



# Rhode Island Department of Revenue

## Division of Taxation

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SECURITY SUMMIT

ADVISORY FOR TAXPAYERS AND TAX PROFESSIONALS  
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### IRS provides extra protection for taxpayers through IP PIN program

*National Tax Security Awareness Week - Day Three*

PROVIDENCE – The Rhode Island Division of Taxation, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and the tax industry – working together as the Security Summit – remind taxpayers they can get extra protection starting in January by joining the IRS’s Identity Protection Personal Identification Number (IP PIN) program.

Proactively protect yourself against tax-related identity theft by opting into the IP PIN program – you simply have to be able to verify your identity. The six-digit IP PIN will be assigned to you to help prevent the misuse of your Social Security number and other information by criminals on fraudulent federal income tax returns. The best way to receive an IP Pin is by using the [Get an IP PIN](#) tool. Use the tool every year to get an updated number.



The program was originally designed for confirmed victims of tax-related identity theft and was expanded in 2021 to include any taxpayer who wants additional protection and security. If you were previously rejected during the identity authentication process, the IRS urges you to try applying again in 2022. The authentication process has been refined and improved, now enabling many taxpayers screened out in the past to have a better chance of passing the authentication process.

If you have trouble passing the IRS online identity authentication process, two options exist to help you move forward. The first involves filing Form 15227 and the second requires a visit to an [IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center \(TAC\)](#).

Before applying, the IRS urges you to keep these key points about the IP PIN program in mind:

- For 2022, the Get an IP PIN tool is scheduled to launch on Jan. 10. It’s the fastest and easiest way to get an IP PIN. It is also the only option that immediately reveals the IP PIN to the taxpayer. For that reason, the IRS urges everyone to try the Get an IP PIN tool first, before pursuing other options.
- No identity theft affidavit is required for taxpayers opting in. This means that anyone who voluntarily applies for an IP PIN doesn’t need to file Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit, with the IRS.

- The IP PIN is valid for one year. This means that each January any participating taxpayer must obtain a newly generated IP PIN.
- Be sure to enter the IP PIN on any return, whether it is filed electronically or on paper. This includes any amended returns or returns for prior years. Doing so will help avoid processing delays or having the return rejected by the IRS.
- Anyone with either a Social Security number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) who can verify their identity is eligible for the IP PIN opt-in program.
- Any eligible family member can get an IP PIN. This includes the primary taxpayer (the person listed first on a tax return), the secondary taxpayer (on a joint return, the person listed second on the return) or any of their dependents.
- With one key exception, never reveal an IP PIN to anyone. The only exception is a taxpayer who uses a trusted tax professional to file their return. Even then, only share the IP PIN with the trusted tax pro when it is time to sign and submit the return. The IRS will never ask for an IP PIN. Remember: Phone calls, emails and texts requesting an IP PIN are scams.
- Identity theft victims should still fill out an ID theft affidavit. This means that any confirmed victim of tax-related identity theft still needs to file [Form 14039](#) with the IRS if their e-filed tax return was rejected by the agency due to a duplicate SSN filing. The IRS will then investigate. Once the fraudulent tax return is removed from their account, the IRS will automatically mail an IP PIN to the confirmed victim at the start of the next calendar year. Because of security risks, confirmed identity theft victims cannot opt out of the IP PIN program.

#### **About the Security Summit**

The Security Summit consists of the IRS, state tax agencies, and the tax community -- including tax preparation firms, software developers, processors of payroll and tax financial products, tax professional organizations, and financial institutions. Partners in the Security Summit help protect taxpayers from identity theft and refund fraud. See <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/security-summit> for more details.