

Ontario Tax Talk

Parlons Impôts

Ontario

Ontario's Credits, Benefits and Supports for Seniors With Lower-Income

Disclaimer

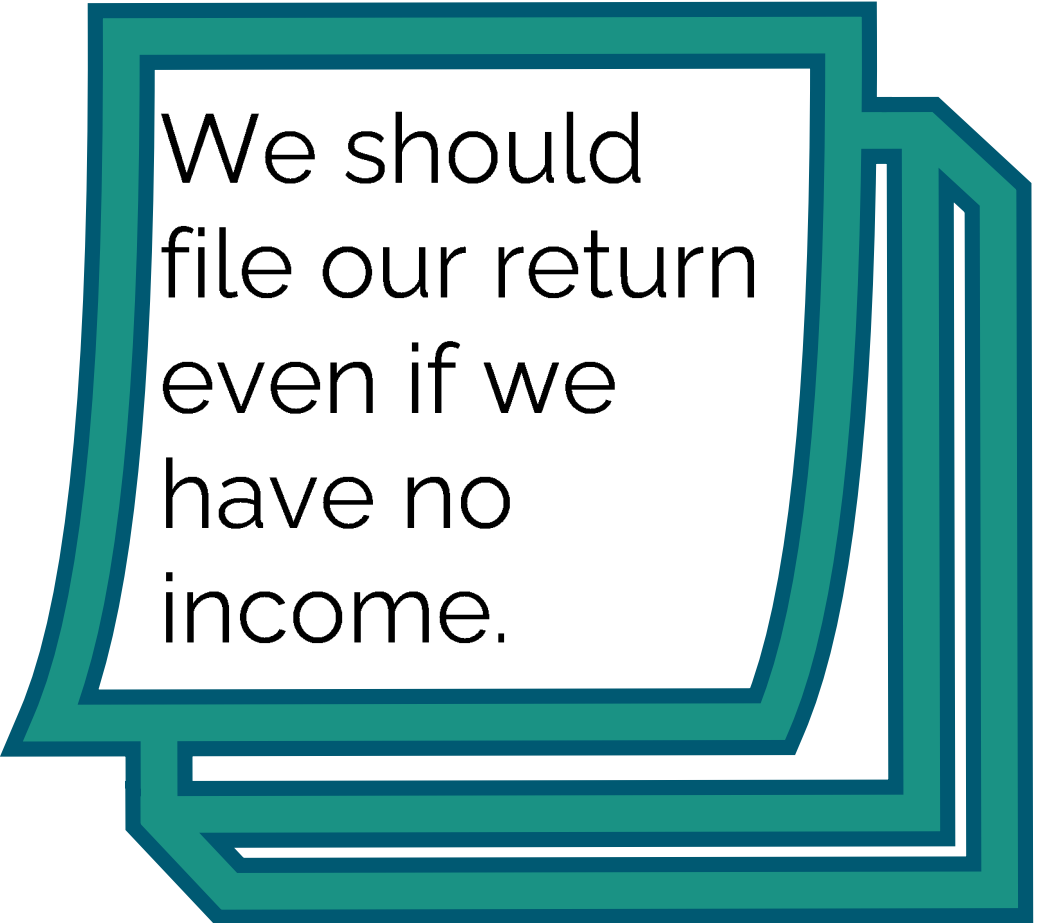
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Today's Agenda

- **Personal Income Tax Credits and Benefits**
- Additional Benefits
- Avoiding Scams
- Benefit Finder Demonstrations

IMPORTANT

- An **Income Tax and Benefit Return** is a **multi-purpose form** used to:
 - ✓ **pay** income tax
 - ✓ claim a **refund** if we overpaid **income tax**
 - ✓ apply for **tax credits** and **benefits**



We should
file our return
even if we
have no
income.

Completing the return

- **Identify** yourself
- Calculate your **total income**
- Claim **deductions** to determine **net + taxable income**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calculate net Federal tax (Federal tax minus non-refundable tax credits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calculate net Ontario tax (Ontario tax minus non-refundable tax credits)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claim Federal refundable tax credits and Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claim Ontario refundable tax credits

- **Refund** or **balance owing**
- Claim **Ontario benefits**

Identify yourself

- Name
- Address
- Email address
- Social insurance number (SIN)
- Date of birth
- Marital status
- Language
- Spousal information



Calculate your worldwide income

- Use Information slips and/or self-employment records
- Skip this step if you have no income
- **Old age security pension** (Line 11300)
- **Canada pension plan** benefits (Line 11400)
- **Other pensions** including pensions from other countries (Line 11500)
- **RDSP income** (Line 12500), **RRSP income** (Line 12900), **RRIF income** (Line 1300)
- **Dividends** (Line 12000 Line 12010)
- **Interest** (Line 12100)
- **Capital gains** (Line 12700)
- **Rental income** (Line 12600)
- **Self-employment** income (See Guide T4002)

Determine your net and taxable income

- You can reduce your income by claiming certain expenses as **deductions**
- Here are some examples
 - **RRSP contribution** (Line 20800)
 - **Moving expenses** (Line 21900)
 - **Pension splitting** (Line 21000)
 - **Carrying charges, interest expenses** (Line 22100)

Calculate your federal and Ontario tax payable

- Tax preparation software **automatically calculates** your **tax** and **Ontario Health Premium** (OHP)
- Higher tax and OHP rates apply to higher amounts of income

Federal income tax rate

**15% on your first
\$55,866 of income**

2024

Ontario income tax rate

**5.05% on your first
\$51,445 of income**

Non-refundable tax credits

- Lower your tax payable
- Available federally and provincially
- Both governments have unique credits
- Unused credits are not refunded
- Some can be transferred to another family member or carried forward to a future year

Examples of non-refundable tax credits

- Basic personal amount
- Spouse or common-law partner amount
- Age amount
- Pension income amount
- Caregiver amount
- Disability tax credit
- Medical expenses tax credit
- Low-Income individuals and Families Tax (LIFT) Credit

Low-Income Individuals and Families Tax Credit

- **Up to \$875** each year in Ontario personal income tax relief
- Must be a Canadian resident in any province or territory at start of the taxation year and an Ontario resident by end of the taxation year
- Must have employment income and owe Ontario personal income tax

Refundable tax credits

- **Refundable credits:**
 - ✓ Lower your tax payable
 - ✓ Payable even if you don't owe tax
- **Benefits:**
 - ✓ Financial assistance for various expenses and situations
- Some refundable tax credits and benefits are paid separately

Ontario Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit

- Refundable tax credit for seniors 70 and older
- Effective January 1, 2022
- Based on medical expenses claimed for existing Ontario Medical Expense tax credit
- Receive **25% of** claimed medical expenses **up to \$6,000**
- Amount reduced by 5% of family net income over \$35,000 and fully phased out at \$65,000

Ontario Seniors' Public Transit Tax Credit

- Refundable tax credit
- Claim up to \$3,000 in eligible expenses and **receive up to \$450 each year**
- Eligible expenses include:
 - Conventional public transit services
 - Specialized public transit services designed to transport people with disabilities
 - Single-ride tickets or tokens

Examples of federal amounts

GST/HST credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helps individuals and families offset GST/HST they pay• Up to \$519 (single) or \$680 (married or have a common-law partner) - July 2025 to June 2026
Canada Carbon Rebate (formerly Climate action incentive payment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helps individuals and families offset cost of federal pollution pricing• \$560 for an individual plus \$280 for a spouse or common-law partner• To claim rural supplement, complete question on page 2 of tax return
Multigenerational home renovation tax credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assists with renovation costs to create secondary unit that allows senior or adult eligible for disability tax credit to live with qualifying relative• Claim up to \$50,000 in qualifying expenditures, up to a maximum credit of \$7,500

The final result...

- After you calculate your income and taxable income, tax payable, claim your tax credits, you will know whether you:
 - Are eligible for a **tax refund**
 - **Still owe** some tax
- Review your return for completeness, then send it to the CRA
- Once processed, the CRA will send you a **Notice of Assessment**

Claim Ontario's benefits

Benefits:

- Financial assistance for various expenses and situations
- Some are paid separately from tax refund

Ontario Trillium Benefit

- **Ontario Sales Tax Credit**
 - Up to \$360 per person
- **Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit**
 - Up to \$1,421 to help with sales tax on energy and with property taxes
 - Do not claim if you lived in social housing unit exempt from property tax
- **Northern Ontario Energy Credit**
 - Up to \$277 per family / \$180 per single person to help with higher home energy costs faced by Northern Ontarians

Ontario Senior Homeowners' Property Tax Grant

- Helps low-to-moderate income seniors with cost of their property taxes
- **Up to \$500 each year**
- To be eligible, on December 31 of previous year you or your spouse/ common-law partner must:
 - be at least 64 years old
 - own and occupy your home in Ontario
 - have paid property tax for your home

Where do you claim tax credits and benefits?

Ontario non-refundable tax credits	Form ON428 Ontario Tax
Most Ontario refundable tax credits	Form ON479 Ontario Credits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ontario Trillium Benefit• Senior Homeowners' Property Tax Grant	Form ON-BEN
Federal credits and benefits	Pages 5-8 of return & schedules

Example

- Single; Age 74
- From Sudbury
- Pension income: \$30,000
- Rent paid: \$12,000
- Public transit costs: \$500
- Donations: \$200
- Claimable medical expenses: \$1,500

Tax return calculations

	Federal	Ontario
Income tax payable	\$571	\$452
Ontario Health Premium		+\$300
Refundable credits and benefits		
Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit		\$375
Seniors' Public Transit Tax Credit		\$75
Ontario Trillium Benefit		\$1,555
GST/HST Credit		\$519
Canada Carbon Rebate		\$560
TOTAL:		\$3,084

* All amounts are estimated

Example

- Married seniors
- From Toronto
- Pension income:
 - Wife: \$25,000
 - Husband: \$20,000
- Property tax: \$4,000
- Public transit costs: \$500 each
- Donations: \$500
- Claimable medical expenses: \$3,000

Tax return calculations		Wife	Husband
Income tax payable		\$0	\$0
Ontario Health Premium payable		\$300	\$0
Refundable credits and benefits			
Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit		\$250	
Seniors' Public Transit Tax Credit		\$75	\$75
Ontario Trillium Benefit			\$1,613
Ontario Senior Homeowners' Property Tax Grant			\$500
GST/HST Credit			\$646
Canada Carbon Rebate			\$840
TOTAL:			\$3,999

* All amounts are estimated

Keep your supporting documents, such as:

- Information slips (such as T4-A slips)
- Donations
- Home accessibility expenses
- Medical expenses
- Public transit costs
- Rent / Property tax



Filing options

- Use **CRA-approved tax software** to calculate and file taxes electronically
- Get **free** help through a **community volunteer tax clinic**
- Use SimpleFile by Phone **automated phone service**
- Hire a **tax preparer**
- File a **paper return**

How to change a return



- You can request a change to a return for a tax year ending in any of the **10 previous calendar years**
- For example, a request made in 2025 must relate to 2015 or a later tax year
- Wait until you receive your notice of assessment before asking for changes to your return
- Use **CRA's My Account** service or complete a **T1 Adjustment Request form**

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- **Additional Benefits**
- Avoiding Scams
- Benefit Finder Demonstrations

GAINS – Guaranteed Annual Income System

As of **July 2024**:

- Maximum benefit is \$87/month (single) / \$174/month (couple)
- You qualify for GAINS if you:
 - ✓ are 65 years or older
 - ✓ have been a Canadian resident for 10 years or more
 - ✓ lived in Ontario for the past 12 months or total of 20 years since age 18
 - ✓ receive federal Old Age Security (OAS) pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) payments
 - ✓ have annual private income of up to \$4,176 (single) or \$8,352 (couple)
 - ✓ have filed your personal Income Tax and Benefit Return

Examples of Ontario benefits

- Ontario Drug Benefit Program
- Reduced Co-payment for Lower Income Seniors
- Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program
- Long-Term Care Rate Reduction Program
- Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit
- Assistive Devices Program

Examples of federal benefits

- Canada Pension Plan (CPP)
- Old Age Security (OAS)
- Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)
- Allowance for people aged 60 – 64
- Allowance for the Survivor
- Canada Dental Care Plan

Credits and benefits change over time

- ✓ Review the tax return, including the 'What's New' sections
- ✓ Pay attention at budget time
- ✓ Explore helpful government resources

[Home](#) > [Taxes and benefits](#)

Find benefits and programs

Learn about support programs that you may be eligible for, to help with costs for post-secondary education, skills training, dental care, housing, health services, child care and prescription drugs. This tool does not tell you if you are eligible for any of the programs listed. Review each program to learn more.

Answer a few questions and see results in 2 to 5 minutes.

Get started



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of Canada

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MENU ▾

[Canada.ca](#) > [Benefits](#)

Benefits Finder

The Benefits Finder is a tool that can help you find Benefits and Services that you may be eligible to receive. It asks a few questions and uses your answers to search. It does not collect or track your information. The more questions you answer, the more customized and accurate your results will be.

[Get started with Benefits Finder](#)

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Help Starts Here.

If you need help dial 2-1-1.

FIND HELP

Select your
province or territory

Ontario ▼

Ontario 211 Services

| Live Answer | Online Resources |
| 24/7 | 150 + languages |
| Web Chat (7 a.m. – 9 p.m.) |

| Call 211 |

VISIT ONTARIO 211

Ontario's Personal Income Tax,
Credits and Benefits

Tax Tips and Resources

1. File your Income Tax and Benefit Return even if you don't owe tax or have income

The tax return is an application for government payments such as sales tax credits.

To learn more, visit: ontario.ca/taxreturn

2. Learn more about your tax return

Visit canada.ca/taxes-get-ready to see:

- What's new
- What to report and claim
- How to file or get help filing
- How to change a return

3. Find benefits programs and estimate your tax credits

- ontario.ca/benefitsforpeople
- canada.ca/benefits
- Dial 211 or visit 211ontario.ca

4. Stay updated

Visit ontario.ca/TaxTalk to attend free Ministry of Finance information sessions.

Subscribe to Ontario email alerts for new information on personal income tax, credits and benefit programs.

Visit: ontario.ca/finance-alerts

Ontario

ontario.ca/serviceontario

1-800-267-8097

TTY: 1-800-268-7095

Ministry of Finance

ontario.ca/page/ministry-finance

1-866-ONT-TAXS (1-866-668-8297)

TTY: 1-800-263-7776

Service Canada

servicecanada.ca

1-800-O-CANADA (1-800-622-6232)

TTY: 1-800-926-9105

Canada Revenue Agency

canada.ca/learn-about-taxes

canada.ca/taxes-seniors

canada.ca/taxes-students

canada.ca/taxes-newcomers

General line: 1-800-959-8281

Benefits line: 1-800-387-1193

Ontario payments: 1-877-627-6645

Publications:

- RC4064: Disability-related Information
- RC4065: Medical Expenses
- P105: Students and Income Tax
- T4055: Newcomers to Canada

Use our Personal Income Tax, Credits and Benefits **Tips and Resources Sheet**

Ce document est disponible en français

Ontario 

Ontario 

Don't forget about your municipal government

- citywindsor.ca
- london.ca
- toronto.ca
- cityofkingston.ca
- ottawa.ca
- greatersudbury.ca

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Don't get scammed

Government departments **do not**:

- Use aggressive language or demand immediate payment over the phone
- Ask you by email for personal information, bank information or payments by e-transfers or gift cards
- Use text messages or instant messages to start a conversation with you about your taxes, benefits or refund

Not sure what to do?

Do not:

- reply to texts or click links in text messages
- provide anyone with your personal or financial information



Do:

- Call CRA at 1-800-959-8281
- Call Ontario about a tax matter at 1-866-ONT-TAXS (668-8297)
- Call the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501



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