



Tax Help Clinic

Free help for low income earners with their tax return and baby bonus claim.

If you want free help filling out your tax return and you are on a low income our trained Tax Help volunteers may be able to help you.

What is Tax Help?

Tax Help is a network of community volunteers who provide a free and confidential service to help people complete their tax returns at tax time. These volunteers are people from within the community who give up their time each year. They are not Tax Office staff, but they receive training and support from the Tax Office.

Where is Tax Help available

We run the Tax Help Clinic at Multicultural Council of the NT (MCNT) office on weekends only starting from 1 July and ends on 31 October. An ATO accredited and trained volunteer Benita Bernabe runs this clinic.

Who is Tax Help for?

Tax Help is for people on low incomes including, but not restricted to, those who are also seniors, students, and people from non-English speaking backgrounds, people with a disability, Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islander people. Since tax can be complex, volunteers are only able to help with fairly straightforward tax returns. They can help identify and record income received through:

- Pensions
- Australian government benefits and allowances, such as unemployment and sickness benefits
- Salary and wages
- Dividends
- Managed funds, and
- Interest.



Am I eligible for Tax Help?

The following table will help you determine if you are eligible for Tax Help.

If you are....	And your taxable income is...
A single person	\$35,000 or less.
Married or de facto	\$35,000 or less plus \$2,500 for each child
A single parent	\$35,000 or less plus \$2,500 for each child.

Then you are eligible for Tax Help if **none** of the following situations applied to you in the previous income year:

- You were employed as a contractor (for example a contract cleaner or taxi driver)
- You were in business, including being a sole trader
- You sold shares
- You sold an investment property
- You owned a rental property
- You received royalties
- You received distributions from a trust other than a managed fund
- You received foreign income other than a foreign pension or annuity.

What can Tax Help volunteers help with?

If you need to fill out a tax return a volunteer can help you do this. In some cases people on low incomes do not need to lodge tax returns. Tax Help volunteers can work out if a tax return is necessary in your case. If it is not necessary, and you lodged a tax return last year, it is important that the Tax Office knows this. Tax Help volunteers can help you to fill out a *Non—lodgment* advice if this is necessary. Tax Help volunteers will also be able to assist you with claims for family tax benefit, refund of imputation credits and baby bonus.

Tax Help volunteers cannot assist clients with:

- Business tax returns
- Partnership and trust matters
- Capital gains tax (CGT)
- Rental property

What to read/do next

Once you have determined that you are eligible for the Tax Help program and want to make appointments please phone our office on 8945 9122. Tax Help is only available on weekends in this office from 1st July to 31st October.