



January 15, 2026

NO TAX ON TIPS!

NO TAX ON OVER-TIME!

NO TAX ON SOCIAL SECURITY!

Did you believe all that? I HOPE NOT!!!

While it's true that the One Big Beautiful Bill made significant changes to the tax law for 2025 and future years, it's quite likely that you will still be paying federal tax on your tips, over-time and social security. And for most of you, state income will still apply to all your tips and over-time. UGH!

So really, what changes did this bill make and can they help you? Here is a quick summary of some of the changes:

- **Tips Deduction ****
 - Up to \$25,000 of "qualified" tip income may be deducted
 - This applies to tips received in occupations where tipping is customary
 - The tips received must be properly reported to the IRS (on your W-2)
- **Overtime Deduction ****
 - You may be able to deduct the "premium" portion of your overtime pay
 - (the extra 50% for hours over 40/week under FSLA)
 - Limited to \$12,500 per year for single filers, \$25,000 for joint filers
 - We need a copy of your last paystub of the year to calculate this!
- **Senior Deduction ****
 - \$6,000 deduction per qualifying individual age 65 or older by 12/31/25
- **Car Loan Interest Deduction ****
 - Up to \$10,000 per year in interest paid on loans for new, personal-use vehicles
 - Must be original use, U.S. assembled under 14,000 pounds
 - Loan must be incurred after 12/31/2024
 - VIN MUST be included on the return

** Subject to income limitations and phaseouts.

- Trump Accounts with Free Money (What???)
 - This is a new type of tax-advantaged investment account for children under 18 (similar to an IRA)
 - Contribution maximum of \$5,000 per year per child
 - Contributions are not deductible, but earnings grow tax-deferred
 - For eligible children born between 1/1/25 – 12/31/28, the IRS will contribute \$1,000 to the Trump account if a proper election is made
- No more paper checks or paper refunds
 - Are you getting a refund? (WOOHOO!!!) It will be direct-deposited into an account of your choice (or you will wait FOREVER for your paper refund).
 - Do you owe tax? (YIKES!) The IRS is requiring electronic payments. We can initiate a direct debit from your bank account when we file your return. Alternatively, you can pay your balance due on the IRS website (www.IRS.gov)

Now that we have that information out of the way, Happy New Year! I can't believe another year is gone... Time is just speeding by. I hope you and your families had a safe, healthy and prosperous 2025. This year will be an exciting year for my family. My daughter Kate and her husband Matt are expecting their first baby this June (it's a girl!); and my son Christopher got engaged to his girlfriend Kayla. They will be getting married this September. We are so excited to have our family grow this year!

Not only is my family growing, but my firm is, too! Please join me in welcoming two new members to our staff. Kim has joined us to help with bookkeeping and Jarah is our new administrative assistant. We are so happy to have them here with us. Of course Tonya, Janet and Jack are still here. I would be lost without them. Jack had an exciting year as well! He married his girlfriend Anna and graduated from Stockton with his MBA! Great job Jack!

We are ready to begin preparing your 2025 tax returns. Each year we work to simplify the process for you while ensuring you provide all the important information to us. Here are the important points to keep in mind while we prepare your 2025 income tax returns:

- **HOW TO SEND DOCUMENTS**

We've streamlined our document delivery procedures and offer three convenient ways to deliver your documents to us:

- Upload to our SafeSend Portal (preferred method)
- Drop off at our office
- Mail to our office
- DO NOT E-MAIL YOUR DOCUMENTS



SafeSend is a secure method for us to exchange documents and for you to receive, review and sign your tax returns. We encourage you to set up a client portal in SafeSend. Your tax returns and supporting documentation will be available to you for seven years. E-Mail is NOT secure. Due to cybersecurity concerns, **we will not open e-mailed attachments.**

- **TAX ORGANIZERS**

If we have your e-mail address on file, we will be sending you a link to a personalized tax organizer through SafeSend to assist you in gathering your documents and providing the information we need. The e-mail will come from NoReply@SafeSendReturns.com. These organizers will be e-mailed by January 30th. If you don't see the e-mail, please check your spam or junk file.

- If you've changed your e-mail address or don't receive the e-mail from us by the end of January, send an e-mail to taxdocs@csayerscpa.com and we will send it over to you.

- **TIMELINESS MATTERS! DOCUMENTS, DEADLINES & EXTENSIONS**

- Tax returns are due April 15, 2026
- Returns are prepared in the order in which we receive COMPLETE information
- When you are finished uploading your documents, please let us know so we can begin to prepare your returns
- **MARCH 13th IS OUR DEADLINE.** If we don't have your complete information by March 13th, we will be unable to complete your return by April 15th. You will need to file an extension. At your written request and for an additional fee, we can file the extension for you
- An extension only gives you additional time to FILE your return (Until October 15, 2026). **Any tax due is still required to be paid by April 15, 2026.** It is your responsibility to estimate the amount due and make the payment. If your documents are not provided to us by March 13th, I will not have time to estimate your balance due by April 15th.

- **PRICING UPDATES FOR 2025 RETURNS**

I am sure you have all felt the increase in prices over the past two years. Unfortunately, I have as well. In order to keep up with the rising costs of running my firm, I will have to increase the prices that I charge for preparing your tax return. The increase will largely depend upon your individual tax situation and complexity of your return. You can help keep your return price lower by providing us with a well-organized tax package and completed organizer with all relevant questions answered.

To help avoid unexpected costs, you may request a fee estimate in advance. Estimates will be based on your prior-year tax return; however, final fees may vary depending on your current-year situation and complexity, including any additional schedules or forms required.

- **BILLING AND PAYMENT POLICIES**

- Any outstanding invoices from prior years must be paid before work begins
- Your current year invoice must be paid in full (or an approved arrangement made) before your return is filed.
- We accept cash, check, ACH/e-check and credit/debit cards. Credit card payments will be subject to a 2.9% processing fee.

- **IMPORTANT TIPS AND REMINDERS**

- Did you have health insurance? **We need form 1095-A or form 1095-B to avoid a penalty on your NJ tax return.** If you obtained your health insurance through the marketplace, we need form 1095-A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement. The IRS will REJECT your tax return if we do not include the information from your form 1095-A. This will delay your refund. Your return may also need to be re-processed, which may cost you additional preparation fees.
- Do you have any foreign income, investments, accounts, or other foreign assets? **WE NEED TO KNOW** to avoid **HUGE** penalties!
- Did you own any **digital assets** in 2025 (i.e. Bitcoin, Coinbase)? If YES, you must disclose this on your tax return so **TELL US!**
- If we give you quarterly estimates to make, it is because you are required to make them quarterly. The IRS **WILL** assess an estimated tax penalty if you do not send in quarterly estimates as required.
- The IRS and the states send out letters every year. Dealing with these letters has become very time-consuming. If you receive a letter and would like us to respond, we charge a **minimum fee of \$200.**
- We need a copy of your driver's license and that of your spouse.

Thank you for your support. We appreciate the confidence you place in us and welcome the opportunity to work with you and your family.

Cheryl Sayers

Cheryl Sayers, CPA PC

2025 INCOME TAX INFORMATION

OUR WEBSITE:

Please visit csayerscpa.com to

- Upload your documents
- Check the status of your refunds
- Find tax tools & financial calculators

ORGANIZERS:

We are e-mailing links to personalized organizers. If you did not receive one, call us to request it. If you prefer, you can download a blank organizer from our website.

To expedite the processing of your return, please complete an organizer or prepare a summary of your income and expenses.

DEADLINE:

Complete tax information and documents must be provided to us by March 13th to guarantee filing by April 15th.

EXTENSIONS:

We can file an extension for you for an additional fee of \$100. We can no longer file an extension on your behalf if you do not request one in writing. Be sure to estimate any tax due and make your payments by 4/15/26.

PAYMENT OF OUR FEE:

Payment is due when your return is complete. You can pay on-line or by cash or check in our office. Your returns will not be filed until payment is received.

APPOINTMENTS:

Appointments are not necessary. Cheryl's schedule is very tight this time of year. Your return will be prepared much quicker if you drop off, mail or upload your documents. We will contact you with any questions.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO PROVIDE US?

Most common tax documents/forms:

- W2 Forms (Employment) &
- 1099 NEC/MISC (Self-Employment)
- 1099-G (Unemployment)
- 1099-R (IRA's / Pension)
- 1099-INT (Interest)
- 1099-DIV (Dividends)
- 1099-B (Brokerage Statements/Stock Sales)
- SSA-1099 (Social Security)
- 1098 (Mortgage Interest)
- 1098-E or T (Tuition/Interest)
- 1095 A/B/C (Health Insurance)
- Real Estate Taxes Paid
- Federal and State quarterly estimated taxes paid (date and amount of each payment)
- Alimony paid or received
- Record of charitable donations made
- Record of medical expenses paid
- List of business income & expenses
- Drivers License for you & your spouse
- Bank account #, routing #, type of account
- Digital Assets? (Bitcoin/coinbase, etc)
- Foreign accounts or assets?

RECEIPTS:

We do not need receipts for medical expenses, business expenses and most donations. **Please provide receipts for non-cash charitable donations along with value of items donated** (i.e. clothing to Salvation Army).

ANY CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR?

- Marriage/Divorce
- New baby
- New address, phone, e-mail address