

Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (416 word count)

Post the following article on your websites and/or use in other communication vehicles to educate students about summer jobs and taxes.

What every student should know about summer jobs and taxes

Planning a summer job during your break from school? That's great, but keep in mind that you do have to pay taxes on the money you earn from that job. Here are a few tips about earning money and paying taxes.

Be sure you fill out [Form W-4](#), Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate. Your employer uses this form to determine the amount of tax to withhold from your paycheck. If you have more than one job, you should make sure all your employers are withholding enough taxes to cover your total income tax liability. To ensure your withholding is correct, use the [IRS Withholding Calculator](#) on [IRS.gov](#).

When determining how much income to report, include all the money you earned while working. This usually means wages, salaries and tips.

In some jobs, like waiting tables, you may receive tips from customers. Tips are considered income, just like your hourly wages. That means you must pay tax on them. This includes tips customers give you directly, tips customers charge on credit cards and your share of the tips you split with your co-workers. For more information about reporting your tips, read [Publication 531, Reporting Tip Income](#).

Many students do odd jobs over the summer to make extra cash. Earnings you receive from [self-employment](#) — including jobs like babysitting and lawn mowing — are subject to income tax.

If you have net income of \$400 or more from self-employment, you will have to pay self-employment tax. This pays for your Social Security and Medicare benefits, which are normally paid for by withholding from wages. The self-employment tax is figured on [Form 1040, Schedule SE](#). *Net income is the money you earned after any [deductions](#) are subtracted, such as business expenses.*

If you are in the ROTC and participated in advanced training, the subsistence allowance you received **is not** taxable. However, active duty pay, such as pay received during summer advanced camp, **is** taxable.

Now that you're working this summer, you may be wondering whether you'll have to file a tax return. The answer depends on a number of factors from how much you're making to whether or not your parents can claim you as their dependent. You can read the rules and dollar thresholds in [Publication 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction and Filing Information](#), or use the [IRS interactive tool](#) to find out.

To learn more about taxes, including how you might qualify for a [tax credit to pay for college or other qualifying education](#), visit [Tax Information for Students](#) on IRS.gov.

NOTE TO EDITOR: below are links to IRS.gov information and publications about what students should know about paying taxes on the income they earn from summer jobs.

On Twitter? Send this Tweet to your customers:

What every student should know about summer jobs & taxes #IRS Tax Tips from the IRS
[Tax Tips from the IRS for Students Starting a Summer Job](#)

You Tube videos –

[Income from summer or part time job is taxable and may even get you a refund](#)
[Tax Information for Students](#)

[Understanding Taxes](#) – The Hows of Taxes shows you how to apply tax principles, while the Whys of Taxes explains tax history and theory.

Forms and Publications

[Publication 525, Taxable and Nontaxable Income](#)
[Form 1040, Schedule SE, Self-Employment Tax](#)
[Employee, Self Employed, Independent Contractor \(ENG/SP\)](#)