

TAX ASSISTANCE 2021

A Guide for MAPL Patrons and Community Members

- Due to the COVID-19 virus, AARP has announced that there will be no in-person tax assistance this year at MAPL.
- There will be no other in-person sites in Monmouth County.
- All New Jersey VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Centers and all TCE (Tax Counseling for the Elderly) Centers in our area are currently closed.

SUGGESTIONS FOR TAX ASSISTANCE:

If you have a computer, internet connection, and computer skills (or someone at home who can help):

1. IRS Free File – www.irs.gov

What Is IRS Free File?

The IRS Free File Program is a public-private partnership between the IRS and many tax preparation and filing software industry leaders who provide their brand-name products for free. It provides two ways for taxpayers to prepare and file their federal income tax online for free:

- Traditional IRS Free File provides free online tax preparation and filing options on IRS partner sites. Our partners are online tax preparation companies that develop and deliver this service at no cost to qualifying taxpayers. Please note, only taxpayers whose [adjusted gross income \(or AGI\)](#) is \$72,000 or less qualify for any IRS Free File partner offers.
- Free File Fillable Forms are electronic federal tax forms you can fill out and file online for free. If you choose this option, you should know how to prepare your own tax return. Please note, it is the only IRS Free File option available for taxpayers whose [income \(AGI\)](#) is greater than \$72,000.

Find what you need to get started, your protections and security, available forms and more about IRS Free File on the irs.gov website.

2. Alternative Tax Preparation with AARP volunteers – www.AARP.org (information will be posted at the end of January)

If you do not have a computer or internet connection or computer skills:

1. Talk to family and friends for referrals to a local tax professional.
2. Seek out a commercial tax site like H&R Block, Liberty Tax, or Jackson-Hewitt, or a local CPA (location information and phone numbers available – please call the library at 732-583-9100 for this information).

Frequently Asked Questions

Will the deadline for filing taxes be extended like last year?

We do not know at this time. No announcement has been made. Please call the library for updates on this.

If the deadline is extended, will the library have AARP in-person tax aide later in the year?

We do not know at this time. If the COVID-19 numbers were to decrease to a safe level and the AARP volunteers were willing, we would certainly consider it.

If none of the options for tax filing above are acceptable, what should I do?

Call the IRS: 1-800-829-1040, 7am-7pm

How can I get tax forms?

Call the library with the forms needed (please have the numbers or names of the forms ready when you call). The forms will be printed and an appointment for a porch pick-up will be arranged. The library staff can be reached at 732-583-9100, Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9am-1pm and 2-6pm.