

How to talk to patrons about: *Filing Their Taxes and Avoiding Scams*

- Sometimes scammers will pretend to be other people and file their taxes early to steal the return money. Because of this, you should try to file your taxes as early as possible each year.
- You can always file your taxes through the IRS website, or use a trusted service like TurboTax. Be wary of alternative tax-filing sites that claim to get you a bigger refund.
- Checking your credit report regularly will make it easier to keep track of your financial accounts and more quickly identify fraudulent activities. This FTC website has more information: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/free-credit-reports>

"It's important to always think about securing the personal information you share online. Don't assume a company or form is legitimate because it's online."



Filing Your Taxes and Avoiding Scams

Each year, millions of people file their taxes online through sites like TurboTax. Here are some tips to help you avoid falling for a tax scam.



- File your taxes as early as possible.
- Many tax scams start with an email or phone call, with the scammers posing as the IRS. Never click on a link, download an attachment, or give a caller your personal information. The IRS will never call demanding payment or request personal information via email.
- When submitting your taxes, use a trusted service like TurboTax or submit them through the IRS' "Free File" service.
- Protect yourself from identity theft by signing up for free credit monitoring and check your credit score at least every six months.