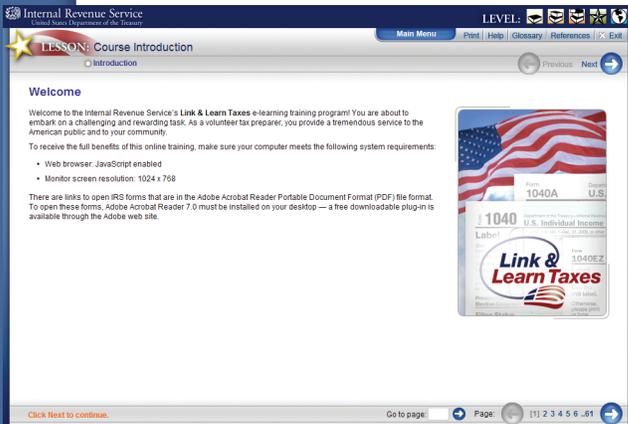


Link & Learn Taxes

Updates for the 2012 Tax Year



Link & Learn Taxes is web-based training designed specifically for VITA/TCE volunteers. Each volunteer's ability to prepare complete and accurate returns is vital to the credibility and integrity of the program. Link & Learn Taxes, as part of the complete volunteer training kit, provides the path to achieving this high level of quality service to taxpayers.

Link & Learn Taxes and the printed technical training guide, Publication 4491, work together to help volunteers learn and practice.

Link & Learn Taxes for 2012 includes:

- Access to seven VITA/TCE courses
- Easy identification of the VITA/TCE courses with the course icons
 - As you progress through a lesson, the Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, Military, and International icons will display depending on your level of certification.



- Two optional modules for tax preparers with Advanced Military or International certifications:
 - Cancellation of Debt for Credit Cards and Mortgages
 - Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)
- Easy navigation within a Link & Learn lesson using the controls available on every screen



- Drop-down Main Menu; Allows you to go directly to any topic in your current lesson
- Go to page: Type a screen number in the blank and click the small arrow to automatically jump to any page in the lesson
- Page: Click any bold page number, to automatically jump to that page
- A **NEW** icon to identify new tax law changes for 2012
- The Practice Lab



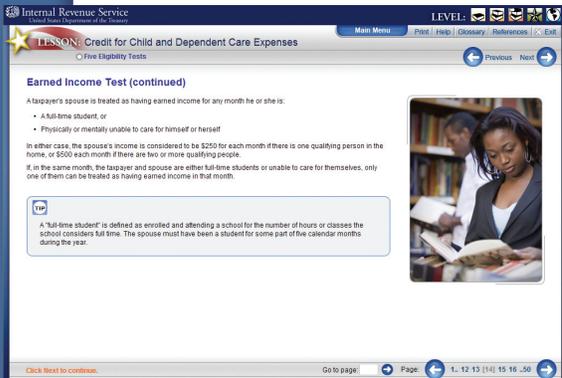
- Gives volunteers practice with an early version of the IRS-provided tax preparation software
- Lets volunteers complete workbook problems from Publication 4491-W
- Lets volunteers prepare test scenario returns for the test/retest

Explore

Go to www.irs.gov, type "Link & Learn" in the Keyword field and click Search. You'll find a detailed overview and links to the courses.

Link & Learn Taxes

Advantages for Everyone



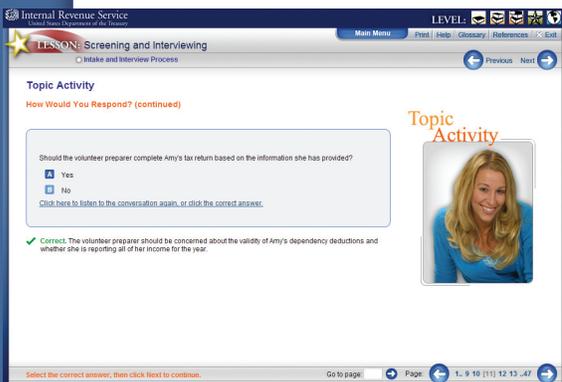
Advantages for Partners:

- Delivers uniform level of instruction
- Flexibility in training options, classroom or self-directed
- Saves on facility costs
- Requires no instructor, but can also be instructor-led
- Certifies your volunteers online
- Is available 24/7

Advantages for Volunteers:

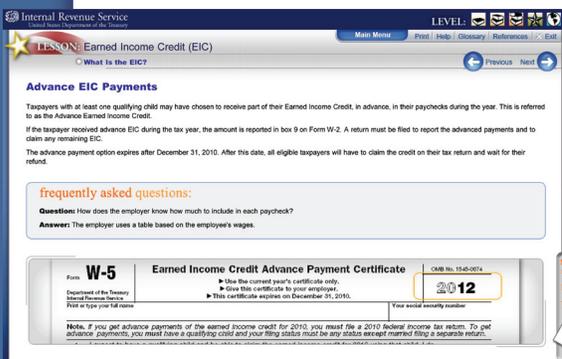
- Access to training 224/7
- Test and earn their certification online
- Complete training at their own pace
- Retake any course or lesson at any time
- Use practice sessions to prepare for certification
- Research topics or review tax law
- Print screens to create personalized job aids
- Also available on CD-ROM

You can order a printed Link & Learn Taxes Kit (Publication 4480) from your IRS contact.



Link & Learn Taxes Interactive Practice Sessions:

- Interactive activities that allow you to complete worksheets, forms and returns
- Practice exercises with immediate feedback — tells you whether you were correct or why your answer was incorrect
- Case studies
- Links to tax forms, publications, and tax tables
- Online Glossary



Review information online about:

- Latest tax law
- Interviewing tips
- Preparing accurate returns
 - Intake & Interview sheet
 - Job aids
 - Quality Review

For more information about IRS volunteer tax assistance programs, visit the Partnering Opportunities page on www.irs.gov

