return only to claim a refund.
- A nonresident alien individual not eligible for a SSN who elects to file a joint U.S. federal tax return with a spouse who is a U.S. citizen or resident alien.



Who Needs an ITIN? (continued)

Examples (continued)

- A nonresident alien student, professor, or researcher who is required to file a U.S. federal tax return but who isn't eligible for a SSN, or who is claiming an exception to the tax return filing requirement.
- An alien spouse or dependent claimed as an exemption on a U.S. federal tax return who isn't eligible to get a SSN.
- A U.S. resident alien who files a U.S. federal tax return but who isn't eligible for a SSN.



Who Needs an ITIN? (continued)

Examples (continued)

- A dependent/spouse of a nonresident alien U.S. visa holder, who isn't eligible for a SSN.

Note: The Tax Cuts & Jobs Act suspended deductions for personal exemptions for tax years 2018 through 2025. For tax years after December 31, 2017, spouses or dependents are not eligible for an ITIN unless they qualify for an allowable tax benefit or are filing their own tax return. The individual must be listed on an attached U.S. federal tax return with the schedule or form that applies to the allowable tax benefit.

This should not impact students applying under reason “f” on Form W-7, or their spouses or dependents who also apply under reason “f” under exception criteria.



Allowable Tax Benefit

An allowable tax benefit includes a spouse filing a joint return, Head of Household Filing Status (HOH), American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC), Premium Tax Credit (PTC), Child and Dependent Care Credit (CDCC) or Credit for Other Dependents (ODC).

Head of Household (HOH). An ITIN applicant who is a qualifying child or qualifying relative, other than your parents, who lived with you for more than half the year and meets certain other tests, or a parent may be a qualifying person for HOH. See Publication 501, for more information.

American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC). If Form W-7 is submitted to claim AOTC, then an attached tax return and Form 8863 that list the applicant are required.. See Publication 970, for more information.

Premium Tax Credit (PTC). If Form W-7 is submitted to claim PTC, then an attached tax return, Form 1095-A and Form 8962 that lists the applicant are required. See Publication 974, for more information.



Allowable Tax Benefit (continued)

Child and Dependent Care Credit (CDCC). If Form W-7 is submitted to claim CDCC, then an attached tax return and Form 2441 that list the applicant as a qualifying person are required. See Publication 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for more information.

Credit for Other dependents (ODC). If Form W-7 is submitted to claim ODC, the applicant must be listed on an attached tax return with the **"Credit for other dependents" box checked** next to their name. Dependent applicants must be your qualifying children or qualifying relatives who are U.S. residents or U.S. nationals. See Schedule 8812, Credits for Qualifying Children and Other Dependents, (Form 1040) and its instructions for more information.



Substantial Presence Test

This test determines if the individual is a resident or nonresident for tax purposes. To meet this test, you must be physically present in the United States on at least:

- 31 days during the current year, and
- 183 days during the 3-year period that includes the current year and the 2 years immediately before that, counting:
 - ✓ All the days you were present in the current year, and
 - ✓ 1/3 of the days you were present in the first year before the current year, and
 - ✓ 1/6 of the days you were present in the second year before the current year.



Rules For Dependents

Only residents of the following countries may be able to claim an exemption or related credit for their dependents on a U.S. federal income tax return:

- United States
- Canada
- India
- Mexico
- Republic of Korea (South Korea)

NOTE: The exemption amount for all taxpayers is ZERO starting with tax years beginning January 1, 2018, through 2025. However, taxpayers with qualifying dependents who live with them in the U.S. may qualify for the Credit for Other Dependents.



Who is Not Eligible for an ITIN?

- U.S. citizens
- Nonresident aliens with visas permitting them to work in the U.S. (qualify for a SSN)
- Permanent legal resident of the U.S. (Green card holder, also known as Permanent Resident Card)
- Any individual who is eligible for or has a valid SSN
- Applicant not meeting the criteria for residency and/or ID documentation (who failed to prove identity and foreign status)



How to Apply for an ITIN?

Each person who requires an ITIN must file a separate **Form W-7/ W-7(EN/SP)** and provide supporting documentation that establishes identity and connection to a foreign country (foreign status).





How to Apply for an ITIN?

- **Form W-7/ W-7(EN/SP)** must be completed and accompanied by supporting documentation and a U.S. federal income tax return. The applicant's name must match the name as it appears on their identifying documents. This is also the name that should be used on the tax return.

NOTE: *There are exceptions to the requirement to include a U.S. federal tax return. If you claim one of these exceptions, you must also submit the required exception documentation (as listed in the instructions for Form W-7) instead of a tax return.*

- **Form W-2, Wage and Tax Statement**, must have the same name that appears on the federal tax return submitted with Form W-7.



ITIN Documentation

Documents substantiating proof of identity and foreign status must be:

- Original, or
- Certified* copies from the issuing agency

* Certified copies of documents submitted to prove “identity” and “foreign status” must bear an original, authentic stamp/seal placed by the issuing agency. Documents displaying a photocopied seal or stamp are not acceptable and will be returned to the applicant.



When to Attach Federal Tax Return to Form W-7/W-7(EN/SP)

All Individuals applying for an ITIN for the first time or renewing an existing ITIN must include a U.S. federal tax return unless they meet one of the 5 exceptions below.

1. Passive income - third-party withholding or tax treaty benefits.
2. Other income - Treaty benefits - (See Publication 1915, Understanding your IRS Individual Identification Number (ITIN), for more specific information on all types of income)
3. Mortgage interest - third-party reporting



When to Attach Federal Tax Return to Form W-7/W-7(EN/SP) (continued)

4. Dispositions by a foreign person of U.S. real property - third party withholding.
5. TD-9363 - Treasury Directive 9363 with Form W-7 and supplemental documentation.

For additional information on exceptions, see **Publication 1915** or **Form W-7/ W-7(EN/SP)** instructions.



Acceptable Documentation for ITIN

There are 13 acceptable documents that can be used to obtain an ITIN.

Passport. If you submit an original valid passport or a certified copy* from the issuing agency, you don't need to submit any other documents, unless the passport is for a dependent and it doesn't include a date of entry into the United States.

- Certified copies of a passport must include the U.S. visa pages if reason for applying is box “f” or “g”.

**** Proof of U.S. residency for applicants who are dependents.**

A passport that doesn't have a date of entry into the United States will not be accepted as a stand-alone identification document for dependents, unless they are from Canada or Mexico or are dependents of U.S. military personnel stationed overseas. In these cases, applicants will be required to submit at least one of the following original documents in addition to the passport to prove U.S. residency.



Acceptable Documentation for ITIN (cont.)

Dependents who apply under Reason "d" and are not dependents of U.S. Military personnel stationed overseas or the dependent's country of citizenship is not Canada or Mexico will be required to submit additional original documentation, beyond the supporting documentation, as proof of U.S. residency:

- ✓ **If under 6 years of age:** A U.S. medical record, U.S. school record or U.S. state ID card that lists the applicant's name and U.S. address, or a U.S. visa.
- ✓ **If at least 6 but under 18 years of age:** A U.S. school record, or a U.S. state ID card or driver's license that lists the applicant's name and U.S. address, or a U.S. visa.
- ✓ **If 18 years of age or older:** A U.S. school record, rental statement from a U.S. property, utility bill for a U.S. property, or a U.S. bank statement, U.S. state identification card or driver's license that lists the applicant's name and U.S. address, or a U.S. visa.



Acceptable Documentation for ITIN (cont.)

- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) photo identification
- Visa issued by the U.S. Department of State
- U.S. driver's license
- U.S. military identification card
- Foreign driver's license
- Foreign military identification card
- National identification card (must contain name, photograph, address, date of birth, and expiration date)



Acceptable Documentation for ITIN (cont.)

- U.S. State identification card
- Foreign voter's registration card
- Civil birth certificate (required for dependents under age 18, unless a passport is provided)
- Medical records (valid only for dependents under age 6)
- School Records (valid only for dependents under age 18, if a student)

NOTE: See Form W-7 Instructions or IRS Publication 1915, for specific required elements for medical and school records.



Acceptable Documentation for ITIN (cont.)

- If you don't have one of the additional documents listed earlier to submit with your passport, you can't use your passport as a stand-alone supporting document and must submit at least two types of documents that prove residency, identity, and foreign status, and that meet the photograph requirement explained earlier.
- See Publication 1915, or Form W-7/W-7(EN?SP) instructions for additional information on acceptable documents.



If Documents are in a Foreign Language

IRS may request a certified translation of foreign language documents.

If requested, attach

- Certified translation and document in foreign language to the ITIN application

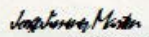

* Certified translations **MUST** be;

- ✓ attached to the supporting identification documentation,
- ✓ signed by the official performing the translation, and
- ✓ sealed.



Examples of Foreign Documents

The following two slides are examples of foreign documents (birth certificates) you might see.

ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS	
EN NOMBRE DEL ESTADO LIBRE Y SOBERANO DE OAXACA	
Y COMO	OFICIAL DEL REGISTRO CIVIL
CERTIFICO Y HAGO SABER QUE A LA FOJA NÚMERO 905 DEL	
LIBRO NÚMERO DE NACIMIENTOS DEL REGISTRO CIVIL	
A MI CARGO SE ENCUENTRAN ASENTADOS LOS DATOS SIGUIENTES:	
OFICIALIA: 01	No. DE ACTA: 892 2Z1ASA01019165
FECHA DE REGISTRO:	22/08/1975 VEINTE DOS DE AGOSTO DE MIL NOVECIENTOS SETENTA Y CINCO
LUGAR DE REGISTRO:	CAMALOTAL, SAN JUAN BAUTISTA TUXTEPEC, OAXACA
REGISTRADO	
NOMBRE: MARICELA CLARITA JAGUAR	
FECHA DE NACIMIENTO:	15/08/1975 QUINCE DE AGOSTO DE MIL NOVECIENTOS SETENTA Y CINCO HORA:
LUGAR DE NACIMIENTO:	1800 CAMALOTAL, SAN JUAN BAUTISTA TUXTEPEC, OAXACA
PRESENTADO:	SEXO: FEMENINO COMPARECIO: MAMA
PADRES	
NOMBRE:	
NACIONALIDAD:	EDAD: AÑOS
NOMBRE: MARIA JOSEFINA JAGUAR	
NACIONALIDAD:	MEXICANA EDAD: 23 AÑOS
PERSONA DISTINTA DE LOS PADRES QUE PRESENTA AL REGISTRADO	
NOMBRE:	PARENTESCO: EDAD: AÑOS
EL ORIGINAL DE LA PRESENTE CERTIFICACION TIENE AL MARGEN LAS SIGUIENTES ANOTACIONES:	
SIN ANOTACION MARGINAL	
Se extiende esta certificación en cumplimiento del artículo 52 del Código Civil vigente en el Estado	
OAX.	
A 20 DE MAYO DEL 2018	
C. OFICIAL JORGE JIMENEZ MARTEN	DEL REGISTRO CIVIL, DOY FE.
 NOMBRE Y FIRMA	
0071	LOS DATOS ASENTADOS EN LA PRESENTE ACTA FUERON INTERPRETADOS DEL LIBRO DEL ARCHIVO CENTRAL 0013027
SELLO DE LA OFICIAIA DEL REGISTRO CIVIL  DIRECCION DEL REGISTRO CIVIL SECRETARIA DEL GOBIERNO DEL ESTADO DE OAXACA TUXTEPEC, OAX. 69000	
ELABORO CORTEJO	



Registro Nacional de las Personas

República de Guatemala

El Asintal, Retalhuleu

Registro Civil de las Personas

Certificado de Nacimiento

0085905



El infrascrito Registrador Civil del Registro Nacional de las Personas de El Asintal
CERTIFICA

que con fecha veintinueve de noviembre de mil novecientos noventa y nueve en la partida
17 , del folio 17 y libro 70 , fue inscrito el nacimiento de:

Datos del inscrito

Luna Buffalo Elk

Nombres y apellidos del inscrito

Cinco de Noviembre dos mil

Fecha de nacimiento

Femenino

Género

El Asintal Retalhuleu

Lugar de nacimiento

Datos de la madre

Delfina Luz Elk

Nombres y apellidos de la madre

El Retalhuleu

Lugar de origen

Datos del padre

Marco Antonio Buffalo

Nombres y apellidos del padre

Jilotepeque

Lugar de origen





How to Submit a NEW ITIN Application

Include the following with your application package:

1. Your completed **Form W-7**.
2. Your original tax return(s) for which the ITIN is needed. Attach **Form W-7** to the front of your tax return. If you're applying for more than one ITIN for the same tax return (such as for a spouse or dependent(s)), attach all **Forms W-7** to the same tax return.
3. Original documents, or certified copies of these documents from the issuing agency, required to support the information provided on **Form W-7**. The required supporting documentation must be consistent with the applicant's information provided on Form W-7.

* Refer to **Form W-7** Instructions for information on renewing an ITIN.



Where to Submit a NEW ITIN Application:

By Mail: Internal Revenue Service
ITIN Operation
P.O. Box 149342
Austin, TX 78714-9342

By Private Delivery:
Internal Revenue Service
ITIN Operation
Mail STOP 6090-AUSC
3651 S. Interregional, Hwy 35
Austin, TX 78741-0000



Where to Submit a **NEW ITIN Application:**

In Person

Designated IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers (TACs) can:

- Authenticate original and certified copies of documents from the issuing agency for primary/secondary ITIN applicants
- Authenticate passports, national identification cards, and birth certificates for dependents. These documents will be returned to you immediately.
- Requires an appointment. Call 1-844-545-5640 to schedule.

An Acceptance Agent (AA) can assist with the completion of the Form W-7.

- Certifying Acceptance Agents (CAA) can also authenticate original and certified copies of documents from the issuing agency (except for foreign military identification cards) for primary/secondary ITIN applicants.
- CAAs can only authenticate passports and birth certificates for dependents. To get a list of agents, visit [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).



Where to Submit a NEW ITIN Application (cont.)

Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)*

- SEVP participants, spouses and dependents (F, J, or M Visa who receive taxable scholarship, fellowship or grants reportable by the school on Form W-2 OR 1042-S) may apply using a streamlined process, through SEVP approved institutions, which include many universities and colleges.
- A certification letter, in lieu of submitting original or certified documents, must be prepared by the SEVP institution and must meet specifications.
- The Form W-7 application must be submitted to the Austin ITIN Operation by a SEVIS official (i.e., DSO, RO, etc.) with the certification letter, copy of identity and foreign status documents, copy of DS-2019 - *Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status (J-1 Status)*, copy of I-20 - *Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Status*.

* The SEVP Streamlined Process is subject to change.



Additional Information

- **Extension Request/Estimated Tax Payment** - If you're filing an application for an extension of time to file using Form 4868 or making an estimated tax payment using Form 1040-ES or Form 1040-ES (NR), don't file Form W-7 with those forms. Enter "ITIN TO BE REQUESTED" wherever your SSN or ITIN is requested. An ITIN will be issued only after you file a tax return and meet all other requirements.
- **Address change for ITIN taxpayer** - Advise taxpayer to complete **Form 8822** or signed letter with the previous and new addresses and mail to Austin ITIN Operations. It's important that IRS is aware of your current mailing address. This address is used to mail notices about your Form W-7, including notification of your assigned ITIN, and return your original supporting documentation. If you move before you get your ITIN, notify us of your current mailing address immediately, so we may update our records.



Processing the NEW ITIN Application

- IRS ITIN Operations in Austin will record the newly assigned ITIN/s on the return(s), forward the return(s) for processing, and send an ITIN Assignment Notice (CP-565) to the applicant and a copy to the Certifying Acceptance Agent, if applicable.
- ITIN cards have not been issued since January 2004, but many taxpayers have them and they are still considered valid.



Processing the **NEW ITIN Application** (cont.)

- Allow 7 weeks for the IRS to notify you of your ITIN application status.
- Allow 9 to 11 weeks if you submit the application during peak processing periods (January 15 through April 30) or if you're filing from overseas).
- If you haven't received your ITIN or correspondence at the end of that time, you can call the IRS toll free at 800-829-1040 to find out the status of your application.



Acceptance Agents

- **Acceptance Agents (AA)** are persons (individuals or entities (colleges, financial institutions, accounting firms, etc.) who have entered into formal agreements with IRS permitting them to assist applicants in obtaining ITINs.
- **Certifying Acceptance Agents (CAAs)** are individuals or entities who assume a greater responsibility in facilitating the ITIN application process.

* Some of the responsibilities and benefits of a CAA include:

- ✓ Authenticate original documentation and certified copies of the documentation from the issuing agency for primary and secondary applicants and their dependents, except for foreign military identification cards. For dependents, CAAs can only authenticate passports and birth certificates,
- ✓ 3-year retention requirement for W-7 application packages, subject to Compliance Reviews,
- ✓ Receive copy of all IRS Correspondence pertaining to submitted W-7 applications etc.



Acceptance Agents (cont.)

- Individuals or entities acting as an AA/CAA may charge a fee for their services.
 - ✓ IRS does not charge a fee for services.
 - ✓ CAAs approved under the SPEC CAA Program are prohibited from charging a fee for their services.
- Revenue Procedures 2006-10 provides guidelines for the IRS Acceptance Agent program.



How to Apply to Become a Certifying Acceptance Agent

1. Complete the mandatory ITIN Acceptance Agent training at IRS.gov before submitting their application. The training is available at <https://www.irs.gov/itinagents>. Click on the link entitled Mandatory Acceptance Agent Training. Everyone who is listed as a Responsible Party on the Acceptance Agent application must complete the training.
2. Complete Forensic Document Identification Training (CAAs only). For more information, see <https://www.irs.gov/forensic>. Everyone who is listed as a Responsible Party on the Acceptance Agent application must complete the training.



How to Apply to Become a Certifying Acceptance Agent (cont.)

3. Complete the electronic IRS Acceptance Agent Application. Applicants must have an IRS e-Services account before initiating and submitting an application. Applicants can visit <https://www.irs.gov/e-services> for more information. Once access is granted, select Acceptance Agent Application from the menu. Key Individuals within your organization (i.e., Principal Partner/Owner, Principal Consent, Responsible Party(s)) who are listed on the application must complete applicable fields and sign the respective training certificates and jurats. Submit your application to participate in the IRS Acceptance Agent Program.
4. Access the Document Upload Tool at [IRS.gov/caaReply](https://irs.gov/caaReply) to upload any required documentation (i.e., Forensic Training Certificates, Professional Credentials, Citizenship documents).



How to Apply to Become a SPEC Certifying Acceptance Agent

AFTER completing all required training:

- Notify your Relationship Manager .
- A mandatory Questions & Answers session will be scheduled after you have taken the *Forensic Training*. Your Relationship Manager will provide you the date and time of the conference call once it is scheduled.
- The ITIN Program Office will be advised when you have completed the Forensic Training and attended the Questions & Answers conference call.

** Contact your Relationship Manager for additional requirements for remaining in the program.*



Processing Time for the Acceptance Agent Application

- It may take up to 60 days to process provided that all required information was submitted and there are no discrepancies that must be resolved.
- After allowing the 60-day processing time, applicants may inquire about the status of the application.
- The ITIN Program Office can be contacted by e-mail at:
ITINProgramOffice@irs.gov



ITIN/SSN Mismatch

What is an ITIN/ SSN mismatch?

- ITIN holders frequently file tax returns under their ITIN with attached Forms W-2 showing erroneous or questionable Social Security Numbers or Names. This creates an ITIN/SSN mismatch.
- These taxpayers are not eligible for EITC, CTC, or ACTC.
- Returns prepared with an ITIN/SSN mismatch can be filed electronically*.

* ITIN must already be assigned



Summary

- **Form W-7/ W-7(EN/SP)** is used to apply for an IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number.
- The ITIN will be in the format of the Social Security Number (SSN) and begin with the number “9”. The 4th and 5th numbers will range from 50 to 65, 70 to 88, 90 to 92 and 94 to 99.



Summary (continued)

- The ITIN is issued only for federal tax purposes.
- Any resident or nonresident alien, who is required to file a U.S. federal tax return or can be claimed as a dependent on a tax return, and who does not qualify for a SSN, must apply for an ITIN.
- Only residents of the U.S., Canada, India, Mexico or South Korea may claim an exemption for their spouses and their dependents. Beginning January 1, 2018, the amount for the exemption deduction is **zero**.
- An ITIN does not alter an individual's immigration status.
- An ITIN does not authorize an individual to legally work in the U.S.



Summary (cont.)

- An ITIN does not entitle the applicant to social security benefits.
- An individual with an ITIN does not qualify for EITC.
- Children with an ITIN do not qualify for the EITC, nor the Child Tax Credit or Additional Child Tax Credit; however, they may qualify for other allowable tax benefits.



IRS Reference Materials

- **Form W-7**, *Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number*
- **W-7(SP)**, *Solicitud de Numero de Identificacion Personal del Contribuyente del Servicio de Impuestos Internos*
- **Publication 1915**, *Understanding Your IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)*
- **Publication 1915(SP)**, *Entendiendo Su IRS Numero de Identificacion Personal del Contribuyente*
- **Publication 519**, *U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens*