

Greetings!

Tri-CAP is excited to announce the continuation of our free tax preparation services for the 2026 tax season. These services are available to qualifying individuals and families with a household income of \$69,000 or less, residing in Stearns, Benton, and Sherburne Counties. We especially focus on seniors, people with disabilities, and limited English-speaking taxpayers. This program aims to assist low-to-moderate-income residents in accessing professional tax assistance at no cost.

Free tax preparation will be provided on an appointment basis only, please visit <https://tricap.org/what-we-do/self-sufficiency/taxes> to complete the tax appointment request form. Exceptions for clients that require disability accommodations, ASL, and interpreter please call 320-251-1612 Ext 5, or email: tricaptaxes@tricap.org to make an appointment.

To ensure a smooth tax filing experience, please arrive with your government-issued photo ID, Social Security Card (SS card is required for all dependents, spouse, etc.). Bring all the relevant tax forms completed, along with income details W2, 1099-INT, 1099-NEC, and other income statements if you worked in the gig economy. IRS may not issue paper checks, please bring your banking routing and account number details.

Fusion Option Income limit \$89,000: For individuals wishing to file independently, we're offering DIY self-filing options, with volunteer assistance available to answer any questions and guide you through the process.

Renter's Credit Information:

If you are a renter, you can claim the Renter's Credit on your Minnesota Individual Income Tax Return (Form M1). The Renter's Credit a refundable credit, meaning it will be applied to your MN state refund or the amount you owe when you file your return. **Minnesota state income tax return filed without the CRP. An amended return using the M1X form will be required, which may delay refund.**

Homestead Credit:

Please note, homeowners must provide a 2026 property tax statement from county of residence. Mobile homeowners must provide a Certificate of Rent Paid (CRP) for lot rental along with a 2026 property tax statement from county of residence. These documents are filed using (Form M1PR), and any refunds related to these filings are issued later in the year.

If you cannot get a CRP from your property owner or managing agent, you can request a Rent Paid Affidavit (RPA) by:

Phone: 651-296-3781 or 1-800-652-9094

Email: individual.incometax@state.mn.us **If you request an RPA by email, only include the last four digits of Social Security number.**

Location & Hours of Operation: By appointment only

Tri-County Action Program- (Tri-CAP) 1210-23rd Ave South Waite Park, MN 56387
Monday: 9:30am – 3:30pm Tuesday: 9:30 am – 3:30pm Saturday: 9:30am – 4:00pm