

## Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (350 word count)

*Post the following article on your websites and/or use in other communication vehicles to let your customers know how they can find a FREE tax preparation site near them.*

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### Find FREE tax preparation near you

FREE tax help may be closer than you think, and quite possibly, it may be right in your own neighborhood. [IRS-sponsored tax preparation programs](#) offer free tax assistance in completing taxes and finding out about tax credits and deductions for which you qualify.

The IRS **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance – VITA** – program generally offers free tax help to people who generally make \$50,000 or less.

The **Tax Counseling for the Elderly – TCE** – program offers free tax assistance for all with priority assistance to people who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement issues unique to seniors.

The IRS has partnerships with many nonprofit groups, agencies and organizations who host tax preparation sites accessible in local communities. With nearly 13,000 of these sites throughout the nation, there is a very good chance there's one conveniently located near you.

So, how do you find these free tax help sites? The locations and hours of operation are typically communicated through city hotlines and local community channels. However, this year, the IRS is launching [an online site locator tool](#) that not only allows you to find a VITA site near you, but actually gives you step-by step directions to the site.

Just go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and type the word *VITA* in the search engine and click on “Free tax return preparation for you by volunteers.” From there, a link labeled *Find a VITA site near you* will take you to an application to help you locate a free tax preparation site near your zip code. You will then see a listing showing the name of the site, address, phone number, hours of operation and what language assistance is offered along with directions on how to get there. It's that simple.

Please note, to find a TCE site that offers priority assistance to people who are 60 years of age and older, visit the [AARP locator web page](#) or call 1-888-227-7660.

Free tax preparation assistance is closer than you think and now finding out where to go for help is just a matter of a few easy computer steps.