

Thank you for continuing to put your faith and trust in us!

Happy New Year!

As we look back and reflect on what we faced in 2021, we cannot help but be revitalized, encouraged, and so blessed. We are grateful for the challenges, triumphs, and journey that God has taken us on this year and are encouraged as we move forward in 2022.

To stay up-to-date on tax changes and reminders, sign up for our monthly newsletter on our website at www.integritytaxgroup.com, and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/integritytaxgroup.

This Year's Tax Filings

Here are some things for you to look out for and keep in mind as tax season starts.

- Standard Deductions have increased for 2021. We will still calculate if itemizing would be more beneficial for you.
 - Single: \$12,550 - Up from \$12,400
 - Married: \$25,100 - Up from \$24,800
 - Head of Household: \$18,800 - Up from \$18,650
- Did you receive the \$1,400/taxpayer and qualifying dependent stimulus check? If so, how much and when? **Watch for IRS Letter 6475 and include it in your tax paperwork.**
- Were you receiving Advance Child Tax Credit (ACTC) payments? **Watch for IRS Letter 6419 and include it in your tax paperwork.**
- Charitable cash donations up to \$300/taxpayer is eligible for an above-the-line deduction. You don't have to itemize to take this deduction.
- Energy credits are still available for 2021. Insulation, doors, windows, furnaces, water heaters, etc. may be eligible.
- Alimony cannot be deducted for divorces finalized on or after January 1, 2019 (recipient is not required to claim the income)
- Business Clients: ERC, PPP Loan, or Grants—How much and was it forgiven?

Tax Appointment Procedures

This year, we will be offering tax services in a few different ways. If you'd like an in-person appointment this year, we will be able to accommodate this. We will be requiring everyone to wear masks while in appointments, and will have clear guards up on the desks.

If you'd be more comfortable not sitting down with an advisor, you may drop your paperwork off for a phone appointment as well. Drop your information off one (1) week prior to your appointment, and your advisor will call you during your scheduled time.

These decisions were not made lightly. Our goal is always to be the advisors of choice for your tax needs, with added procedures in place to hopefully not have a viral outbreak in our office. If we have to shut down our offices or advisors are too sick to work for any amount of time, it could delay return preparation exponentially.

Unemployment Adjustments are still being processed.

If you were one of the millions of American Taxpayers to receive Unemployment Compensation during 2020, up to \$10,200 per taxpayer was deemed tax-exempt. This means that you did not have to pay taxes on this amount.

For many, this adjustment was made when filing 2020 Tax Returns, resulting in larger than expected refunds (or lower balances due). For those that filed early, adjustments and amendments to tax returns needed to be done. The IRS adjusted these automatically, while Michigan left that to taxpayers to amend returns if they wanted to get the money back that they were eligible for.

If you have not filed a Michigan amendment to claim your money, **please put it on your calendar to contact us after April 18, 2022**, and we can prepare the amendment. If you're still waiting for the federal adjusted refund, all we can do is keep waiting. They are still behind and working diligently to get caught up.

We want to remind you that if you get any notices or letters from the IRS and/or State of Michigan, bring them to one of our offices and a member of our staff can help verify correct amounts received, the validity of the letters, as well as help solve any problems addressed.

If you need to issue 1099's, be aware of the penalty for late filing

If you would like Integrity Tax Group to prepare 1099's for you, simply bring in all the information and documentation needed to any of our locations by January 20, 2022, to allow us ample time to get the 1099's prepared and filed on time. Remember, non-employee compensation is now reported on form 1099-NEC instead of 1099-Misc.

Documentation needed for us to complete 1099's include:

- Completed W-9's for all contractors
- Amounts paid to all contractors
- Your/Business Name (whomever paid contractors)
- Your SSN/EIN
- Your Phone Number, Email Address, Mailing Address

Action Items

The deadline to file individual tax returns this year will be **April 18, 2022. S-Corps and Partnerships is March 15, 2022.** Please call us if you would like an extension filed. We will not file these for personal returns unless requested.

A friendly reminder about extensions: They are an extension of time to file, **NOT** an extension of time to pay. If an extension is filed, any balances owed are still due by the original deadline. If there is any chance you may owe, let us know. We'll do a quick calculation to estimate your tax liability for 2021 to minimize potential penalty and interest charges.

IRS Dirty Dozen, and how you can keep your personal information safe

Every year, the IRS releases their list of Dirty Dozen fraud trends that have caught their eye. This year, the IRS separated their Dirty dozen into four categories, explaining each and giving tips on how to protect yourself. Read all about these and more at <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/dirty-dozen>.

- **Pandemic-related Scams**, including Economic Impact Payment Theft, Unemployment Fraud, with Additional Protections available to protect Taxpayers
- **Personal information cons**, including Phishing Scams, Impersonator Phone Calls, Social Media Scams, and Ransomware
- **Ruses focusing on Unsuspecting victim**, including Fake Charities, Immigrant/Senior Fraud, Ghost Tax Preparers, Unemployment Fraud
- **Schemes that persuade taxpayers into unscrupulous actions**

Always call us if you receive anything relating to taxes. We can help verify its validity. That's what we're here for!

Office Security - How do we keep your information safe?

We take security seriously at Integrity Tax Group. All of our logins require two-factor authentication. We lock all of our file cabinets at the end of each day, and unlock them in the morning. Your information is not shared with anyone outside of our company without your written confirmation - how long this is valid is also up to you.

If you have paperwork that needs to be shredded, we extend the use of our shred company to you. Bring documents to shred, not just tax documents, to the office when you come in for your tax appointment. We'll put it in our locked shred bins and have it properly disposed of! Please limit paperwork to shred to no more than two (2) banker boxes. Personal tax returns should be kept for

seven (7) years, business returns should be kept for 10 years.

Rest easy with the knowledge that Integrity Tax Group keeps your information safe and secure!

Don't Forget about your Friends!

Friends confused with the new tax laws and need help? Do you know someone who had a life event happen last year (divorce, marriage, had a baby, bought a house, etc.)? Do you know someone looking for a tax professional to help with more than just taxes? For every person you refer that file with us, we give YOU \$25. Your friend also receives \$25 off their tax bill when they come in.

Referrals are not just available for taxes! Referrals are now available for Payroll (\$50 referral amount), and Bookkeeping/Accounting services (\$100). You do NOT need to be a current client with these services to receive your cash!

Your Checklist

The checklist is available on our website, or you can call one of our offices to request a checklist to be sent to you: www.integritytaxgroup.com

Call to Make your Appointment Today!

If you need to schedule your tax appointment, please call your office of choice below:

Jenison: (616) 457-5652

Rockford: (616) 866-4704

NE Grand Rapids: (616) 361-6148

Holland: (616) 392-5598

Grand Haven: (616) 842-8860

Kentwood: (616) 534-3336

Benton Harbor: (269) 925-1912 - drop off only

or email us at help@integritytaxgroup.com.

As always, feel free to stop in the office, mail, portal, or fax your information to us. We look forward to seeing you soon! If you mail your information to us, we strongly encourage mailing with tracking information.

Your team at

