

Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers

Customize and post the following article on your websites and/or use in other communication vehicles about money the IRS may have for taxpayers – but, first, they need to file.

THIS ARTICLE MUST RUN BEFORE APRIL 17, 2012

The IRS may have money waiting for you

More than \$1 billion in refunds waits for people who did not file a federal income tax return for 2008. The IRS estimates that half of these potential 2008 refunds average \$637 or more. If you failed to file a return, you could be missing out on a potential refund. However, it's not too late if you file your 2008 tax return by **April 17**.

Many people don't file because they feel they didn't have enough income to require filing a tax return. However, if taxes were withheld from those wages you may be entitled to a refund. You have a three-year window to claim a refund. If you don't file a return within three years, your refund will become property of the U.S. Treasury.

How to claim your 2008 refund?

Your 2008 return must be properly addressed, mailed and postmarked by midnight April 17, 2012. There is no penalty for filing a late return that qualifies for a refund.

If you have not filed tax returns for 2009 and 2010, your 2008 refund may be held. In addition, your refund will be applied to any balance due owed to the IRS, and may be used to offset unpaid child support or past due federal debts such as student loans.

If you are missing Forms W-2, 1098, 1099 or 5498 for 2008, you should request copies from your employer, bank or other payer. If these efforts are unsuccessful, contact the IRS.

Current and [prior year](#) tax forms and instructions are available on the Forms and Publications page of IRS.gov.

NOTE TO EDITOR: *Below are links to related items about have you filed your 2008 tax return at [IRS.gov](#).*

YouTube Videos – Haven't Filed a Tax Return in Years?

- [English](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [ASL](#)