



## HCTT 2015-79: Answers to Five of Your Questions about the Premium Tax Credit

*Internal Revenue Service (IRS) sent this bulletin at 12/03/2015 02:19 PM EST*



IRS Tax Tips

December 3, 2015

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## Answers to Five of Your Questions about the Premium Tax Credit

The [premium tax credit](#) is a refundable credit that helps eligible individuals and families with low or moderate income afford health insurance purchased through a Health Insurance Marketplace. To get this credit, you must meet certain [eligibility requirements](#) and file a tax return.

Here are five questions the IRS is hearing from taxpayers, along with answers and where to go for more information.

### 1. What is included in household income?

For purposes of the PTC, household income is the modified adjusted gross income of you and your spouse if filing a joint return, plus the modified AGI of each individual in your tax family whom you claim as a dependent and who is required to file a tax return because their income meets the income tax return filing threshold. Household income does not include the modified AGI of those individuals you claim as

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dependents and who are filing a return only to claim a refund of withheld income tax or estimated tax. For this and other detailed premium tax credit [questions and answers](#) visit [IRS.gov/aca](http://IRS.gov/aca).

## 2. The IRS is asking to see my 1095-A. What should I do?

You should follow the instructions on the correspondence that you received from the IRS. You may be asked for a copy of Form 1095-A in order to verify information that has been entered on your tax return. Visit our [Health Insurance Marketplace Statements](#) webpage for more information about Form 1095-A and how to obtain a copy,

## 3. If I got advance payments of the PTC, do I have to file even if I never had a filing requirement before?

Yes. If you received the benefit of advance payments of the premium tax credit, you must [file a tax return to reconcile](#) the amount of advance credit payments made on your behalf with the amount of your actual premium tax credit. You must file a return and submit a Form 8962 for this purpose even if you are otherwise not required to file a return.

## 4. Marketplace says I did not file, but I did file before the extended due date. What should I do?

In advance of the open enrollment period that runs through January 31, 2016, the [Marketplace sent Marketplace Open Enrollment and Annual Redetermination letters](#) to individuals who might not have filed a tax return. Follow the instructions in the letter you received.

- Log in to your Marketplace account to update your 2016 Marketplace application.
- Check the box telling the Marketplace you reconciled your premium tax credits by filing a 2014 tax return and Form 8962.
- Update your Marketplace application by December 15, 2015.
- If you don't update your Marketplace application, any help with costs you currently get will stop on December 31, 2015 and you'll be responsible for the full upfront costs of your Marketplace plan and covered services.
- For more help visit [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov) or call your Marketplace.

## 5. What are my options to receive help with filing a return and reconciling?

Filing electronically is the easiest way to file a complete and accurate tax return as the software guides you through the filing process. Electronic filing options include [free Volunteer Assistance](#), [IRS Free File](#), [commercial software](#), and [professional assistance](#). For information about [filing a return and reconciling advance credit payments](#), visit [IRS.gov/aca](http://IRS.gov/aca).

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