
Part Three
Introduction

• The University of Michigan provides its F & J visa holders with free access to the user-friendly tax form completion software, CINTAX.

• While CINTAX simplifies the tax form completion process it does not explain how the US taxes F & J visa holders.

• This webinar was designed to provide a frame of reference for this process.

• It should not be mistaken for tax advice.
Topics of Presentation
Part Three

1. US Income Tax Filing Requirements
2. Selecting Income Tax Return Forms
3. Filing Status Options
4. Filing Deadlines, Mailing Addresses, & Other Recommendations
1. US Income Tax Filing Requirements
Income Trigger for Resident Alien Return Filing Requirement

A resident alien must file an income tax return for 2010 if his or her gross income is greater than or equal to →

- $9,350 - if a single filer
- $18,700 - if married filing jointly
- $3,650 - if married filing separately
- $12,050 - if head of household

NOTE: Resident aliens with income below the filing threshold may be required to file a return for other reasons.

When Must A Nonresident Alien File a Tax Return?

A nonresident F or J must file a tax return, *UNLESS*

(1) Wages were his or her only US source income & total less than 1 personal exemption ($3650 for 2010).

OR

(2) She or he was a student or scholar present in the US in F- or J- status without taxable income during the relevant tax year.

*To claim refund or treaty benefits one must file return.*
Reporting Your Income Requires an Identification Number.

- Tax filers must include an identification number on their tax returns:
  1. If employed & eligible for a social security number (SSN), use your SSN.
  2. If ineligible for an SSN, use an individual tax identification number (ITIN).

- CINTAX will assist filers in completing Form W-7, “IRS Application for Individual Taxpayer Identification Number,” if they are in need of one.
Tax Reporting Documents from Withholding Agent

Documents needed for nonresident tax returns:

- **If US source wages →**
  - W-2 FORM(s) from each employer

- **If US source non wage or treaty exempt income →**
  - 1042(s) from each payer (even if entirely exempted by treaty)

- **NO 1042(s) will be received by degree candidates who receive qualified scholarship/fellowship funds.**
- **Resident aliens will receive W-2s for wage income but other forms for unearned income.**
2. Selecting a Return Form
Return Forms Filing Options

RESIDENT ALIEN
• 1040, or
  1040-EZ, or
  1040A
• Review form instructions for use restrictions.

NONRESIDENT ALIEN
• 1040NR, or
  1040NR-EZ.
• Review form instructions for use restrictions.
When May a Nonresident Alien File 1040NR-EZ Instead of 1040NR?

- Not claiming dependents nor claimed as a dependent
- No exemptions for spouses
- Taxable income less than $100,000
- Can only itemize state or local income tax
- No tax credits
- Income adjustments are limited (see form)
- Your only US source income includes: wages, salaries, tips, taxable refunds, or scholarship/fellowships.
- Only taxes owed include: (a) income tax on tax table & (b) FICA tax from FORM 4137 or 8919.
3. Filing Status
Filing Status Options

RESIDENT ALIENS:
- Same as US Citizens & include:
  - Single
  - Married Filing Separately
  - Married Filing Jointly
  - Head of Household
  - Qualifying Widow

- Review form instructions for use restrictions.

NONRESIDENT ALIENS:
- FORM 1040NR-EZ:
  1. Single, or
  2. Married filing separately
- Form 1040NR:
  More filing status options than EZ Form but limited eligibility
4. Filing Deadlines, Mailing Addresses, and Recommendations
## Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of US Income</th>
<th>Amount of US Source Income</th>
<th>IRS Form</th>
<th>Deadline *may change if 15th holiday or weekend day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages Only</td>
<td>$3650 or more</td>
<td>FORM 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ &amp; 8843</td>
<td>April 15th *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages &amp; taxable fellowship</td>
<td>Amount Irrelevant</td>
<td>FORM 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ &amp; 8843</td>
<td>April 15th *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treaty covered Income (if partially or entirely exempt)</td>
<td>Amount Irrelevant</td>
<td>FORM 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ &amp; 8843</td>
<td>If wage income = April 15th * If other income = June 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage (salary) only</td>
<td>Less than $3650</td>
<td>FORM 8843</td>
<td>June 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxable fellowship only</td>
<td>Amount irrelevant</td>
<td>FORM 1040NR or 1040NR-EZ &amp; 8843</td>
<td>June 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO income &amp;/or bank/credit union interest ONLY</td>
<td>Amount of interest</td>
<td>FORM 8843</td>
<td>June 15th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nonresident Alien Mailing Addresses

• FORMS 1040NR, 1040NR-EZ, 8843 should all be mailed to the following address:
  Department of Treasury
  Internal Revenue Service Center
  Austin, TX 73301-0215

• Resident aliens should see return form’s instructions for appropriate mailing addresses.
Recommendations

• Make photocopies of your tax return & attached documents before you mail them to the IRS.
• Keep these copies for at least three years from the filing due date.
• Failure to file a return or tax form when obligated to do so can result in criminal penalties and immigration consequences.