



NerdWallet's 2023 Tax Calendar

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NerdWallet's Tax Calendar keeps you on track toward meeting your tax obligations and avoiding surprises when you file your return. Our calendar identifies important deadlines throughout the year, includes quarterly reminders to take stock of your situation and make adjustments as necessary, and provides links and tips to help you take advantage of common tax-planning strategies.

The calendar's quarterly check-ins include:

- **W-4 check-in:** Your [W-4 form](#) tells your employer how much federal and state tax (if applicable) to withhold from your paychecks throughout the year. How you fill out your W-4 directly affects whether you will get a refund, owe tax or zero-out when filing your tax return. Life changes, such as getting married or divorced, having a child, buying a home, getting a raise or pay cut, or adding side work, are all good reasons to update your W-4. We recommend reviewing your W-4 or using a [withholding estimator](#) at least quarterly to ensure you're on the right track.
- **401(k) check-in:** Contributing to an employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k), a 403(b) or certain 457 plans, can help you to save for the future; it can also help score you some tax benefits in the present by lowering your taxable income by the amount you contribute. Generally, we recommend contributing at least enough to get your employer match, if one is offered. In 2023, you can divert up to \$22,500 of your wages (\$30,000 if you're 50 or older) into an employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Since 401(k) contributions are generally set as a percentage of your income, it's also important to keep an eye on your total contributions for the year so you don't accidentally contribute more than the annual amount permitted by the IRS.

- **IRA contribution check-in:** IRAs, or individual retirement accounts, are another retirement savings option. An IRA is an account you open at a brokerage, bank, insurance company or other financial institution. IRAs have lower annual contribution limits than 401(k)s. Generally, an IRA is a great way to save more for retirement if you've maxed out your 401(k), or your employer doesn't offer one. ([Learn more about IRA options here.](#)) Keep in mind that contributing to a traditional IRA may not have any immediate tax benefits if your income exceeds a threshold set by the IRS and you or your spouse already contribute to a 401(k). Here are the contribution limits for 2022 and 2023 (you can contribute to an IRA for the previous tax year until the tax-filing deadline):
 - **2022:** You can contribute up to \$6,000 (\$7,000 if you're 50 or older).
 - **2023:** You can contribute up to \$6,500 (\$7,500 if you're 50 or older).
- **FSA fund check-in:** FSAs, or [flexible spending accounts](#), are employer-sponsored plans that can help you pay for qualifying expenses using pretax money, which reduces your taxable income. There are generally two types of FSAs – one for health care expenses and one for dependent care expenses. Each has a different annual contribution limit. If your employer offers access to an FSA, you can typically sign up only during open enrollment and generally cannot modify your selected contribution amount unless you have a qualifying life event.

If you have an FSA, keep tabs on the funds throughout the year, because if you don't use the money by Dec. 31, you may lose access to the unused balance. Some employers may allow you to roll over a limited portion of your unused FSA health care funds into the next year, but check with your benefits department to make sure. Some employers also may offer a short grace period in the new year of approximately 2½ months to use any unused portion of either the health care or dependent care funds.

<p>Q1 Checklist (January, February, March)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly W-4 check-in. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 2023 401(k) limits and adjust your contribution percentage as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 2022 and 2023 IRA limits and adjust your contributions as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review this tax-prep checklist as you head into tax-filing season.
<p>January 1</p>	<p>Check IRS mileage rates. The IRS releases its rates for qualified charitable, business, moving and medical mileage in late December. Itemizers and self-employed taxpayers who track and deduct mileage on their federal returns should review the rates as the tax year begins. For 2023, the IRS mileage rates are 65.5 cents per mile for business, 14 cents per mile for charity and 22 cents per mile for medical and moving purposes.</p> <p>» MORE: How and when to deduct IRS mileage rates</p>
<p>January 17</p>	<p>Estimated tax payments due for the fourth quarter. This is the last day to pay estimated taxes for income earned from Sept. 1 through Dec. 31 of the previous year – unless you submit your tax return along with your taxes owed by Jan. 31. This generally applies to self-employed workers and taxpayers whose withholding does not cover enough of their tax liability.</p> <p>» MORE: Learn more about how estimated tax payments work.</p>
<p>January 23</p>	<p>Tax-filing season begins. The IRS begins to accept and process federal tax returns for the 2022 tax year on Jan. 23. Note that if you apply for certain credits, such as the earned income tax credit or the additional child tax credit, the agency can't issue your refund until at least mid-February – no matter how early you file.</p> <p>» MORE: How to file taxes this year.</p>

January 31

Form W-2 deadline. Employers must mail or furnish [W-2 forms](#) to employees who worked for them in 2022 by this date.

» **MORE:** Still waiting for your W-2? [Here are some steps to take.](#)

1098 and 1099 deadlines. The IRS requires that certain information returns be issued or mailed to recipients by Jan. 31. This means, for example, that if you earned a certain amount of income from interest in 2022, or are a freelancer who made \$600 or more in non-employee earnings, you should expect a document in your inbox or in the mail from your bank or your freelance client outlining those earnings around this time. You'll need to reference it when you file your taxes. Here's a list of common 1098s and 1099s that are due to recipients by Jan. 31:

- Form 1098: Mortgage Interest Statement
- Form 1098-E: Student Loan Interest Statement
- Form 1098-T: Tuition Statement
- Form 1099-DIV: Dividends and Distributions
- Form 1099-G: Certain Government Payments (unemployment, taxable grants, state and local tax refunds)
- Form 1099-INT: Interest Income
- Form 1099-K: Payment Card and Third Party Network Transactions
- Select 1099-MISC forms: Miscellaneous Income.
- Form 1099-NEC: Non-employee Compensation

Note that some of the informational return deadlines have a March 15 due date if reporting is by trustees or middlemen of widely held fixed investment trusts (WHFITS).

» **MORE:** A quick guide to the types of [1099 tax forms](#) and who should expect one.

<p>February 15</p>	<p>Form W-4 deadline for tax-exempt status. If you were exempt from tax withholding in 2022, this is the deadline to file a new Form W-4 with your employer if you intend to reclaim the exemption for 2023.</p> <p>1099 deadlines (continued). Another set of 1099 deadlines: Informational returns like the 1099-B (for income earned from the sale of certain securities) and certain 1099-MISC forms must be sent to recipients by this date. The IRS has more details about information returns here.</p> <p>» MORE: An overview of the key 2023 tax forms and publications.</p>
<p>Q2 Checklist (April, May, June)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly W-4 check-in. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 2022 401(k) limits and adjust your contribution percentage as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 2022 and 2023 IRA limits and adjust your contributions as needed.
<p>April 3</p>	<p>RMD deadline. Taxpayers who turned 72 years old in 2022 may need to take their first required minimum distribution, or RMD, from retirement accounts by April 3, 2023. Note that a law called the Secure 2.0 Act pushed back the age for RMDs to 73 in 2023, so if you're turning 72 in 2023, you have another year before you need to think about RMDs.</p> <p>» MORE: What are required minimum distributions, and how do they work?</p>

<p>April 18: Tax Day</p>	<p>Federal tax-filing deadline. This is the date by which you must file your taxes with the IRS. This is also the deadline to file for a tax extension. Remember, a tax extension gives you more time to submit your return, not more time to pay your taxes. Even if you submit a request for an extension, you must pay your taxes owed by April 18.</p> <p>HSA and IRA contribution deadline. This is the last day to make contributions to your health savings account or individual retirement account for the tax year 2022. The limit for HSA contributions in 2022 is \$3,650 for individuals and \$7,300 for family coverage. The contribution limit for IRAs in 2022 is \$6,000 (\$7,000 if you're 50 or older).</p> <p>Estimated taxes due for the first quarter. If you are required to make estimated tax payments, taxes on income earned during the first quarter of the year (Jan. 1 through March 31) are due today.</p> <p>» MORE: How to file for a tax extension in 2023.</p>
<p>June 15</p>	<p>Estimated taxes due for the second quarter. If you are required to make estimated tax payments, taxes on income earned during the second quarter of the year (April 1 through May 31) are due today. (Note that the "second quarter" of the year for tax purposes covers only two months; the fourth quarter covers four months.)</p>
<p>Q3 Checklist (July, August, September)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly W-4 check-in. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 2023 401(k) limits and adjust your contribution percentage as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 2023 IRA limits and adjust your contributions as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review FSA balance. Contact your benefits or HR department about rollovers or grace periods as needed.

<p>July 1</p>	<p>Check for sales tax holidays. Some states have “sales tax holidays,” where retailers don’t collect tax on certain goods or transactions ahead of seasonal events. One of the most popular types of tax holidays centers on back-to-school shopping, so check whether your state participates; you might be able to snag some tax-free supplies, clothes, computers or backpacks.</p>
<p>September 15</p>	<p>Estimated taxes due for the third quarter. If you are required to make estimated tax payments, taxes on income earned during the third quarter of the year (June 1 through Aug. 31) are due today.</p>
<p>Q4 Checklist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly W-4 check-in. <input type="checkbox"/> Review 401(k) limits and adjust your contribution percentage as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review IRA 2023 limits and adjust your contributions as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Review FSA balance. Contact your benefits or HR department about rollovers or grace periods as needed.
<p>October 1</p>	<p>Start end-of-year tax planning. If you are an investor, if you itemize your deductions or if you otherwise want to make sure your taxes are on track before next year’s filing deadline, here are a few end-of-year tax planning tips to keep in mind this quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Investors: Review your investment transactions using a capital gains calculator; talk to a financial advisor or a tax pro about tax-loss harvesting if needed. ● Itemizers: Make sure you’re keeping on top of receipts, paperwork and any other information you may need when filing next year. If you plan to deduct charitable contributions, keep in mind that Dec. 31 is the last day to make such contributions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All taxpayers: If you want to get an early sense of what your tax situation may look like, consider using a tax calculator to estimate your liability so there are fewer surprises next April.
October 16	Tax extension deadline. Filing for an extension by April 18 gives you until Oct. 16 to finalize your return. If you miss this deadline, your return is considered late by the IRS, and penalties will begin to pile on.
Mid-to-late October	IRS annual inflation adjustments. The IRS releases its annual inflation adjustments for the 2024 tax year. This includes updates to the standard deduction amounts, federal income tax brackets, certain tax credit thresholds, and contribution limits for retirement accounts such as 401(k) plans and IRAs.
December 31	<p>401(k) contributions deadline. If you contribute to an employer-sponsored retirement plan such as a 401(k), Dec. 31 is typically the last day to make a qualified contribution.</p> <p>Second RMD deadline. If you're required to take RMDs, you must do so by Dec. 31; this also applies to those who took their initial RMD in April.</p>