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Sprintax Nonresident Tax Session – MIT

Navigating the nonresident tax journey



Before we start...

Housekeeping:

- * Feel free to use the chat
- * Feedback is much appreciated!
- * Recording will be made available to all attendees

Disclaimer:

The aim of this presentation is to provide you with a general understanding of tax principles as they apply to international students and as such, is for information purposes only. Each individual has a unique tax position and is responsible for their own tax determination and compliance.



Overview

- X Overview of tax for nonresident students and scholars
- X Understand the implications of filing an incorrect tax return
- X Using Sprintax to prepare your tax returns
- X Questions and discussion



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Sprintax Calculus v Sprintax Returns

Sprintax Calculus



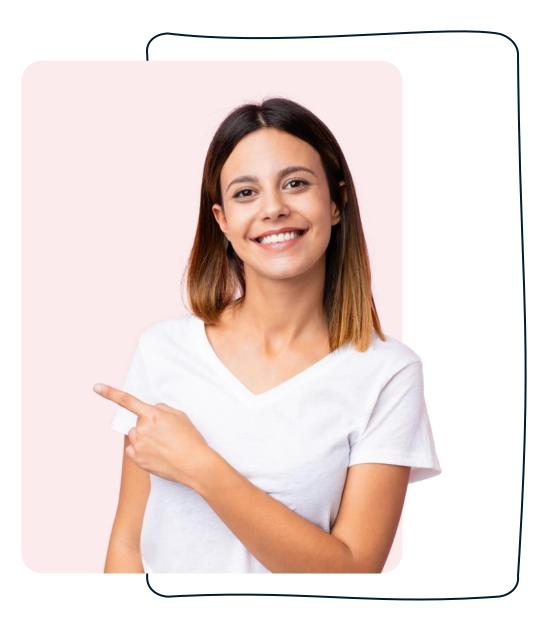
- If you are employed by or receive any payments from MIT you will use Sprintax Calculus so that MIT can ensure that you are taxed correctly from the beginning and prepare the relevant documents for you, eg 1042-S – You would receive an activation email with a link to activate your account & provide your details
- All nonresidents in the US need to do something when it comes to tax filing, Sprintax Returns will prepare your Federal and State tax returns

Important dates for 2024

2024 tax filing season is for income from 1st January – 31st December 2024

Filing deadline: Tuesday, April 15th 2025





What determines residency for tax purposes?



Resident or nonresident for tax purposes?

- * Independent of visa/immigration status
- Generally, most international students & scholars who are on F, J, M or Q visas are considered nonresident for tax purposes.
- International students on J1 & F1 visas are automatically considered nonresident for their first 5 calendar years in the US
- Scholars/Researchers (and their dependents) on J visas are automatically considered nonresidents for 2 out of the last
 6 calendar years in the US
- If they've been in the US for longer than the 5 or 2 year periods, the Substantial Presence Test will determine their tax residency - 183 days



Residency summary

* Outside of diplomatic visas and some visas with special purposes (e.g., NATO, A and G)

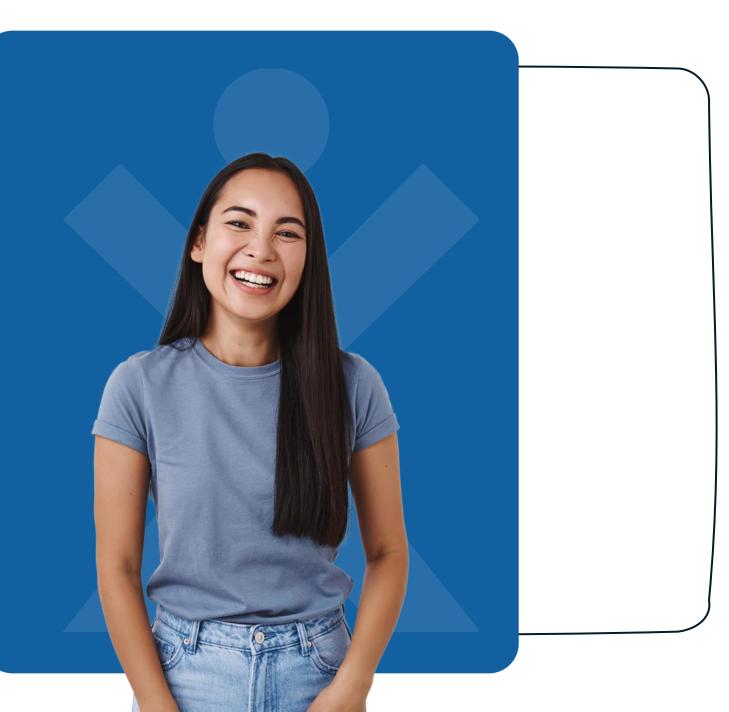
		Number of years exempt from Substantial Presence Test	FICA TAX Exemption
F-1	Student	5	Y
F-2	Spouse, dependent	5	Ν
JI	Student, non-degree	5	Y
JI	Au pair and EduCare	2 of 6	Y
JI	Camp Counselor (summer camp)	2 of 6	Y
JI	Intern	2 of 6	Y
JI	Summer Work/Travel	2 of 6	Y
JI	Teacher	2 of 6	Y
JI	Trainee	2 of 6	Y
JI	Alien Physician	2 of 6	Y
JI	Student, Bachelor's	5	Y
JI	Student, Doctorate	5	Y
JI	Student, Intern	5	Y
JI	Student, Masters	5	Y
JI	Government Visitor	2 of 6	Y
JI	International Visitor	2 of 6	Y
JI	Professor	2 of 6	Y
JI	Short-Term Scholar	2 of 6	Y
Jl	Specialist	2 of 6	Y
Jl	Research Scholar	2 of 6	Y
J2	Spouse, dependent	2 of 6	Ν
Other visas (outside A and G visas)		Non-exempt (Days count from the first day of presence in the U.S.)	N*

Who must file?



Every nonresident who is an exempt individual must complete Form 8843 – irrespective of income or days of presence

As there is no personal exemption amount for 2023, any nonresidents who have received taxable earnings or income over \$0 will have a federal filing requirement (1040-NR)



Form 8843 – minimum filing requirement for all

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Popular types of US income

- * Employment
- * Scholarship covering costs other than tuition and tuition related expenses: Room and board / Stipend
- * Investment income/Crypto

Other types of income

- * Gambling winnings
- * Focus group gift card
- * Rental income (over 14 nights)
- * Selling art/design works
- * All reportable



Income which does not trigger a filing requirement for nonresidents

- $\dot{\mathbf{x}}$ Scholarship for tuition and related expenses
- \star Scholarship received from outside the US
- X Money transferred from parents/relatives overseas
- X Income 'earned' in their home country (investment income, rent, job before moving to US, etc.)
- X Interest on regular savings account



Income documents

W2 - Deadline to receive - January 31st 2025

- * Outlines Wages, Salary, Compensation from the entire year (Employment Earnings)
- 1042-S Deadline to receive March 15th 2025
- * Taxable Scholarships/Stipends/Non-Degree Aid
- * Income exempt by a tax treaty
- * Royalty Payments
- * Prize/Award/Miscellaneous foreign payments
- * Available in Sprintax Calculus when generated

1099 Series - Deadline to receive - typically by end of March

- * Rental income
- * Investment Income
- ***** Commissions
- * Independent Contractor Services
- × 1099-INT



Nonresident spouse and dependents

Same filing requirements as visa holder:

- $\dot{\mathbf{X}}$ No joint returns for nonresidents
- **X** Obligations
 - X Minimum is Form 8843
 - * 1040-NR if applicable
 - Each dependent should mail them in separate envelopes
- X Nonresident can elect to file as resident when married to a tax resident but do the math on both options first!



FICA taxes

- Nonresident international students and scholars (J1 & F1)
 should not be paying FICA
- * H-1B, J-2 and TN visa-holders, are subject to FICA taxes from their first day of employment
- * Usually only applied to off-campus employment
 - * However, tax residents do pay
- * Opportunity to claim back
 - ***** From employer
 - * Via Form 843 & Form 8316



Comparison of impact of FICA taxes on employees

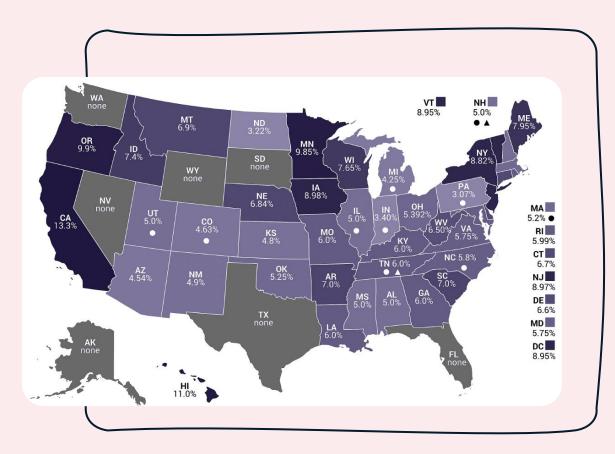
If FICA taxes are withheld in error, there are two main approaches to have the FICA taxes refunded:

- Employer amends quarterly or annual tax return (941) and refund the FICA taxes back to the individual
- Individual can file a tax claim via Form 843
 and 8316 to the IRS

Visa Type	F-1 Student	J-1 Student	J-1 Intern	J-1 Researcher
Wages	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$50,000
US Tax Residency	Nonresident	Nonresident	Nonresident	Nonresident
FICA Taxes Withheld in error	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FICA Tax %	6.2% Social security + 1.45% Medicare tax			
NRA employee portion of FICA taxes that could be withheld	\$1,530	\$2,295	\$3,060	\$3,825
Employer's part withheld in error	\$1,530	\$2,295	\$3,060	\$3,825

State taxes

- * Resident, part-year resident and nonresident status
- * Forms and rules vary from state to state
- * Federation of Tax Administrators website www.taxadmin.org/state-tax-forms



Massachusetts State Taxes

Resident v Non-resident for MA State Tax

Nonresident (Form 1-NR/PY):

You are a nonresident if you were not a resident of Massachusetts but earned Massachusetts Income.

Part-year resident (Form 1-NR/PY):

You are a part-year resident if you either moved into or moved out of Massachusetts during the taxable year.

Resident (Form 1):

You are a full-year resident if your residence (domicile) is in Massachusetts or if you maintain a permanent place of abode in Massachusetts and during the year spend more than 183 days in the state



Massachusetts State Taxes

Do I need to file a MA state tax return?

- you were a resident of Massachusetts, and your gross income was more than \$8,000 – whether received from sources inside or outside of Massachusetts
- you were a part-year resident with an annual Massachusetts gross income of more than \$8,000 - whether received from sources inside or outside of Massachusetts
- you were a non-resident who received Massachusetts source income in excess of your personal exemption amount multiplied by the ratio of your Massachusetts income to your total income



Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)

- * Required when filing Federal return but not eligible for an SSN
- * Most common among scholarship recipients (athletes)
- ***** Process for filing an ITIN application in advance of filing Federal tax return:
- * If students are filing an ITIN application in advance of their tax return, they will need to complete and sign a Form W-7. Schools will typically have a responsible officer who can certify copies of their documents (this is usually copies of your passport, visa, and I-20/DS-2019 for F or J visa holders). Students will then be able to mail the signed W-7 Form with the signed certification letter from their responsible officer alongside the copies of their visa, passport and I-20/DS-2019.
- * Alternatively, they can get help from a local IRS office or a Certified Acceptance Agent to have their documents certified, instead of using a responsible officer at the school.
- * Address to mail ITIN application:
 - Internal Revenue Service
 - Austin Service Center
 - **ITIN Operation**
 - P.O. Box 149342
 - Austin, TX 78714-9342

Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)

$\star\,$ Instructions for applying for an ITIN while filing your tax return:

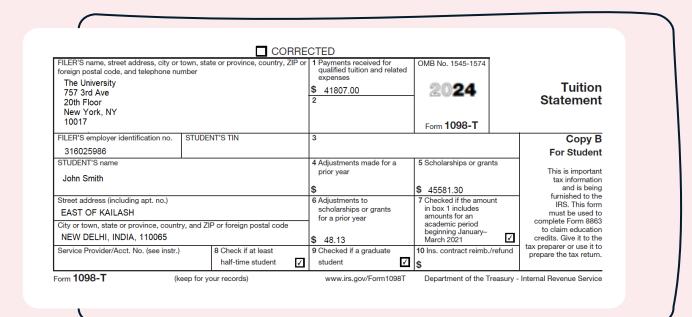
- * When students are filing an ITIN application alongside a tax return, the responsible officer at the school can no longer certify the documents they are providing unless they are a certified acceptance agent.
- * The following steps are advised if students are applying for an ITIN alongside your tax return. When mailing ITIN application, include:
 - * 1040 NR (Your Federal tax return)
 - * ITIN application (Form W-7 signed)
 - * Attach a certified copy of the applicant's passport.
- If including a photocopy of their passport, it must be certified by one of the following*:
 - * Certified Acceptance Agent or IRS official
 - * The governmental department that issued the identification document.
 - * The United States Embassy or Consulate (make a reservation before visit).

Form W-7 Rev. August 2019) Department of the Trea Internal Revenue Servic	Tax surv ► For use by Ind	cpayer I		on Number zens or permanent re	sidents.		OMB No. 1545-0074
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1098-T

***** Tuition Statement

- * Mostly used to claim education tax credit
- * Significant cause of misfiling for nonresidents
- ***** Not relevant for tax nonresidents
- * Sometimes all students with an SSN on file with their school will get one, even nonresidents, so it can cause a lot of confusion!



Timelines for a refund

Federal

- * 6 weeks 6 months
- * Contact IRS to follow up 'Where's my refund' https//irs.gov/refunds

State

* Similar but will vary from state to state



Implications of misfiling



Missed a year? Filed as a resident by mistake?

Don't panic!

* but do set the record straight

Never filed...

- * Catch up
- * Can back file at any stage
- Can only claim a refund for previous 3 years

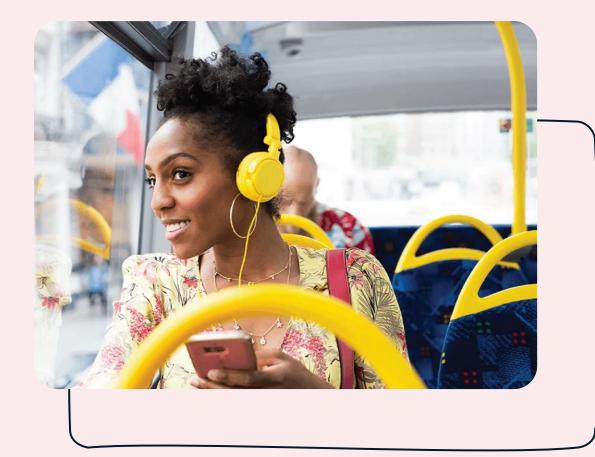
Misfiled...

- 1040X Amended US Individual Income
 Tax Return
- * Simple form, similar to 1040



Implications of not filing

- * Nonresidents are required to comply with all US laws, including IRS & filing tax forms (even if only 8843).
- * Remaining compliant is part of maintaining visa status in the US.
- Not filing could affect future immigration status (like H1B, LPR)
- Fines, penalties and interest can accrue if the IRS are owed
- X Might be missing out on a refund!



Be careful about options being "recommended" to you!

- Be careful when social media groups are recommending tax companies
- Doing the research on finding legitimate NRA tax service providers is crucial
- TurboTax only supports <u>resident</u> returns
- We helped over 12,000 nonresidents to amend their tax returns over the last 3 years



Does TurboTax handle Form 1040-NR for nonresident aliens?

SOLVED • by TurboTax • 🖒 858 • 🕓 Updated December 18, 2023

Although TurboTax doesn't support IRS Form 1040-NR (U.S. Nonresident Alien Income Tax Return), we have partnered with Sprintax to offer both federal and state tax preparation for international students, scholars, and nonresident foreign professionals.

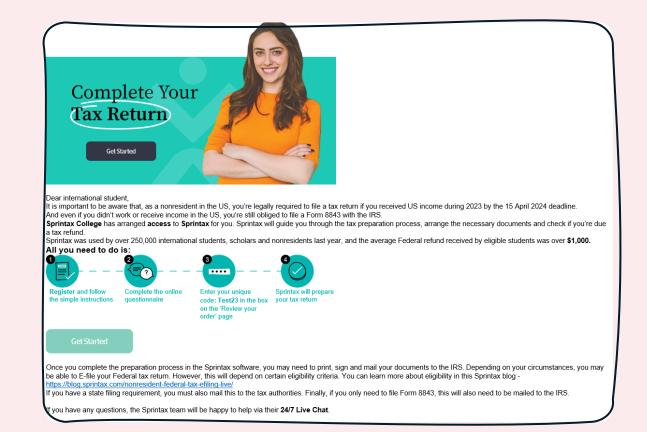
Please visit the TurboTax/Sprintax site for more info.

Using Sprintax



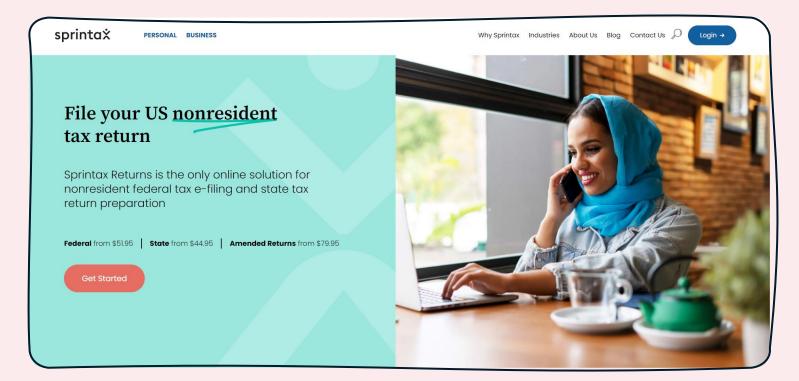
Email from school/institution

You should expect to receive a similar email from your international office including your link to Sprintax and your unique code shown in Step 3 of the email



Login page

The link will bring you to the Sprintax landing page where you register an account for free



Residency determination

- Once in the system you will be asked questions about your time in the US and your visa details
- ✓ We will confirm residency for tax purposes
- If you are resident for tax purposes we will stop you at this page and also recommend our partner for resident taxes, **Turbotax** (only if you are a resident for tax purposes).

sprinta×		Anna Fitzpatrick Tax Year 2023 progress	
		Residency Status	
	You are here	Have you been a US citizen, by birth or naturalization, on the last day of 2023? Yes \bigcirc No \bigodot	
	(1) RESIDENCY • Residency Status →	Have you ever been a green card holder? Yes ◯ No ●	
	() GETTING TO KNOW YOU	Have you ever applied for US citizenship/ lawful residence?	
	C LET'S TALK MONEY	Yes No 💿	
	() OFFSET YOUR EXPENSES		
	C ABOUT YOUR COLLEGE	Visiting the US	
	© STATE TAXES	Were you in the US during the 2023 tax year?	
	() REVIEW	Yes No () 	
	() FINALIZING	When was your first visit to the US?	
		 Yer ⊚ No ◯	Hi. Need any help?
		Please provide details below of all your visits to the US starting from 2015.	
		Visa Type / Status US Entry Date US Leave Date	
		J1 - Summer Work _ V 06/06/2015 🛱 08/28/2015 🛱	
		FI - Student ∨ 06/23/2021 🛱 12/26/2022 🛱 ×	(😧)
		+ Add Visit	

Income details

- Income document information provided from W-2, 1042-S, 1099's
- Also note the Support buttons which you can use to access the FAQs or ask the live chat
 team questions as you go through the system

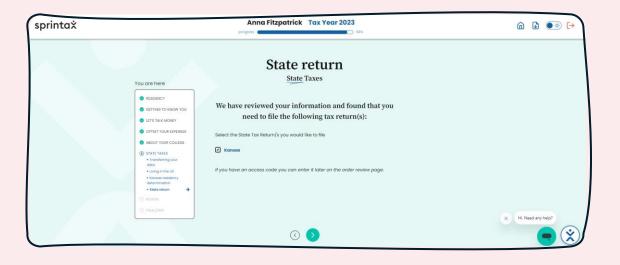
* OCR (Optical Character Recognition) is here!

sprintaž		Anna Fitzpatrick Tax Year 2022	⋒ 🖟 💽 🕞
		W-2 forms [1]	
	You are here RESIDENCY GETINO TO KNOW YOU () LLT'S TALK MONEY · Income Documents · W-2 forms [1] →	Instructions: We recommend that you use Copy C of your W-2 form to complete your income and tax information. If the information in boxes 16-20 differs on copies B and C of your W-2 form, please attach copy C to your Federal tax return. DO NOT combine information from different forms. If your original W-2 does not have amounts in boxes 16-20 on two rows, do not enter any information on the second row below.	
	O OFFET YOUR DREMES ABOUT YOUR COLLEGE STATE TAKES REVIEW O FINALIZING	Upload a scan or photo of your income document The uploaded file should contain only one page!	
		Drag your file have to start uploading. OR Rrowser files Select employer type	•
		Select employer type Please Select Please Select Stars Se	٢

State taxes

- The system will also recognize if you need to file a state tax return
- Some students may have multiple state filing requirements, depending on their circumstances

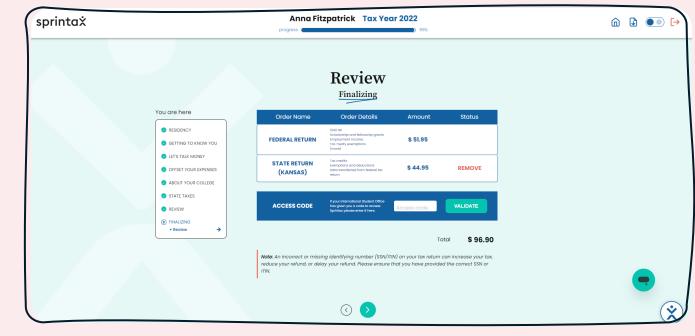




 An example is shown where the system has identified that the student has a state filing requirement from Kansas

Order breakdown

✓ At the end of the process Sprintax will outline the order breakdown and the costs involved



E-filing is available for federal returns

- The option to e-file is here for federal tax returns!
- Students will see the option to proceed with federal e-filing if it is available to them
- ✓ <u>http://blog.sprintax.com/nonresident-federal-</u> <u>tax-efiling-live/</u>

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	You are here	Download Files	
	RESIDENCY		
	S GETTING TO KNOW YOU	Finalizing	
	LET'S TALK MONEY	Great News! You can save time and money using e-File option to submit	
	OFFSET YOUR EXPENSES	your Federal tax return with the US tax authorities.	
	ABOUT YOUR COLLEGE		
	STATE TAXES	I confirm I did not file my 2021 federal tax return before.	
	REVIEW	Diseased with a file	
	S FINALIZING	Proceed with e-File	
		, If you prefer to mail your Federal tax return proceed below	
		You're ready to print and sign your tax return.	
		Next steps:	
		1. Download your tax returns:	
		Federal Tax Return	
		View Download	
		State Tax Return (New York)	
		View Download	
		2. Read the instructions on the PDF(s) with your tax forms	

Generation of tax forms

ANNA FITZPATRICK	
TEST, T	
T, NY 10010	

Dear ANNA

Enclosed please find two copies of your 2024 federal income tax return, which you prepared through Sprintax tax software. File one copy with the Internal Revenue Service and retain the second copy for your records.

Tax Summary

Filing Status	Other married nonresident alien
Gross Income	\$15676
Federal Adjusted Gross Income	\$15676
Federal Taxable Income	\$15676
Amount You Owe	\$1493

* We have attached instructions detailing how to file your tax return with the IRS.

How much tax do I owe?

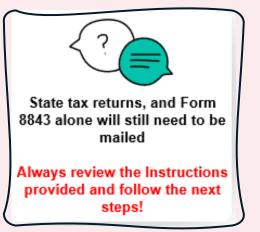
Your return shows a balance due of \$ 1493. We have completed the Payment Voucher, form 1040-V and attached this to your return.

How do I make the payment?

To make payment, please include a check made payable to the "UNITED STATES TREASURY" for the amount of \$ 1493. Write "2024 Form 1040-NR" and on the back of the check, along with your full name. The check should be included with your return but should not be stapled or otherwise attached.

Alternatively, you can pay the balance due by credit or debit card. Payment information and service providers are located at http://www.irs.gov/e-pay. If you pay by credit card before posting your return, please enter your confirmation number and the amount you were charged in the upper left corner of page 1 of Form 1040-NR. Do not include the convenience fee in the amount you were charged.

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1040	-	Department of the Tr U.S. Nonresi	easury-li	nternal Re Alien	wenue Service	(99 Return	20	24	OMB	¥o. 1545-0		5 Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.
Filing Status Check only	If y	Single Marrie ou checked the QW box, e alifving person is a child b	nter the	child's na	me if the	Qualifyi	ng widov	v(er) (Q)	w)			
Your first name		, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			t name							ntifying number uctions)
TEST				AUT	го						213	00 5126
Home address (214 LEXINGTO		er and street or rural rout E	e). If you	have a l	P.O. box, see inst	ructions.			Apt. no. 21B	Ch	eck if:	Estate or Trust
City, town, or por NEW YORK	st offi	ce. If you have a foreign ad	dress, als	so comple	ete spaces below.	State NY		ZIP co 1010				
Foreign country	nam	•		Foreign	province/state/co	ounty		Foreig	n postal c	ode		
At any time duri	ng 20	21, did you receive, sell, e	exchang	e, or othe	erwise dispose of	any finan	cial inter	est in a	ny virtual	currency'	?	Yes 🛛 No
Dependents (see instructions):		(1) First name	Last na	me	(2) Dependidentifying r			Depende		(4) ✓ i Child tax		es for (see instr.): Credit for other dependents
If more than four]	
dependents, see												
instructions and]	
check here												
Income	1a	Wages, salaries, tips, etc						• •			1a	15000
Effectively	ь	Scholarship and fellowsh						ent. Se	e instructi	ons .	1b	0
Connected With U.S.	c	Total income exempt by L, line 1(e)	a treaty	from So	chedule OI (Form	1040-NR), Item	1c		19000		
Trade or	2a	Tax-exempt interest .		2a		b Tax	able inte	erest.			2b	
Business	3a	Qualified dividends .	[3a		b Ord	finary di	vidends			3b	



check here			
Income	1a	Wages, salaries, tips, etc. Attach Form(s) W-2	15000
Effectively	ь	Scholarship and fellowship grants. Attach Form(s) 1042-S or required statement. See instructions . 1b	0
Connected	c	Total income exempt by a treaty from Schedule OI (Form 1040-NR), Item	
With U.S.		L, line 1(e)	
Trade or	2a	Tax-exempt interest	
Business	3a	Qualified dividends 3a b Ordinary dividends 3b	
	4a	IRA distributions 4a 0 b Taxable amount 4b	0
	5a	Pensions and annuities 5a 0 b Taxable amount 5b	0
	6	Reserved for future use	
	7	Capital gain or (loss). Attach Schedule D (Form 1040) if required. If not required, check here .	0
	8	Other income from Schedule 1 (Form 1040), line 10	0
	9	Add lines 1a, 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 7, and 8. This is your total effectively connected income	15000
	10	Adjustments to income:	
	a		
	b	Reserved for future use	
	с	Scholarship and fellowship grants excluded	
	d	Add lines 10a and 10c. These are your total adjustments to income	0
	11	Subtract line 10d from line 9. This is your adjusted gross income	15000
	12a	Itemized deductions (from Schedule A (Form 1040-NR)) or, for certain residents of India, standard deduction. See instructions 12a 2450	
	ь	Charitable contributions for certain residents of India. See instructions . 12b 0	
	c	Add lines 12a and 12b	2450
	13a	Qualified business income deduction from Form 8995 or Form 8995-A . 13a	
	b	Exemptions for estates and trusts only. See instructions 13b	
	с	Add lines 13a and 13b	
	14	Add lines 12c and 13c	2450
	15	Taxable income. Subtract line 14 from line 11. If zero or less, enter -0	12550

Other Support



More available support

- * Educational tax videos on YouTube
- * Blog content for tax awareness
- * 24/7 live chat
- ***** Tax workshops and webinars



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Thanks for listening!

Any questions?

www.sprintax.com

