

THE MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ITIN) QUESTIONS



➔ What is an ITIN?

A nine digit number granted by the IRS to people who for whatever reason are not eligible to obtain a Social Security Number, ITINs are for federal tax reporting only, and are not intended to serve any other purpose.

➔ What documents are required to obtain an ITIN?

Valid passport of Home Country (which has not expired)
If the passport is not available you can submit a birth certificate and photo ID e.g. matricula consular, military ID, home country identity card, driver's license from home country.

➔ How long is the process for obtaining an ITIN?

The process typically takes between 6 and 8 weeks, this process could be extended to three months, if the application is rejected you may reapply.

➔ Who can assist me with the application process?

You can get free help at some nonprofit organizations such as Center for Economic Progress (Certified Agent) CEP not only provides ITIN assistance, but will also prepare your taxes to accompany your application (W7). For a list of organizations, go to the website www.irs.gov

➔ Will I risk being deported once the IRS receives my information?

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) does not share information with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the IRS sole purpose is to collect the right tax for each person residing in the country regardless of immigration status.

➔ Can I use the ITIN to get a job?

ITIN is not a work permit and is not valid for that purpose, it was created exclusively for reporting and paying taxes.

➔ Can I use this number as identification?

ITIN is a paper document that includes no photograph therefore it is not an acceptable form of identification.

➔ What tax credits do I qualify for if I have this number?

Every adult or minor claimed on a tax return must have an SSN or an ITIN number to qualify for tax credits such as:

Child tax credit for children under age of 17 without exceptions, if you live in US.

Tax credit for child care (Child Care Credit) for children under 13 or disabled of any age.

You can claim a child (a) 19-24 years old who attends a University as a dependent.

You can complete your report as head of household if you provide housing for a child or another adult 19-24 years old living over six months with you, (this person cannot provide over 50% of its own support).

**** The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is granted only to a lawful permanent resident (LPR) or US citizens.**

➔ How long is the ITIN valid?

In theory the ITIN is valid until the person obtains a valid social security number (when this happens the taxpayer must declare their tax reporting on paper, under the social security number and send it with a copy of your ITIN and a copy of your social security card to the IRS for information linking the two accounts. (In this case the report cannot be submitted electronically).

Note: The IRS has disabled ITIN numbers not used for five years; if the taxpayer is in this situation you must complete another application (W7) and send it with a copy of the original number awarded by the IRS to reactivate it.

If the card with number was lost, the taxpayer must communicate this information to the certified agent and provide the number without the card.

PAYING STATE (every state in the nation is different) AND FEDERAL TAXES A RESPONSIBILITY NOT A SUGGESTION.

*** FILING YOUR TAXES IS A REQUIREMENT REQUESTED BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF IMMIGRATION AND EDUCATION ***

**For assistance please call
312-630-0242
and leave a message with your
full name and phone number.**