# United We Thrive VITA Volunteer Training Part A



United Way of Greater Cincinnati



#### Welcome!

- My name is Kathy Lavieri
  - 10th year with VITA
  - Asst Site Coordinator, Care Center Loveland
- Mary Lepper, Charles Lewis, and Keith Gehring will monitor Zoom Chat
- Our United Way of Greater Cincinnati Support Team
  - Matt Long, Director, Impact Program Management
  - Adrienne Brandicourt, Program Manager, Free Tax Prep
  - Emily Rose, Project Manager Volunteer Connection
  - Jessie Welker, Associate, Community Impact
  - Here to deliver a few words



#### Tips for a successful Zoom experience

- Please change your Zoom name to the name you used to register for this class
- We will initially Mute all participants and Unmute as necessary
- Use the Chat feature to pose questions, to get links shared by the training team, or to make a general comment.
- Have the <u>4012 Resource Guide</u> ready to access
  - We will also mention <u>4491 Training Guide</u>
- If you lose your Zoom connection, just log back in



#### Additional Tip for your Zoom experience

- Some of you may prefer to use two devices today
  - One device to watch the Zoom presentation
  - Second device to access:
    - https://linklearncertification.com/



Internal Revenue Service





#### **Agenda**

- Certification Testing and Volunteer Path
- Anatomy of a Tax Return
- What Happens at a Tax Site
  - 15-minute break
- Common Tax Forms
- Working with a Tax Scenario
- TaxSlayer software Introduction

# By the end of this session, you will have clear understanding of:



- ✓ Different VITA volunteer roles and the path to each one
- ✓ Sections and terminology on the 1040 Tax Return
- ✓ Activities at a VITA Tax Site
- ✓ Appearance and use of some Common Tax Forms
- ✓ Using Pub 4012 and other resources to answer tax questions
- ✓ Look and feel of TaxSlayer software



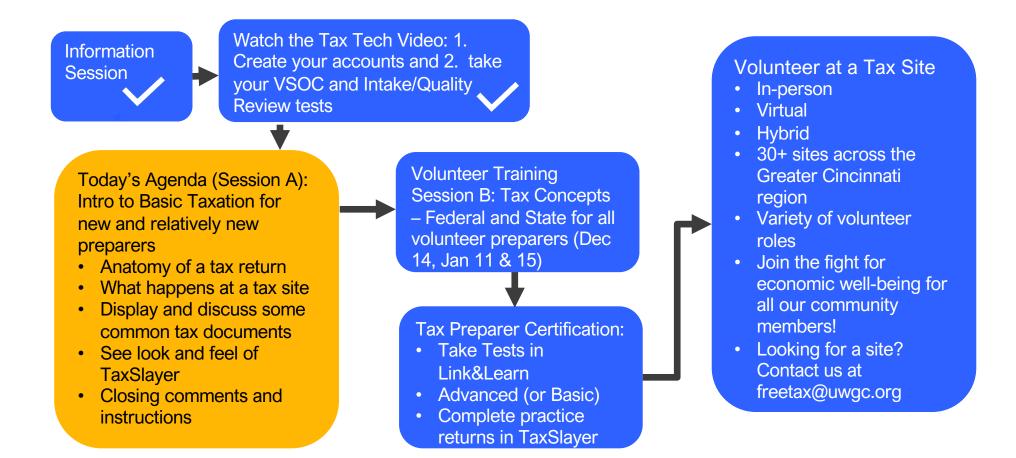
#### Polling #1

- We have instances where we will ask you to respond to a poll questions
- These are anonymous so don't be afraid of answering
- The first one is about you...

Which VITA volunteer position are you interested in....?



#### **Continuing along the Volunteer Pathway**



## Part A and Part B Topics are Designed for Test Success



Part A Training





All of the topics needed to pass Advanced Tax Preparer Certification test

#### Places to research answers:

- 1. Part A or Part B Training
- Pub 4012 or Pub 4491
   (topics mentioned in Part A or Part B)
- 3. TaxSlayer Practice Lab software after you have entered a Test Scenario's data



#### **Certification Testing**

- You should have already taken the following:
  - Volunteer Standards of Conduct
  - Intake and Quality Review
- Will need to take:
  - Advanced or Basic
- The scenarios and questions in the 6744 Test Booklet are identical to the online test.
  - Correction: P. 88, SSA-1099 form, enter \$23,899 in Box 5
  - Research and get confidence in your answers
    - Helps to use Ctrl-F (or the "Find" feature on your Tablet or Phone Browser) on electronic versions of 4012 & 4491 to look for key words.
  - Write answers in the 6744.
- Log onto the certification site, <u>linklearncertification.com</u> and enter your answers
  - Need to get 80% to pass.
  - You get two chances to pass.

#### A. Anatomy of a Tax Return

How do you get to the bottom line?





#### **Purpose of a Tax Return**

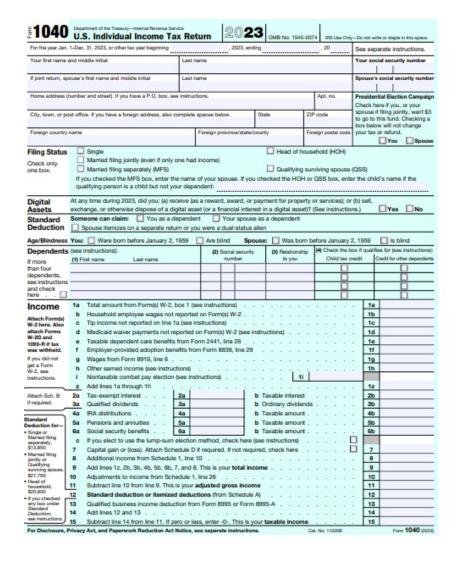
Reconcile what a taxpayer has already paid, if any, to federal and/or state government and what the taxpayer should have paid:

 If the taxpayer paid too much, then the taxpayer will receive a refund

 If the taxpayer paid too little, then the taxpayer will owe additional money when the tax return is filed



#### **The 1040**



Form 1040 (2025	9)							Page 2
Tax and	16	Tax (see instructions). Check if	f any from Form	(s): 1 S814	4 2 4972	з 🗆	1	6
Credits	17	Amount from Schedule 2, line	3				1	7
	18	Add lines 16 and 17					1	8
	19	Child tax credit or credit for o	ther dependent	ts from Schedu	ule 8812		1	9
	20	Amount from Schedule 3, line	8				2	10
	21	Add lines 19 and 20					2	1
	22	Subtract line 21 from line 18.	If zero or less	enter -O-			_	2
	23	Other taxes, including self-em	nolovment tax.	from Schedule	2. line 21		_	13
	24	Add lines 22 and 23. This is y					_	94
Payments	25	Federal income tax withheld f						
rayillelits	- a	Form(s) W-2	il Cilii.			25a		
	h	Form(s) 1099				25b	_	
	-	Other forms (see instructions)				250	_	
	d	Add lines 25a through 25c .				290	-	5d
			and amount -	noticed from DO	22 cetum		_	96
f you have a qualifying child,	26	2023 estimated tax payments		ppeda mam 20	zz ratum	1 07 1	2	.0
attach Sch. ElC.	28	Earned income credit (EIC) .				27	_	
	11	Additional child tax credit from				28	_	
	29	American opportunity credit for		, line B		29	_	
	30	Reserved for future use				30	_	
	31	Amount from Schedule 3, line				31	_	
	32	Add lines 27, 28, 29, and 31.			lyments and refu	ndable credits	_	2
	33	Add lines 25d, 26, and 32. Th						3
Refund	34	If line 33 is more than line 24,						14
	35a	Amount of line 34 you want in	efunded to you	. If Form 8888	is attached, chec	k here	. 3	5a
Direct deposit? See instructions.	b	Routing number			e Type:	Checking S	avings	
Des matracauris.	d	Account number						
	36	Amount of line 34 you want as	pplied to your:	2024 estimate	d tax	36		
Amount	37	Subtract line 33 from line 24.						
You Owe		For details on how to pay, go	to www.irs.gov	//Payments or	see instructions .		3	17
	38	Estimated tax penalty (see ins	structions) .			38		
Third Party		you want to allow another	person to disc	ouss this retur	n with the IRS?			_
Designee	ins	tructions				- Yes. Co		
	De	signee's		Phone no.			nal identificati er (PIN)	ion
01		der penalties of perjury, I declare the	of I have examined		accompanies school			est of my knowledge and
Sign		ief, they are true, correct, and comp						
Here	Ve	ur signature		Date	Your occupation		Lifthe IBS	sent you an Identity
	10	or agreeure		Lone	Tour occupation		Protectio	in PIN, enter it here
Joint return?				7			(see inst.	
See instructions.	Sp	ouse's signature. If a joint return, bo	oth must sign.	Date	Spouse's occupation	on		sent your spouse an
Keep a copy for your records.							(see inst.	rotection PIN, enter it hen
you records	_						(page Inst.	
	_	one no.	2 22 2	Email address			- 10	Tax and
	Pn	parer's name	Preparer's signat	Life		Date	PTIN	Check if:
Paid								Self-employed
							_	-
Paid Preparer Use Only	Fin	m's name	70				Phone no Firm's El	2.



#### **Income Forms You Can Expect To See**

	<u>-</u>
Income	Form
Wages	W-2
Interest	1099-INT
Dividends	1099-DIV
Retirement	1099-R
Social Security	SSA-1099
Railroad Retirement	RRB-1099-R
Unemployment	1099-G
Capital Gain	1099-B
Gambling	W2G
Self-Employment	1099-NEC, 1099-K, 1099-MISC
Debt Cancellation	1099-C
Cash (Self-Employment or Otherwise)	none

Covered in Part A

Covered in Part B

One generally just enters the data on the form into the software.... not very complex



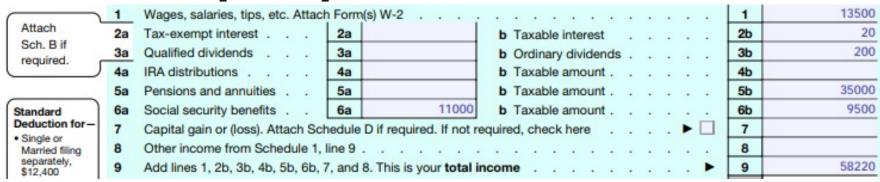
# Common Schedule 1 Additional Income Items that flow to 1040 and Increase Total Gross Income

- Business Income (including cash)
- Unemployment
- Gambling
- Cancellation of Debt
- Jury Duty Pay



#### **Total Income**

• Income from all Types of Income is totaled. This is called Total [Gross] Income.



In this snapshot of a tax return, the Total Income is \$58,220 (line 9).

Does this taxpayer pay tax on the Total Income?



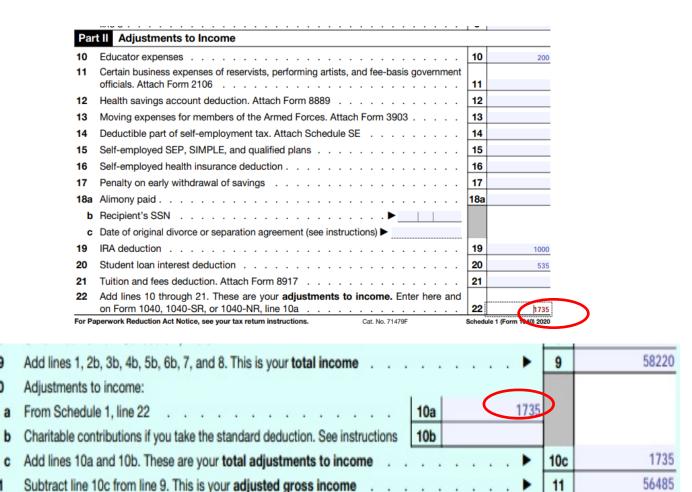
## Common Schedule 1 Adjustment Items that flow to 1040 and Decrease Total Gross Income

- Educator Expenses
- Health Savings Account Deduction
- Deductible Part of Self-Employment Tax
- IRA Deduction
- Student Loan Interest



#### **Adjustments to Income**

- In these snapshots of a tax form, Adjustments total to \$1,735 (line 10a).
- Adjustments are subtracted from Total Income. This new value is called Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).
- Does this taxpayer pay tax on the AGI?





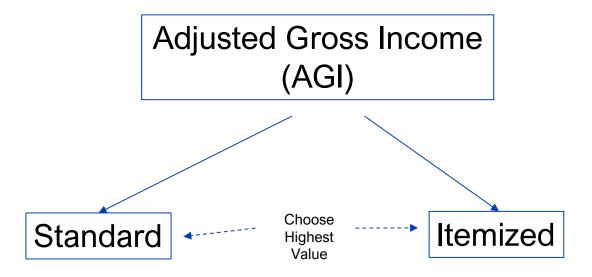
#### **Income Summary So far...**

- Tax filers are not taxed on all income (Total [Gross] Income)
- Total Income ≠ Taxable Income
- Total Income Adjustments = Adjusted Gross Income
- There's still more ...
- Adjusted Gross Income Deductions = Taxable Income



#### **Deductions**

- The AGI can be further reduced by Deductions.
- There are two types of Deductions:
  - Standard
  - Itemized
- Only one of these can be applied to a tax return
  - The one with the higher value

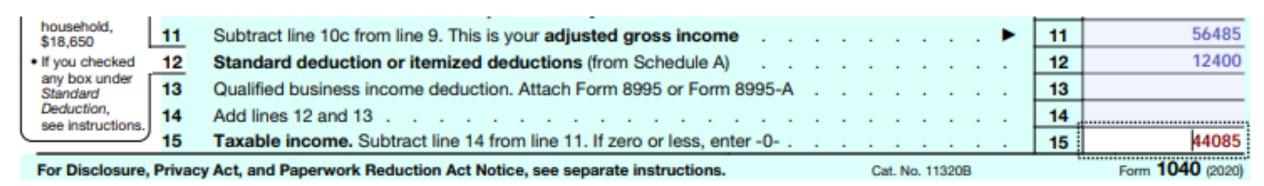


(Medical Expenses, State & Local Taxes, Charity, Mort Interest, etc.)



#### **Deductions**

- Deductions are subtracted from the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) to result in the Taxable Income.
- In this snapshot, a Standard Deduction was used.
- The Standard Deduction was subtracted from the AGI resulting in Taxable Income.
- Does the taxpayer pay tax on Taxable Income?..... Yes!





#### What is the tax owed?

- Tax owed is based on Filing Status.
  - Different tax tables are used for different filing statuses.
    - A single person with no dependents will pay a higher tax rate than a family with several children.

16	Tax (see instructions). Check if any from Form(s): 1 8814 2 4972 3		<b>16</b> 5870
17	Amount from Schedule 2, line 3		17
18	Add lines 16 and 17		18
19	Child tax credit or credit for other dependents		19
20	Amount from Schedule 3, line 7		20
21	Add lines 19 and 20		21
22	Subtract line 21 from line 18. If zero or less, enter -0		22
23	Other taxes, including self-employment tax, from Schedule 2, line 10		23
24	Add lines 22 and 23. This is your total tax	. ▶	24 5870

- In this snapshot, the Total Tax is \$5,870 (line 24).
  - You can also see (lines 17-23) other factors may increase or decrease tax owed.
    - For example, children decrease the tax owed (line 19).
    - On the other hand, self-employment increase the tax owed (line 23).



#### Who owes what....

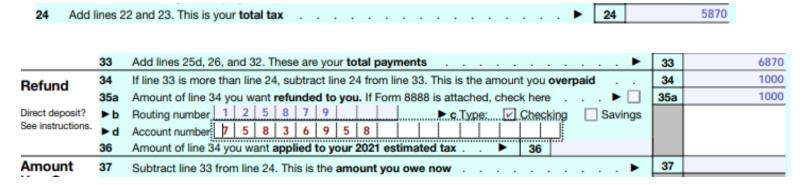
- In this snapshot, the taxpayer paid \$6,870 (line 25a) throughout the year from his/her paycheck, so the Total Payments (line 33) are \$6,870.
- Credits: reduce the tax owed or can increase the refund due.
  - In this snapshot, some possible credits are EIC (line 27), child tax credits (line 28), education credits (line 29)
  - These credits would affect the value on line 33.

24	Add lines 22 and 23. This is your total tax	24	5870
25	Federal income tax withheld from:		
a	Form(s) W-2		
b	Form(s) 1099		
C	Other forms (see instructions)		
d	Add lines 25a through 25c	25d	6870
26	2020 estimated tax payments and amount applied from 2019 return	26	
27	Earned income credit (EIC)		
28	Additional child tax credit. Attach Schedule 8812		
29	American opportunity credit from Form 8863, line 8		
30	Recovery rebate credit. See instructions		
31	Amount from Schedule 3, line 13		
32	Add lines 27 through 31. These are your total other payments and refundable credits	32 ,	
33	Add lines 25d, 26, and 32. These are your total payments	33	6870



#### Who owes what....

- As you can see from this snapshot, the taxpayer paid \$6,870 in Total Payments (line 33) but was only required to pay \$5,870 (line 24).
- So, in this case, the government owes the taxpayer \$1,000 (line 34) and the taxpayer wants it direct deposited to his/her checking account (lines 35a-35d).
- But it is possible that the taxpayer did not pay enough throughout the year and would then write a check to the government for the amount in line 37.





#### To Sum it up.....

- Tax filers are not taxed on all their income (Total [Gross] Income)
- Taxes are only paid on Taxable Income
- Gross Income ≠ Taxable Income
- Gross Income Adjustments = Adjusted Gross Income
- Adjusted Gross Income Deductions = Taxable Income
- Taxable Income determines Tax owed
- Non-Refundable Credits can reduce Tax Owed. Other taxes can increase Tax Owed.
- Taxes already paid and Refundable Credits can reduce Tax
   Owed or Increase taxpayer's Refund



#### Polling #2

A taxpayer's tax responsibility is based on....?

#### B. What happens at a tax site?





#### What Happens at a Tax Site?

- Greeting (Dedicated Greeter)
- Intake Paperwork/Screening (Taxpayer)
- Interview (Screener/Preparer)
- Tax Preparation (Certified Preparer)
- Quality Review (Certified Reviewer)
- Print
- E-filing (Site Coordinator)



#### **Greeting Taxpayer**

- Sign in, get number
- Explain process
- Check Required Documents
  - Photo ID
  - Social Security Cards or ITIN letter
  - Spouse available to sign return?
  - Tax documents
- Intake Form assist in filling in, don't answer tax questions
- Open and sort tax forms (if time)
- Scope questions?
- Determine Advanced or Basic?
- Managing the line
- Up front discovery will save taxpayer and prep time, e.g., return is out of scope

4012: vi -

Greeter
(or Tax Preparer
working as Greeter)



Form 13614-C Job Aid for Volunteers (Page 1)

**TOP SECTION** 

	Form <b>13614-C</b> (October 2024)				,	lity Review Sh	eet		_	MB Number 1545-1964
)	You will need: Tax Information such as Forms W-2, Social Security cards or ITIN letters for Picture ID (such as valid driver's licen	or all persons of	n your tax return		You info	mplete pages 1-6 of this for a are responsible for the in immation. ou have questions, ask the	formation on	•		ete and accurate
	Volunteers are trained to provide I	high quality s	ervice and uphold th	e highest eth	nical stan	dards. To report unethic	al behavio	to the IR:	S, email us at y	wi.voltax@irs.c
	Your first name (pronouns, optional)	<b>3</b> M.I.	Last name			Your date of birth	Your job ti	le		
	Spouse's first name (pronouns, opti	onal) M.I.	Last name			Spouse's date of birth	Spouse's	ob title		
١	Mailing address	-		Apt#	City			State	2	ZIP code
	Your telephone number	Spouse's tel	ephone number	Email addr	ress (option	onal)	Did you liv ☐ Yes	e or work	in two or more	states in 2024
i	Check if you or your spouse were	in 2024:	F10777 (277)	•	Legally	blind	0	☐ You	☐ Spous	e 🗆 No
J	A U.S. citizen	☐ You	☐ Spouse	□ No	Totally a	and permanently disable	ed 6	☐ You	☐ Spous	e 🗆 No
1	n the U.S. on a visa	☐ You	□ Spouse	□ No	Issued a	an identity protection PII	N (IPPIN)	7 You	□ Spous	e 🗌 No
	A full-time student	☐ You	☐ Spouse	□ No	Owners	or holders of any digital	assets	You	Spous	e 🗆 No
1	f due a refund, how would you like Direct deposit Split refund between accounts	-	eck by mail er	8	☐ Bank	ave a balance due, ho account up installment agreemer		☐ IRS.g	ake your paym ov Direct Pay ayment to IRS	
	Would you like to receive written con What language	mmunications	from the IRS in a lar	nguage other	than Eng	lish		☐ You	☐ Spous	e 🗆 No
j	Would you like information on how to	o vote and/or	how to register to vo	te		0.000		☐ Yes	□ No	
1	Would you, or your spouse if marrie	d filing jointly	like \$3 to go to the F	Presidential F	lection Ca	mnaion Fund		☐ You	☐ Spous	e 🗆 No

#### Form 13614-C

As you review it, think of what to expect on the 1040

- Family
- Income
- Credits
- Health Care



#### Form 13614-C Job Aid for Volunteers (Page 1 continued)

**BOTTOM SECTION** 

- 15		-												
As of December 31, 20	024, what wa	as your marital s	status											
☐ Never Married		■ Marr	ried	If married	, were	you married	for all o	f 2024		- 1	Yes	□ No	0	
a		Did	you live with	your spouse of	during a	any part of th	ne last s	ix months o	of 2024		Yes	☐ No	0	
☐ Divorced		☐ Lega	ally Separat	ed but not Di	vorce	i				1	Widow	red		
Date of final decree		Date	of separate	maintenance	decree						Year of	spouse's	s death _	
To be completed by	certified vol	unteer: Can an	yone else cla	aim the taxpay	er or s	pouse on th	eir tax r	eturn (12)			Yes	□ No	)	
List the names below of spouse) AND anyone						Answer '	Yes or N	lo (Y/N)		18 <sup>To 1</sup>		eted by c	ertified voor N/A)	olunteer
Name (first, last)	Date of birth (mm/dd/yy)	Relationship to you (child, parent, none, etc.)			U.S. Citizen	Resident of U.S., Canada or Mexico	Full-time student	Totally and permanently disabled	ISSUED	child or relative of	provided more than	less than		Taxpayer(s) paid more than half the cost of
<b>13</b>	14		2024		1	6			1	any other person	50% of their own support		50% of support for this person	maintaining a home for this person
						-			,					
Catalog Number 52121E					ww	w.irs.gov						Form	13614-C	(Rev. 10-2024)



**Taxpayer Completes** 

Certified Volunteer Completes

ec	eived money from a	llowing i	in 2024:		(To	be completed	by certifie	ed volun		to be	includ	ded N	otes/Comments
1	(a) Vages as a part-t	e emplo	yee			(B) W-2s 4		11000			#		
	How lany jobs												
	B/A) 1 ps					(B/A) Tips (Bas	ic when rep	orted or					
(	B/A) Retirement	ınnui	ity proceeds	S		(B/A) 1099-R (E	Basic when t	taxa.		(ك	Ħ		
						(A) Qualified C	haritable Dis	stributio.		R	\$		
(	Dissoility benefits (su- worker's compensation)	payments fro	om insuran	ce and		(B) Disability be	enefits on 1	099-R or W					9
(	B) Social Security or Railroad F	Retirement 8	Benefits (			(B) SSA-1099,	RRB-1099	4			#		
(	B) Uner ployment benefits					(B) 1099-G					#		
(	B) Refu d of state or local inco	me tax				(B) Refund					\$		
						(B) Itemized las	st year			Yes	□ No		
(	B) Interest or dividends (bank a	account, bor	nds, etc.)			(B) 1099-INT	#	(B) 109	9-DIV	W.	#		
(	A) Sale of stocks, bonds or rea	l estate				(A) 1099-B (inc	lude broker	rage statement)			=		
Į	Did you report a loss on last yea	ar's return	☐ Yes	□ No		Capital loss car	rryover			Yes	□ No	0	
(	B) Alimony 6					(B) Alimony			1.1500		\$		
						Excluded from	income			Yes	□ No		
(	A/M) Income from renting out y	our house o	or a room in	your house		(A/M) Rental in		anced when the			perso	nal	
	f yes, did you use the dwelling ent it for fewer than 15 days	unit as a pe			_			u ior iewer trian	15 08	iys)			
				□ No		Rental expense	2				• –	_	
-	ncome rom renting personal p		i as a venic	e		(D) W 00						_	
١	B) Gan bling winnings, including	glottery			П	<ul><li>(B) W-2G or ot taxpayer ca</li></ul>			iosse	s Delov	#		
	A) Payments for contract or se	lf-employme	ent work			(A) Schedule C						11.0	
	you report a loss on last year's	return	☐ Yes	□ No	7	☐ 1099-MISC					=		
١	. 1					☐ 1099-NEC							
١	\					□ 1099-K							
	•					☐ Other incom	me reported	elsewhere					
						☐ Schedule (	expenses				\$		
	Any other money received during payments, jury duty, awards, die					Other income ( scope of service		12 for guidance	on of	ther inc	ome, i.	.e.,	



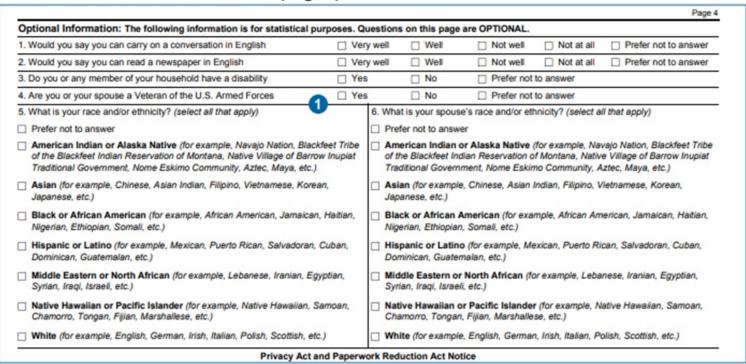
**Taxpayer Completes** 

Certified Volunteer Completes

			Page
Expenses and Tax Related	swer the questions on t	the left side of this page. Check only the boxes	you and/or your spouse.
Paid any of the following exp	nize in 2024?	(To be completed by certified volunteer) Stand or Itemized Deductions	Notes/Comments
(A) Mortgage Interest	essential and the second and the sec	☐ (A) 1098	
(A) Taxes: state, local.	0	The state of the s	
(A) Medical, dental, prescn,		☐ (B) Standard deduction ☐ (A) Itemize	
(A) Charitable contributions			
Paid any of these expenses in 2024?		(To be completed by certified volunteer) Expenses to re	eport Notes/Comments
(B) Student loan interest (2)		☐ (B) 1098-E	
(B) Child and dependent care	1 Sweether B	(B) Child and dependent care credit	
(B/A) Contributions to a retirement a	account 4	(B/A) IRA (Basic if a Roth IRA or 401K)	
(B) School supplies by a teacher, te	acher's aide or other educator	☐ (B) Educator expenses deduction	S
(B) Alimony payments (do not include	de child support)	(B) Alimony payments with spouse's SSN	S
		Adjustment to income	□ No
Did any of the following happen duri	ng 2024?	(To be completed by certified volunteer) Information to	report Notes/Comments
(B) You or someone in your family t	ook educational classes	☐ (B) Taxable scholarship income	
(technical school, college, job re	lated, etc.) (5)	(B) 1098-T (itemized statement from school, invoice, e	etc.)
		(B) Education credit or tuition and fees deduction	
(A) Sell a home		(A) Sale of home (1099-S)	
(A) Have a health savings account (	HSA)	☐ HSA contributions ☐ HSA distributions	<del></del> -
(A) Purchase health insurance throu	gh the Marketplace (Exchange)	☐ (A) 1095-A	
<ul> <li>(A) Purchase and install energy-efficiency windows, furnace, insulation, etc.</li> </ul>		(B) Energy efficient home improvement credit	
<ul> <li>(A) Have credit card, mortgage, or of by a lender</li> </ul>	ther debt cancelled/forgiven	☐ (A) 1099-C	
(A) Have a loss related to a declare	d Federal disaster area	☐ (A) 1099-A	
	0	☐ Disaster relief impacts return	
<ul> <li>(B) Have a tax credit disallowed (ex child tax credit, or American opp</li> </ul>	ample: earned income credit, ortunity credit)	(B) EITC, CTC, AOTC or HOH disallowed in a previous Year disallowed Reason	s year
Receive any letter or bill from the IR	s (9)	☐ Eligible for Low Income Taxpayer Clinic referral	
(B) Make estimated tax payments or	r apply last year's refund to	☐ Estimated tax payments	
2024 taxes	10	☐ Last year's refund applied to this year	<del></del>

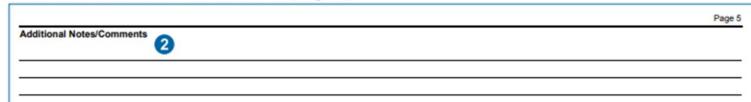


#### Form 13614-C Job Aid for Volunteers (Page 4)



1. Answers to the optional questions are transferred and collected inside TaxSlayer software.

#### Form 13614-C Job Aid for Volunteers (Page 5)





#### **Interview Taxpayer**

**Tax Preparer** 

- Greet taxpayer with a handshake & a smile
- Review 13164-C intake sheet that was completed by taxpayer
  - Make them feel comfortable
  - Ask questions to understand their situation
  - Ask for Social Security cards/Photo IDs
  - Open and sort tax forms (if not done)
  - Fill in any blank answers
  - Check that you are certified to complete the form (Adv/Basic)
  - Ask if there are other family members or income to add
  - Verify phone numbers/contact info
- Ask: "Did you bring any other paperwork?"

#### **Tax Preparer**

#### **Interview Process**

- Do not begin entering taxpayer information into TaxSlayer until you have completed a thorough taxpayer interview
- You may find at any point in this interview process that:
- The tax return is above the required certification level
- The tax return is outside the scope of the VITA/TCE Programs
- The taxpayer does not have all needed information or documentation
- Discovering these things before starting a return will save your time, taxpayer's time, and avoid much frustration

#### **Interview Process**

- Bottom of 13614-C: Marital status and Household information
- This Section that helps preparer make determinations about:
- filing status, dependency exemptions, various credits and deductions

  BOTTOM SECTION

#### Form 13614-C Job Aid for Volunteers (Page 1 continued)

As of December 31, 20	024, what wa	as your marital s	tatus					11111111						
<ul> <li>Never Married</li> </ul>		☐ Marr	ied	If married	, were	you married	for all o	f 2024		1	Yes	☐ No	0	
40		Did y	ou live with	your spouse of	during a	any part of the	ne last s	ix months (	of 2024	]	Yes	☐ No	0	
☐ Divorced		☐ Lega	Illy Separat	ed but not Di	vorce	vorced				]	☐ Widowed			
Date of final decree		Date	of separate	maintenance	decree						Year of	spouse's	s death _	
To be completed by	certified vol	unteer: Can an	yone else cla	aim the taxpay	er or s	pouse on th	eir tax r	eturn (12)		[	Yes	□ No	0	
List the names below of spouse) AND anyone						Answer	Yes or N	lo (Y/N)		18 <sup>To t</sup>		eted by c	ertified vo or N/A)	olunteer
Name (first, last)	Date of birth (mm/dd/yy)	Relationship to you (child, parent, none, etc.)	months lived in	Single or Married as of 12/31/2024 (S/M)	U.S. Citizen	Resident of U.S., Canada or Mexico	Full-time student	Totally and permanently disabled	IPPIN	child or relative of	This person provided more than 50% of their			Taxpayer(s) paid more than half t
	14		15		1	6			1	person	own support	income	support for this person	home perso
					_									
					_	-								
Catalog Number 52121E					ww	ww.irs.gov						Form	13614-C	(Rev

## **Interview Process: Conflicting Information**

## Tax Preparer

- Be alert for conflicting information. Sometimes an entry on one part of Form 13614-C will raise a question on another part.
- "I see that you and your husband both worked, yet you did not indicate you paid any childcare expenses for your 3-year-old son."
- "I see that you are over the age of 65, yet you did not indicate that you received Social Security benefits."
- "I see that you answered "No" to the question 'Can anyone claim you on their tax return?' But since you're a student living with you parents, I'm wondering if they can claim you."

## **Prepare the Return**

**Tax Preparer** 

- Use the Intake Form to guide you
- If taxpayer sits next to the preparer, have taxpayer verify entered data when you enter the data to avoid errors
- Mark off answers as you get them, use comment section
- Ask for help from site coordinator or other more experienced preparers
- You will also do the state return
  - But not local tax returns
- Remember: If you are not qualified or not comfortable, you do not have to do the return

#### **Finalize the Return**

- **Tax Preparer**
- After the federal and state tax info is complete, you aren't done.
- Paper vs eFiling
- Direct deposit vs. check
  - Bank Information
- Consents (4 consents to complete)
- Review 1040 view
- Doublecheck
- Explain quality review to taxpayer



#### **Consents**

- You allow us to Use non-identifiable tax information with our tax preparation partners.
- You allow us to Disclose this same info, such as refund amount, in reports for better understanding of trends and success.
- You allow us to make your tax return information available to other VITA programs you may visit.
- You allow the tax office that prepares your return to report data to their parent organization. If no, return cannot be efiled. Nor available for support by United Way team.

- Recheck! Accuracy is Important
- The return e-files promptly without a reject (8% reject) rate last year)
- The taxpayer
  - Gets the maximum refund
  - Pays the minimal due
- The taxpayer doesn't get follow-up questions from the IRS
- Builds confidence in the VITA network
  - UWGC Free Tax Prep was 99.10% accurate on accepted returns through September

## **Quality Review Methods**

- Quality review (QR) method depends on site size, number of experienced volunteers available, and certification level of the volunteers at the site.
- Two acceptable methods:
- Designated Review a designated Quality Reviewer, a volunteer who is solely dedicated to reviewing returns prepared by the other volunteers at the site
- Peer Review if a designated Quality Reviewer is not available, volunteers can review each other's returns.
- Note: Self-Review, quality reviewing a return you prepared, is never an acceptable quality review method.

**Every return needs to be Quality Reviewed** 

## **Quality Review Process**

- Preparer, Quality Reviewer or Site Coordinator
- Checklist & remediation
  - Check documents again- are all documents accounted for?
  - Check all names and numbers
  - Check filing status, income issues
  - Fix errors
  - Tell preparer if there are frequent mistakes
  - Continued on next slide...

## **Tax Preparer**

## . .

## Tax Preparer

## **Quality Review Process Continued**

- Review with Taxpayer
  - Print the 1040 and review with taxpayer
  - Explain to taxpayer that this is their return, and they are responsible for its accuracy (not you)
  - Taxpayer signs return
- Ask Site Coordinator what paperwork to keep and what to provide back to the taxpayer
- Send the taxpayer on their way
  - Give them back ALL their documents including SS Cards and Driver's License

## Follow-up Work

- Preparer work is complete
- Site coordinator will submit the efiles
  - Some returns will get rejected
    - Dependent already claimed
    - Name does not match SSN
    - Missing forms (1095-A)
  - Site coordinator will try to fix and re-submit based on information that site coordinator has (W2s, phone numbers, etc.)
- We may have to follow-up with the taxpayer
  - To work through filing errors the site coordinator could not resolve
  - You need more time to research a particular tax issue
  - You need the taxpayer to come back to deliver additional documents to finish the return

## **Tax Preparer**



## Polling #3

Tax Preparer is always responsible for ....?



## **BREAK**

15 minutes

## C. Common Tax Forms



#### **Common Tax Documents**

- ITIN Letter
- W2
- 1099-INT
- 1099-DIV
- 1099-R
- •SSA-1099
- RRB-1099

#### What is an ITIN Letter?

- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number
- A tax processing nine-digit number issued by the IRS
- The ITIN contains nine digits and is formatted like an SSN (XXX-XXX-XXXX)
- Begins with the number 9
- Generally, you should enter the ITIN on the return wherever the SSN is requested

## **W-2**

	a. Employee's social security number 416-00-0000	Save. accurate, FAST! Use	Visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov/efile		
b. Employer identification number (EIN)		1. Wages, tips, other compensation	2. Federal income tax withheld		
35-7000000		\$37,353.00	\$3,200.00		
c. Employer's name, addres	s,and ZIP code	Social security wages	Social security tax withheld		
		\$38,353.00	\$2,377.89		
CLEAR CREEK SCHO	OOL DISTRICT	5. Medicare wages and tips	6. Medicare tax withheld		
		\$38,353.00	\$556.12		
		7. Social security tips	8. Allocated tips		
d. Control number		9.	10. Dependant care benefits		
e. Employee's first name an	d initial Last name S	Suff. 11. Nonqualified plans	12a. See instructions for box 12		
Employee's address and			D   \$1,000.00		
VINCENT HUNTER		13.Statutory Retirement Third-party Employee Plan sick pay	12b.		
		14. Other	12c.		
			12d.		
15. State Employer's state YS 52-200XXX		17. State income tax 500	19. Local income tax 20. Locality name		
	ge and Tax  Itement  Ith Employee's FEDERAL Tax Return  Ith Internal Revenue Service				

4012: D-8

4012: D-11 for Box 12 Codes

#### 1099-INT

#### CORRECTED (if checked) Payer's RTN (optional) PAYER'S name OMB No. 1545-0112 Street address City or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code Interest Telephone no. 2024 Income **NEW BANK** 1 Interest income \$140.00 Form 1099-INT 2 Early withdrawal penalty Copy B \$28.00 PAYER'S TIN RECIPIENT'S TIN For Recipient 3 Interest on US Savings Bonds and Treas, obligations 00-23400XX 328-00-XXXX This is important tax 5 Investment expenses RECIPIENT'S name 4 Federal income tax withheld information and is Street address (including apt.no.) being furnished to the City or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code 6 Foreign Tax Paid IRS. If you are 7 Foreign Country or US possession required to file a JOE LOPEZ return, a negligence penalty or other 8 Tax exempt interest 9 Specified private activity bond sanction may be interest imposed on you if this income is taxable and the IRS 10 Market Discount 11 Bond Premium FATCA filing determines that it has not been reported requirment 13 Bond Premium on tax-exempt bond 12 Bond premium on Treasury obligations 14 Tax-exempt and tax credit 16 State Identification no. 17 State tax withheld 15 State Account number (see instructions) bond CUSIP no. Form 1099-INT

## 4012: D-14

#### 4012: D-18

#### 1099-DIV

• NOTE: Qualified dividends are ordinary dividends that qualify for lower, long-term capital gains tax rates and reported on 1099-DIV

		CORRECT	ED (if c	hecked)		
Street address City or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code Telephone no.  NEW BANK			1 Total Ordinary Dividends \$2,600.00 1b Qualified Dividends \$2,600.00		OMB No. 15450110	Dividends and Distributions
					2024 Form 1099-DIV	Сору В
			2a Total capital gain distr.		2b Unrecap. Sec. 1250 gain	For Recipient
PAYER'S TIN RECIPIENT'S TIN		2c Section	on 1202 gain	2d Collectables (28%) gain		
99-54321XX	99-54321XX 608-00-XXXX		2e Section 897 ordinary dividends		2f Section 897 capital gain	This is important tax information and is being furnished to
RECIPIENT'S name Street address (including apt.no.)			3 Nondividend distributions		4 Federal income tax withheld \$260.00	the Internal Revenue Service. If you are required to file a
PAUL ALEXANDER	e, country, ZIP or for	reign postal code	5 Section 199A dividends		6 Investment expenses	return, a negligence penalty or other sanction may be
		7 Foreign Tax Paid		8 Foreign Country or US posse	imposed on you if	
	FATCA filing requirment		9 Cash liquidation distributions 11 Exempt-Interest dividends		10 Noncash liquidation distribu	determines that it has
					12 Specified private activity bond interest dividends	
Account number (see instructions)		13 State 14 State Identification no		. 15 State tax withheld		
						<del></del>
Form 1099-DIV						

## 1099-R

		CORR	ECTED (if ch	recked)			Distributions From	
PAYER'S name Street address City or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code Telephone no.			1 Gross distribut \$20 2a Taxable amo	,100.00	2024		Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.	
LIBERTY ENTERPRIS	FC		\$20	,100.00	Form 1099-R		Contracts, etc.	
LIBERTT ENTERPRIS	LS		2b Taxable amo not determin		Total Distribution		Copy B Report this	
			3 Capital gain (in box 2a).	nduded	4 Federal income tax withheld \$2,01	0.00	income on your federal tax return. If this form shows	
PAYER'S TIN	RECIPIENT'S	TIN	5 Employee cor		6 Net unrealized		federal income tax withheld in	
41-200000X 417-00-0		-00-00XX	Designated Roth contributions or		appreciation in employer's securities		box 4, attach this copy to your return	
RECIPIENT'S name Street address (including apt. City or town, state or province FAITH HUNTER		foreign postal	7 Distribution Code(s)	IRA/ SEP/ SIMPLE	8 Other	%	This information is being furnished to the IRS	
			9a Your percent distribution	age of total	9b Total Employee Contrib	outions		
10 Amount allocable to IRR within 5 years	11 1st year of desig. Roth	12 FATCA filing requirment	14 State tax withheld		15 State/Payer's state no.		16 State distribution	
Account number (see instructi	ons)	13 Date of payment	17 Local tax wit	hheld	18 Name of locality		19 Local distribution	
Form 1099-R		1						

## 4012: D-44

#### 4012: D-44

#### **SSA-1099**

- Up to 85% of Social Security Income may be taxable
- Taxable percentage depends on filing status and combined income (AGI plus nontaxable interest, plus half of Social Security benefit)

	OCIAL SECURITY BENE FOR MORE INFORMA		/N IN BOX 5 MAY BE TAXABLE INCOM	E.
Box 1. Name PAUL ALEXANDER			Box 2. Beneficiary's Social Security 127-00-000X	
Box 3. Benefits Paid in 2024 Box 4. \$15,500.00	Benefits Repaid to SSA	in 2024	Box 5. Net Benefits Paid for 2024 (Bo \$15,500.00	ox 3 minus Box 4)
DESCRIPTION OF AMOUNT	IN BOX 3		DESCRIPTION OF AMOUNT IN E	OX 4
Paid by check or direct deposit	\$12,500.00			
Medicare Part B premiums deducted from your benefits	\$3,000.00			
Medicare Prescription Drug premiums (Part D) deducted from your benefits				
Total Additions	\$3,000.00	Box 6. Volu	untary Federal Income Tax Withheld	
Benefits for 2024	\$15,500.00			
		Box 7. Add	iress	
Benefits for 2023				
Benefits for 2022				
Benefits for 2021		Box 8. Clair	n Number (use tl 127-00-00	

RRB-1099-R

4012: D-56

#### UNFOLD TO SEE ALL TAX STATEMENT FORMS - SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYER'S NAME, STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE UNITED STATES RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD	2023	PAYMENTS BY THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD		
844 N RUSH ST CHICAGO IL 60611-1275	Gross Social Security Blouristent Benefit     Portion of TWCE PullPin 2023			
PAYER'S FEDERAL IDENTIFYINGNO.	100000			
Claim Number and Payee Code	Social Security Equipment Benefit Portion of Tier 5 Repaid to PSB in 2023			
2. Recipient's Identification Number	5 Nell Social Security Equivalent Benefit Poden of Fier 1 Part in 2023		COPY C	
Placipient's Name, Street Address, City, State, and Zip Code	6. Waters' Compensation Offset in 2023		POR RECORDS	
	7. Social Security Equivalent Benefit Portion of Tier 1 Paid for 2022		THS	
	Social Security Equivalent Servett     Portion of Tier 1 Paid for 2021		MYOFBIATION IS BEING PURNISHED	
Car	Social Security Equivalent Benefit     Portion of Tier 1 Paid for Years     Prior to 2021		TO THE INTERNAL PRIVENUE	
	10. Federal Income Tax Withheld	11. Medicare Premium Total	SERMCE	

## Polling #4

4012: D-10

Information in Box 12 of form W-2 is....?

## D. Look and Feel of TaxSlayer



#### **Actual Tax Returns**

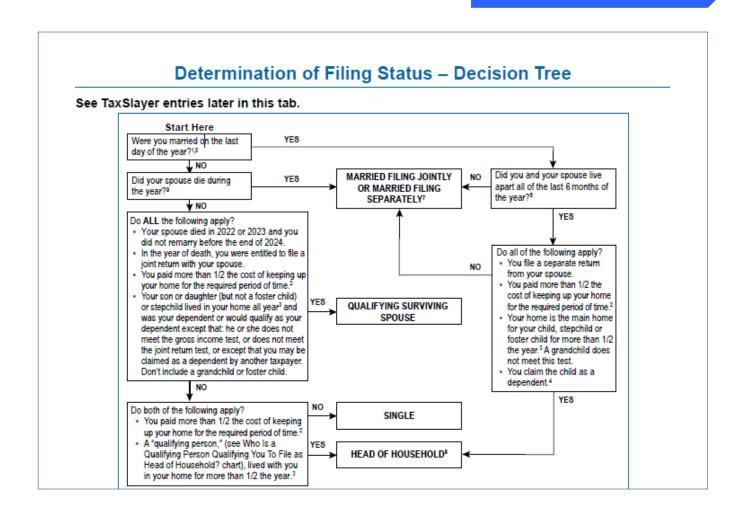
**Getting Started with TaxSlayer** 

- Before you begin any entry in TaxSlayer, be sure that you have completed the following:
  - Reviewed Intake Form (13164) with the taxpayer, resolving any questions
  - Verified that you have all necessary tax documents
  - Determined filing status

#### 4012: B-13

## **Determining Filing Status**

- Your tools:
- Intake Sheet Form13164 Page 1
- Publication 4012
   VITA/TCE Volunteer
   Resource Guide
  - Decision Tree Page B-13
    - Pages B: 14-18





#### Joe Griswold Scenario

- Joe is age 45 and was widowed in July 2021. He has a daughter, Josie, age 5, who lived with him the entire year.
- Joe provided the entire cost of maintaining the household and over half of the support for Josie.
- In order to work, Joe paid childcare expenses to Sunnyside Daycare.
- He has a W-2 and a 1099-INT.



## Polling #5

To determine Joe's filing status, a good first step would be....?



## Polling #6

What are the important facts to be considered in determining Joe's filing status....?



#### Joe Griswold Scenario

- If you know Joe's filing status, you can begin his return
- https://linklearncertification.com/
- Enter personal information for Joe and daughter Josie
- Enter information for both his W-2 and his interest.



#### Joe Griswold Return

• With just W-2 and interest – what is Joe's refund/(balance due)?

Questions?

# E. Closing Comments and Instructions



#### **IRS Guides and Resources**

- Pub 4012 Resource Guide
- Pub 4961 Volunteer Standards of Conduct
- Pub 5838 Intake/Interview & Quality Review
- Pub 6744 Test scenarios & questions
- Pub 4491 Training Guide

All available at irs.gov



#### **IRS Guides and Resources**

#### **Hardcopy Pickup**

- New and returning volunteers can pick up a hardcopy of the 4012 and 6744 (Volunteer Assistor's Test/Retest) from one of the following locations.
- Care Center, 11020 S. Lebanon Rd, Loveland, OH 45140 Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday 10 am to 6 pm.
- Center for Great Neighborhoods, 321 W. MLK/12th St., Covington, KY 41011
   Monday through Thursday 9 am to 5 pm and Friday 9 am to 12 pm.
- OhioMeansJobs-Butler County, 4631 Dixie Highway, Fairfield, OH 45014 Monday through Friday 8 am to 4 pm.
- United Way of Greater Cincinnati, 2400 Reading Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45202 Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.



## Need help – we are here!

- Send a request for assistance or question(s) to:
  - freetax@uwgc.org
  - Include your name, e-mail, and phone.
- A trainer will contact you.
- Our team of trainers is here to help you. You will not know every aspect of tax law none of us do! We will ensure you are supported when you come to volunteer at a site. You got this!



#### What's Next?

- Finish the Volunteer Standards of Conduct test and Intake/Interview and Quality Review test.
- Make a list of your questions
- Bring it all back to the Part B session, and we'll start with your questions.
- Replicate your personal 2023 return in the Practice Lab.

## Join us for Part B Training

- Come back for Part B regardless of the role you plan to pursue
- The more you know about VITA and tax law, the more you will be able to help the families who seek our services.







# Welcome to our team!