

Volunteers Needed to Help People Prepare Tax Returns

Rhode Island...Do you like to help people? Do you have a desire to help those in need? Then VITA may be just what you're looking for. The VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance – program is sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and provides courtesy return preparation assistance to people who cannot afford professional tax help, such as seniors, disabled, low-income and non-English speaking people.

“VITA volunteers explain many special tax credits and deductions and how people may claim them on their tax returns,” Meg Chevalier, IRS Tax Consultant said. “These volunteers help individuals complete their returns, right down to any refund that may be due them. Anyone can volunteer. If you have a skill and want to help, we can find a way to involve you in this program.”

The IRS provides free tax law training, electronic filing software training and all the materials needed to prepare basic individual income tax returns. Volunteers are asked to volunteer an average of three to four hours per week from mid-January through April 15th.

The IRS has scheduled one early training session; class will be held twice a week for five weeks. The training will be held at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., October 19th through November 18th. Volunteers are expected to attend all nine sessions.

If you have questions or would like to register for a class, please contact Meg Chevalier at Miguelina.y.chevalier@irs.gov or by phone at (401) 528-1856 or Michael Manning at Michael.C.Manning@irs.gov or by phone at (401) 528-1884. Please call early space is limited to the first 25 people.