



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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Tax Department Announces Free Tax Filing Service For Eligible Taxpayers

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Tax Department Announces Free Tax Filing Service For Eligible Taxpayers Website Offers Qualifying Guidelines For Using FreeFile

New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Thomas H. Mattox today urged taxpayers to take advantage of **FreeFile - a program providing free state and federal tax preparation and e-filing services to qualified New York State taxpayers.**

Half of New York's taxpayers qualify for free or reduced fees to file electronically through FreeFile. You may be eligible if you earned \$58,000 or less in 2010 or you served in the military in 2010.

FreeFile enables lower and moderate income New York State taxpayers to use the best-known and most trusted commercial tax preparation software products for free. The software programs are very user friendly and taxpayers can be assured that the FreeFile technology is secure. These services also make it easier for taxpayers to claim all the credits and deductions to which they are entitled.

Eligible taxpayers can access the free online services through the Department's website at www.tax.ny.gov. For individuals who do not have computer access, there is an option available to all New Yorkers. There are public access computers in New York public libraries. These computers allow taxpayers to connect to the Internet.

Acting Commissioner Mattox also wants to remind taxpayers that e-filing is the best way to file income tax returns and here's why:

- E-filed tax returns are processed more accurately and faster than paper returns,
- E-filing reduces the number of errors on your tax return because the software checks and corrects common mistakes,
- E-filed tax returns are transmitted over secure networks and the information is encrypted which means it can only be read by the Tax Department, and,
- E-filing allows taxpayers to receive electronic confirmation that the Tax Department has received their return.

For more information, visit the Department's website at www.tax.ny.gov.

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