



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

Addabbo and DCWP to host Free Tax Prep webinar ahead of tax filing deadline

SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, JR. April 1, 2022

| ISSUE: **FREE TAX PREP, FEDERAL TAXES, COMMUNITY EVENTS, ADDABBO**

TIME: 7:00pm

DATE: Wednesday, April 6th

JOIN: NYS SENATOR JOSEPH P. ADDABBO, Jr. and Representatives from the NYC Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) at:

Zoom: tinyurl.com/FTP-SenatorAddabbo

Livestream: facebook.com/nycdca

For information about:

NYC Free Tax Prep: Visit nyc.gov/taxprep or call 311 and ask for tax preparation assistance.

NYC Financial Empowerment Centers: Visit nyc.gov/TalkMoney or call 311 to schedule an appointment.

Before the tax filing deadline arrives on April 18, State Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. is again partnering with the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) for a virtual webinar for regarding free tax preparations.

On Wednesday, April 6, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., representatives from DCWP will be live on the webinar to provide a Free Tax Prep presentation for all who register. During the

presentation, DCWP will discuss free filing options for New Yorkers earning \$50,000 or less, as well as NYC Financial Empowerment Centers, which offer free one-on-one professional financial counseling for all New Yorkers. To join this free webinar, visit tinyurl.com/FTP-SenatorAddabbo, or to view a livestream of the webinar, visit facebook.com/nycdca.

DCWP's City-funded NYC Free Tax Prep program offers multiple options to file for free, including in-person, drop-off, virtual and online services. Families with dependents who earned \$72,000 or less in 2020 and individuals who earned \$50,000 or less can use NYC Free Tax Prep. Filers should check the eligibility requirements and choose the filing option that is best for them. Anyone who lives or works in New York City can use NYC Free Tax Prep.

"Tax season is almost over, with the deadline to file looming. Many New Yorkers may have more complicated taxes this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic by losing a job or having received unemployment benefits," Addabbo said. "That is why I am sponsoring this Free Tax Preparation and Financial Counseling webinar in conjunction with DCWP, to help constituents file their taxes for free if they qualify or to get financial counseling. I hope people take advantage of this free service and get their taxes filed correctly."

The NYC Free Tax Prep services include:

- In-Person Tax Prep: sit down with a volunteer preparer. At in-person tax prep sites, knowledgeable IRS certified Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)/Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) volunteer preparers help filers complete an accurate tax return. Nearly 50 sites across the city are currently open and more will be opening in the coming weeks.
- Drop-off Service: drop off your documents and pick up your completed return later. With drop-off service, filers can drop off their tax documents and pick up the completed return

later.

- Virtual Tax Prep: like in-person free filing but online. Virtual Tax Prep is an online service where an IRS certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer will video conference with filers to help prepare their tax return using a secure digital system. Filers can submit photos or scans of tax documents to the preparer, confirm their identity, and complete their return by video call with a preparer. Filers will need access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone; a stable internet connection; and the ability to download secure video conference software.
- Assisted Self-Preparation: free online tax prep on your own or with help. Assisted Self-Preparation allows filers to complete their tax return online on their own and an IRS certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer will be available by phone or email to answer questions. Filers will need access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone; a stable internet connection; an email address, and their 2020 adjusted gross income (AGI) or self-select PIN.

In addition to the Free Tax Prep services, attendees of the webinar will also learn about several tax credits and who can qualify for them. Claiming even one of these tax credits this tax season could equal thousands of dollars.

- Child Tax Credit (CTC): Parents and caregivers with children younger than 18 can get up to \$3,000 or \$3,600 per child depending on the child's age. Filers do not need to have had

income to claim the credit. Families who got advance payments in 2021, must file in 2022 to get the rest of their money. This includes families who signed up online using the IRS Non-filer Portal or GetCTC.org. Only the children being claimed need to have Social Security Numbers (SSN); the filer does not need a SSN and can file using an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).

- **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC):** EITC is available to working families and individuals with low and moderate incomes. Now filers who are 19 and older with or without children can claim up to \$6,728 depending on the number of qualifying children.
- **Child and Dependent Care Credit (CDCC):** Working families who pay for childcare for children under 13 or the care of dependent adults can get back up to \$4,000 in care expenses for one qualifying person and up to \$8,000 for two or more people.

For more information on this event, call Addabbo's office at 718-738-1111. For additional information about NYC Free Tax Prep, visit nyc.gov/taxprep or call 311 and ask for tax preparation assistance; for NYC Financial Empowerment Centers visit nyc.gov/TalkMoney or call 311 to schedule an appointment. Services are available in English, Spanish, Arabic, Armenian, Bengali, Chinese, French, Haitian-Creole, Hebrew, Korean, Russian, Urdu and others to come.