



United Way
of Fresno County

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

What is VITA?

VITA is the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. It is a program that offers no cost tax filing services to working individuals and families with household incomes of \$50,000 or less.

How does it work?

Before the tax season starts, VITA volunteers have already put in 24 hours each of tax preparation training and certification by the Internal Revenue Service. Over 260 volunteers help staff 33 VITA sites, at various locations around the community, offering no cost tax filing assistance throughout the tax season. VITA volunteers are also apart of several events throughout the tax season. Several VITA volunteers will also be spending time at the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians offering no cost tax filing assistance to our Native American community. Other special events include partnerships with Wal-Mart and the One Economy Organization bringing a mobile no cost tax service vehicle to shopping centers, neighborhoods, and community centers throughout Fresno County.

2011 Results

During the 2011 tax season, VITA volunteers completed an estimated 39,787 hours of service. At the State of California minimum wage, these hours represent over \$338,186 dollars, These volunteers prepared 5,665 tax returns for area residents, returning more than \$10.5 million to the community. The IRS estimates that through the VITA/EITC Volunteer Program, tax payers in Fresno County saved over \$1.3 million in professional tax filing fees. In this economy saving families money and helping them keep every penny of their total refund is essential to building a financially stronger community.

What is Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)?

EITC is a tax credit to help you keep more of what you earned. When EITC exceeds the amount of taxes owed, it results in a tax refund to those who claim and qualify for the credit. To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if you do not owe any tax or are not required to file. The VITA Return Preparation AGI threshold amount for tax year 2011, is \$50,000. The threshold is based on 2011 EITC AGI limits as shown below:

Earned Income and Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) must each be less than:

- \$43,998 (\$49,078 married filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children
- \$40,964 (\$46,044 married filing jointly) with two qualifying children
- \$36,052 (\$41,132 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child
- \$13,660 (\$18,740 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children

The maximum EITC for 2011:

- \$5,751 with three or more qualifying children
- \$5,112 with two qualifying children
- \$3,094 with one qualifying child
- \$464 with no qualifying children

How do I find out more?

Taxpayers who have questions about the VITA/EITC no-cost tax filing assistance, please dial **2-1-1** or if you would like to speak directly with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regarding your taxes, please call **1-800-829-1040**.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA/EITC) SITES 2012

VITA SITE NAME	LANGUAGES SERVED	HOURS OF OPERATION	SITE INFORMATION
COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF MADERA 1225 Gill Ave Madera, CA 93637	English Spanish	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
CSET VISALIA 312 NW 3rd Ave Visalia, CA 93291 (To make an appointment, call 559.732.4194)	English Spanish	Thursday: 5:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-2-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
CSET TULARE 115 E. Tulare Tulare, CA 93274 (To make an appointment, call 559.684.1987)	English Spanish	Saturday 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
CSET PORTERVILLE 1061 W. Henderson Porterville, CA 93257 (To make an appointment, call 559.788.1440)	English Spanish	Friday: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-3-2012 LAST DAY: 4-15-2012
CSET OROSI 12384 Avenue 416 Orosi, CA 93647	English Spanish	Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
FRESNO CENTER FOR NEW AMERICANS 4879 E. Kings Canyon Rd. Fresno, CA 93727 (To make appointment, call 559.255.8395)	English Hmong Lao	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 1-30-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
FRESNO HOUSING AUTHORITY 1331 Fulton Mall Fresno, CA 93721	English Spanish	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
FRESNO LEARNING CENTER Maston Towers 1240 Broadway Plaza Fresno, CA 93721	English Spanish	Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 1-31-2012 LAST DAY: 4-17-2012
HEALD COLLEGE 255 W. Bullard Fresno, CA 93704 Rooms: 206, 208 & Student Lounge	English Spanish Hmong	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY NRC/ CYS 110 Tucker Avenue Sanger, CA 93657	English Spanish	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
KERMAN SENIOR CENTER 720 S. 8th St. Kerman, CA 93630	English Spanish	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 4-7-2012
MCLANE HIGH SCHOOL 2727 N. Cedar Fresno, CA 93703 Room: BH 203	English Spanish Hmong	Monday & Wednesday 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Closed: Feb. 8, 13, 15, 20; March 14; April 2, 4 & 9)	FIRST DAY: 1-30-2012 LAST DAY: 4-16-2012
PACIFIC SERVICE CREDIT UNION 102 E. Nees Ave Fresno, CA 93720	English Spanish	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Closed: Feb. 18; March 11; April 7)	FIRST DAY: 2-4-12 LAST DAY: 4-14-2012
ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL 4250 E. Tulare Ave Fresno, CA 93721 Room: TE-4	English Hmong Spanish	Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-4-2012 LAST DAY: 3-24-2012
SAINT REST BAPTIST CHURCH 1550 E. Rev. Chester Riggins Ave Fresno, CA 93706	English	Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-7-2012 LAST DAY: 4-17-2012
SPARKPOINT FRESNO CENTER United Way of Fresno County 4949 E. Kings Canyon Rd. Fresno, CA 93727 (To make an appointment, call 559.243.3695)	English Spanish	Tuesday & Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (T & Th by appointment only) Friday: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 1-31-2012 LAST DAY: 4-17-2012
WESTSIDE CHURCH OF GOD 1422 W. California Ave Fresno, CA 93706	English	Wednesday 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	FIRST DAY: 2-1-2012 LAST DAY: 4-11-2012