Income Tax Return (ITR) Filing Guide - India

1. Types of ITR Forms (AY 2024 - 25)

ITR Form	Applicable To
ITR-1 (Sahaj)	Salaried individuals with income < ₹50 lakhs, one house property, no capital gains
ITR-2	Individuals with income $>$ ₹50 lakhs, capital gains, more than one property
ITR-3	Individuals or HUFs with business/professional income
ITR-4 (Sugam)	Presumptive income scheme under Sections 44AD, 44ADA, or 44AE
ITR-5	Firms, LLPs, AOPs, BOIs
ITR-6	Companies other than those claiming exemption under section 11
ITR-7	Trusts, political parties, charitable institutions, etc.

2. Where to File ITR

ITR can be filed online via:

https://incometax.gov.in - Official Income Tax Portal

Authorized ERIs (E-Return Intermediaries)

Income Tax Department's mobile app

Assisted filing through CA or authorized agents

3. Prize Money Taxation

Prize money (e.g., competition winnings) is **taxed under "Income from Other Sources"**.

TDS at 30% is usually deducted before payout.

You must **report full amount**, not just what you received.

Use ITR-1 if total income (including prize money) is under ₹50L and no business income.

Otherwise, use ITR-2.

4. Filing Deadlines (AY 2024 - 25)

Type of Taxpayer Due Date

Individual / Salaried (not audited) 31st July 2025

Businesses needing audit 31st October 2025

Transfer pricing cases 30th November 2025

5. TDS Refund Claim Process

Ensure Form 26AS reflects the TDS deducted.

File the applicable ITR form and mention full income.

Refund will be processed if excess TDS is detected.

6. Documents Needed

PAN card, Aadhaar card

Form 16 (if salaried)

Interest certificates from bank/post office

Capital gains statements (if any)

Prize/award receipts

Bank account details for refund

7. ITR for Students

If you won prize money, scholarships, or internships:

Scholarships exempt under Section 10(16)

Prize money taxable under Other Sources

File ITR-1 or ITR-2 depending on income slab

8. Common Mistakes to Avoid

Ignoring exempt income reporting

Not verifying ITR after submission

Using wrong ITR form

Not linking PAN with Aadhaar

Missing capital gains reporting

9. After Filing ITR

- Acknowledge ITR via Aadhaar OTP, EVC, or by sending signed ITR-V to CPC
- ✓ Track refund status at https://tin.tin.nsdl.com
- ✓ Check Form 26AS regularly for TDS mismatches

10. ITR Filing for Freelancers

File ITR-3 if maintaining books of accounts

File **ITR-4** if under presumptive taxation

Declare total receipts and expenses honestly

GST and ITR are independent but both mandatory (if applicable)

11. Income Tax Slabs (AY 2024 - 25, New Regime)

Income Slab Tax Rate

Up to ₹3L Ni1

₹3L - ₹6L 5%

₹6L - ₹9L 10%

₹9L - ₹12L 15%

₹12L - ₹15L 20%

Above ₹15L 30%

12. ITR for Minors

Minor's income is usually clubbed with parent's income.

Exceptions:

If minor has earnings from skill/talent (e.g., prize money, sports)

Then they may file ITR in their own name with help from guardian

13. Useful Links

Income Tax Portal

Form 26AS

AIS (Annual Information Statement)