



2026 Tax Tips!



It's time to begin planning to file your 2025 federal income tax return whether you prepare your own return or use a professional. Eligible BBEDC residents can apply for **BBEDC's 2026 Tax Preparation Program** to receive a \$150 subsidy per return on your approved resident professional tax preparer's fee. Applications are available at www.bbcdc.com, from your Community Liaison, or from the BBEDC offices in Dillingham. A list of the approved tax preparers is also available.

The 2026 BBEDC Tax Preparation Program application period is January 1st, 2026 - April 30th, 2026

Tuesday, April 15, 2026, is the deadline to file your IRS 2025 Federal Income Tax Return.

Check with your tax preparer or the IRS about dates for paying estimated taxes and for filing extensions.

Tax Tip 1: IRS Tax Tips

The IRS Maintains a webpage for general tax tips at: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-tax-tips>. The website is updated regularly throughout the year so be sure visit the website and stay up to date on this year's tax information!

Tax Tip 2: Get Organized



Organize your records. Good organization will simplify preparation of your tax return, might lower your preparation fee, and might provide info that will reduce your tax payment. There are

plenty of other rewards so start early! Your system doesn't need to be fancy. Even a cardboard box with paperwork organized in zip lock bags will do. **Ask your tax preparer for a checklist to help you in the process.**

Tip 3: Keep your receipts

Bank or credit card statements do not suffice in the event of an IRS examination though they are helpful in organizing your financial information. Keep receipts of any expenses you deduct. Write the business purpose on the back and put receipts in a manila envelope in case you need them later. Any assets you still own, like a vehicle or home, keep purchasing documents of those throughout their life.



Tip 4: File your 1099

Any captain that paid crew shares to their crew members needs to complete and furnish **Copy B** of a 1099-Misc or 1099-NEC to the crewmember by **January 31** and **Copy A** to the IRS by **March 2 (if filing paper) or March 31 (if filing through IRS E-File)**. The IRS can assess a penalty for failing to issue a proper Form 1099 (including late or filing forms with errors). BBEDC and your local BBEDC Community Liaisons will have limited quantities of 1099M forms available for residents. Paper forms can be ordered directly from the IRS for free at:

<https://www.irs.gov/businesses/online-ordering-for->

[information-returns-and-employer-returns](#). Contact your tax preparer if you have any questions.

Tip 5: Fishermen's Retirement Plans



Fishermen can create a Simplified Employee Pension Plan (SEP) to put money away for retirement (up to 25% of each employee's pay) and lower their taxable income. A SEP is a retirement plan established by employers, including self-employed individuals. Ask your tax preparer to help you explore this option and be sure to let them know about any other retirement contributions you make.

Tip 6: Lower your Income Tax

Lower your taxable income and save for retirement by contributing to your IRA or set up an IRA if you don't yet have one. For tax year 2026 you can contribute up to the tax deadline of April 15, 2026.

Tip 7: Child Tax Credit

For the 2025 tax year, the child tax credit remains at up to \$2,200, but the refundable portion of the credit increases to \$1,700. It's important to note that income limits apply to these benefits.

Tip 8: Donations

Both cash and non-cash charitable donations are tax deductible. The IRS will require bank records (bank statement, cancelled check, or credit card statement) from you and a written statement from the receiving organization for cash donations over \$250. Non-cash donations must be recorded via a receipt with the organization's name, the date and location of the contribution, and a description of the donation. Charitable donations must be itemized on a Schedule A. Ask your tax preparer for specific information on any donations you have made in 2025.

