

# LET'S TALK TAXES

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



## WHY SHOULD I FILE MY TAXES?

As an international student, you are responsible for completing your Canadian tax return. It is a good idea to complete your tax return even if you did not work in Canada last year because this is the only way to receive any tax benefits you are entitled to.

**As an International student, you need the following:**

- SIN (Social Insurance Number) or ITN (Individual tax Number). If you don't have a SIN or ITN, contact Service Canada at 1(800) 622-6232
- The date you moved to Canada (usually, this is the date you received your first study permit at an airport or land border)
- Spouse/common-law partners income in 2020 (your spouse/common-law partner must also file a tax return, if they are in Canada with you)
- Full list available at [IgniteStudentLife.com/tax-clinic](http://IgniteStudentLife.com/tax-clinic)

## DO I GET MY TUITION AND TEXTBOOK MONEY BACK?

If you plan on staying and working in Canada after your studies, you will need to complete a tax return every year. If you don't complete your tax return as a student, you will have to complete one for every year you missed. After you complete your tax return you will receive a Notice Of Assessment (NOA) from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). Hold onto this NOA and all of your tax-related paperwork for your records.

Effective as of January 2017, the federal education and textbook tax credits were eliminated. However, this does not eliminate the tuition tax credit, and it does not affect the ability to claim the credits on your 2020 return.

You will not receive tuition money back in the year you complete your tax return. Tuition credits accumulate while you are in school and can be applied to lower your taxes when you start earning money in Canada.

## WHAT DO I DO WITH MY RENT RECEIPTS?

If you pay rent you are eligible for the Ontario Trillium Benefit. The Ontario Trillium Benefit is paid to assist low/modest income earners offset sales tax on goods and services. Your landlord is legally required to provide rent receipts (section 109 of the Ontario Residential Tenancies Act).

## HOW DO I FILE MY TAXES?

IGNITE is here to help you complete your tax return for free.



## TAX TIMELINE

Do I need to file my taxes this year?

I arrived in Canada before December 31, 2020:

Yes.

I arrived in Canada after January 1, 2021:

No, you will need to next year.



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