

Frequently Asked Questions

(For Tax Year 2007)

1: Do I have to pay Taxes?

Yes. Provided you have earned income in the United States, during the Year 2007.

2: I'm an F-1 or J-1 student and I had no U.S. income during 2007, or my only U.S. income was bank or credit union interest. Do I need to file any tax forms?

Yes. You need to file Form 8843. This is the only form you will need to complete.

F-1 or J-1 students with U.S. income from other sources, such as dividend income, salary or wages, scholarships or fellowships, prizes or awards will need to file form 1040NR or 1040NR EZ.

3: What about my F-2 and J-2 dependents?

All F-2 and J-2 dependents, whether or not they are students, must file Form 8843 even if they had no U.S. income of any kind for 2007, or if the only income they had was from bank interest. If there was any other U.S. income, they will also need to file a 1040NR EZ or 1040NR.

4: I'm a new student for the spring 2007 semester but arrived in the U.S. in late December 2007. Do I need to file a tax form?

Yes! If you are in F-1 or J-1 status, or an F-2 or J-2 dependent, and were in the U.S. for any part of 2007, even if it was just a few days, you will need to file a tax form. If you had no U.S. income in 2007, you will only need to file Form 8843.

5: If I have U.S. income other than bank interest, which form should I use? 1040NR EZ or 1040NR?

Most students will find that they can use the 1040NR EZ, which is much simpler to complete than the 1040NR. Whichever form you use, you must also complete Form 8843.

6: What is the deadline for filing tax forms?

If you are an employee and received wages subject to U.S. income tax withholding, you must file your tax forms by April 15, 2007.

- 7: My bank (or credit union) has mailed me a form, called a Form 1099-INT, indicating the amount of interest I earned on my savings account/money market account/certificate of deposit. Do I need to include this amount on my income tax forms?

You are to report all Interest and Dividend income on Form 1040NR.

- 8: 1040NR EZ and 1040NR ask for social security numbers or taxpayer identification numbers. What Should I do if my spouse is here and they do not have SSN?

All F-1 and J-1 who have been authorized to work in the United States should have a Social Security number (SSN), issued by the Social Security Administration. Students in F-1 and J-1 status who do not yet have a social security number (and their dependents in F-2 or J-2 status that may not be eligible for a SSN) need an identification number to file their income tax form. Such individuals must obtain an Individual Tax Payer Identification Number (ITIN). They can apply for an ITIN.

They all should see International Student Service Office. .

- 9: I am a full-time student at Stevens Institute of Technology, but I also receive a TA or RA stipend. Is the stipend considered to be wages?

Yes, TA, and RA stipends are all considered WAGES. Adjunct stipends are also wages. In general, if you receive payment for performing a service that is considered to be wages and it is taxed as income. Students with TA or RA stipends are considered to be part-time employees. The State or payroll offices will issue form W-2 (Wage and Tax Statement) in late January for wages you earned in calendar year 2007. The information on the W-2 will be needed to be included on your income tax return.

- 10: During the 2007 calendar year, I worked at locations other than Stevens Institute of Technology (for example, employment at a previous U.S. college or university, or authorized off campus employment). Should I be receiving a Wage and Tax Statement (form W-2) from that employer?

Yes! Each employer for whom you worked in 2007 is required to issue you a wage and tax statement prior to the end of January. However, students often change their addresses, so your former employer may not have your current address. You should contact your previous work places and inform them of your current address so that the W-2 form can be sent to you in a timely manner. Remember, by law, all employers MUST report your earnings to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. So, failure to receive a form

W-2 from an employer does not eliminate the requirement that you report all taxable income earned from that employer.

- 11: [I am a student from India, and I've heard that my country's tax treaty allows me to claim the standard deduction, but I can find no additional information about this benefit.](#)

Information on this benefit can be found in IRS Publication 519, p.24 and Publication 501 Page 17. Students from India have the choice of itemizing their deductions or taking the standard deduction amount. Since the standard deduction for 2007 is \$4750 if you are single, most will take this amount. On form 1040NR EZ, enter \$4750 on line 11 if you are single. If you are married, and your spouse also files a return, enter \$3925 on line 13.

- 12: [If my country has a tax treaty with the U.S., does that mean I don't have to file any tax forms?](#)

No! In order to claim tax treaty benefits, you must file federal income tax forms 8843 and either 1040NR EZ or 1040NR.

- 13: [I am eligible to claim a tax treaty deduction, since my country has a tax treaty with the U.S. but I never received a form 1042-S. Instead, all of my earnings are reported on my form W-2. How do I complete form 1040NR EZ to claim my tax treaty deduction?](#)

Let's assume, for example, that you are permitted to claim \$5000 as your tax treaty amount to be deducted from wages. Subtract your tax treaty amount from your salary and wages as reported on your form W-2. Write the difference on line 3 of form 1040NR EZ. If your tax treaty amount is more than your salary as reported on your W-2, put zero on line 3. Then indicate the tax treaty amount on line 6. (You can verify your country's tax treaty information by consulting IRS Publication 901, U.S. Tax Treaties. Be sure you are consulting the section, which summarizes tax treaty benefits for students. Fifty-two countries have tax treaties with the U.S.)

Be sure to answer question J page 2 completely.

- 14: [Do I have to file a New Jersey State income tax form?](#)

Yes, State of New Jersey does not have any income tax treaty with your country. You must file NJ1040 do not confuse with NJ1040 NR. (Non-Resident of NJ)

- 15: I made \$7,000 from Stevens Institute of Technology during 2007. I had no other income. \$7,000 is under the limit of filing statuses for the 1040. Do I have to file a Tax Return?

Yes. Last year standard deduction is not a standard amount you need to work the schedule on page 3 of 1040NR. You still need to file your Tax Return.

- 16: Where do I mail my IRS forms?

Before mailing anything, MAKE COPIES FOR YOUR RECORDS!

1040NR EZ and 1040NR:
Internal Revenue Service Center
Philadelphia, PA 19255