

Make Your 2018 Taxes Immigration-Ready

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Tax season is here! If you have a current immigration case or plan to start one soon, it's more important than ever to make sure you've filed your taxes correctly. Here are our top tips to make your 2018 taxes immigration-ready:



1. File your taxes

This is an obvious tip, but it is essential. Some immigration case types require proof that you have paid taxes and that you don't owe money in taxes.

If you are a US citizen or permanent resident and you plan to petition for a family member, you must be able to submit a tax return for the most recent tax year and list your adjusted gross income for the past three years.

2. Claim all your income

It is very important to claim all your income in your taxes, even if you are paid in cash. If you have an informal employment arrangement and will not get a W-2 from your employer, you are responsible for keeping track of how much money you earn.

3. Be accurate about the number of dependents you have

The number of people you list as your dependents affects the amount of income you need to show in certain types of immigration cases. If you plan to claim someone who does not live with you as a dependent, check with your tax preparer to make sure you're following the rules.

4. If you have questions about how to file your taxes, consult with a tax expert

Free tax assistance in English and Spanish is available through United Way in many counties across Washington. Check the links below for tax services near you:

- King County: <https://www.uwkc.org/need-help/tax-help/>
- Snohomish County: <https://www.uwsc.org/taxhelp>
- Pierce County: <http://www.uwpc.org/tax-assistance>

For appointments call 206-774-8758 or email
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