

Sample article for national organizations to use when communicating to their affiliates

Please encourage your local affiliates to help taxpayers understand how the loss of a job may create new tax issues for them.

IRS Seeks Help from [name of organization or title of position, i.e., United Way, Extension Agents] to help individuals and families understand how the loss of a job may create new tax issues for them.

Many people are suffering financial hardships right now. One of those hardships is job loss. Losing a job can create new tax issues for individuals and their families. For example, severance pay, unemployment compensation and payments for any accumulated vacation or sick time are taxable. To avoid a big bill at tax time, people should either ensure enough taxes are withheld from these payments or make estimated tax payments.

Public assistance and food stamps are not taxable.

If someone believes they may have trouble paying their tax bill, they should contact the IRS immediately. There are steps the IRS can take to help ease the burden. People should also file a tax return even if they are unable to pay so they can avoid additional penalties.

How can you help? By spreading the word, leaving a flyer with a customer or making a mention in a news column.

For content and materials you can use, check out the partner [Outreach Corner](#) at IRS.gov or email partner@irs.gov if you have any questions.

NOTE TO AFFILIATES: Below are additional items you can use to educate your customers about the tax issues related to losing their jobs.

Check out these IRS publications with helpful information on job-loss related tax issues:

- [Publication 4128, Tax Impact of Job Loss](#) (English)
- [Publication 4128SP, Tax Impact of Job Loss](#) (Spanish)
- [Publication 4763, Job Related Questions During An Economic Downturn](#) (English)
- [Publication 4763SP, Job Related Questions During An Economic Downturn](#) (Spanish)

Also visit IRS.gov's web page - [What if I lose my job?](#)