








## Taxes in Canada

An income tax return lists your income and deductions, calculates federal (Canada) and provincial (Alberta) tax, and determines whether you owe any taxes or whether you should receive a refund for some or all the tax that employers have deducted from your income throughout the year. Learn more by visiting the CRA website: [Taxes for international students studying in Canada](#).

### Do I need to file taxes?

- Residents of Canada who earn income in Canada must file an **income tax return** each year.
- Even if you have not earned income, we **strongly recommend** you still file a return in order to:
  - Potentially get money back, become eligible for tax credits, or receive childcare benefits if you have any dependent children.
  - Practice filing taxes before your income sources become more complex (e.g. having multiple employers in the future).
  - Receive a **notice of assessment**, which may be helpful in the future as some government services or programs ask for this document for proof of income. Visit the CRA website to learn more about a [notice of assessment](#).

### How do I file taxes?

-  Gather your tax information, such as your T2202 Tuition and Enrolment Certificate and your T4A Tuition Tax Receipt, from your student portal or from your employer
-  Consider which method you'll use to file your return (e.g. electronically using certified software, by paper/mail, or through the [SU Volunteer Tax Program](#))
-  File out the tax return
-  Send the completed tax return to the CRA
-  Pay any balance owed or receive a refund

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### When do I need to file taxes?

- Residents of Canada must file income tax returns by **April 30**, and you file based on your earning of the previous year. Tax clinics are offered on-campus and around Calgary from February-March, and it is best to start preparing your taxes early as appointments can quickly fill up.

#### Do I need a CRA Account to file taxes?

- No, you don't need a CRA account to file your tax return. You can sign up for a CRA account **after** filing taxes in Canada for the first time.

#### I just started a job. What forms do I need to fill out?

- You will receive two tax forms that you must complete and return to your employer: **TD1 (Government of Canada/federal tax form)** and **TD1AB (Government of Alberta/provincial tax form)**.

#### Where can I receive help or find resources?

- Online:** Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) [website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).
- On-campus:** Student Union Volunteer Tax Clinic.
- In Calgary:** Community volunteer free tax clinics and workshops on taxes.
- Your bank:** Ask about any services provided and mention that you are a student.

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