

International employees and students can access free tax preparation software ^[1]

February 6, 2026 by [ES and UIS Communications](#) ^[2]

As the new year begins, CU faculty, staff and students will begin receiving critical documents needed to file their annual U.S. income tax returns. For certain international employees and students, this means receiving Forms W-2 and/or 1042-S from CU over the next month.

Form W-2 is issued to any employee who receives taxable wages from CU and was required to be sent out to all employees by Jan. 31. If you didn't receive your W-2 in the mail, visit the [Tax Forms webpage](#) ^[3] to learn how to obtain a copy.

It's also important to remember that even if they did not earn U.S. income, nonresident F and J students and scholars are required to file IRS Form 8843.

Form 1042-S available electronically through Sprintax Calculus

Form 1042-S is issued to resident and nonresident alien employees to report tax treaty exempt wages. Nonresident alien scholarship and stipend recipients with taxable or tax treaty exempt income will also receive Form 1042-S. Employees and students with more than one type of 1042-S reportable income should expect to receive more than one 1042-S.

Tax year 2025 1042-S forms for employees and students will be available electronically in Sprintax Calculus. **Paper forms will be mailed only to individuals who have not provided consent to receive their 1042-S form electronically through Sprintax Calculus.** This month, please watch for an email from CUintltx-noreply@sprintax.com ^[4] with notification that 1042-S forms are available.

Employees and students who provided electronic consent but no longer have access to their campus portal or **did not** provide e-consent and have not received their mailed form by March 25 should visit the [Tax Forms](#) ^[3] webpage and follow the Form 1042-S request instructions.

Sprintax Calculus integrates with free Sprintax Returns

This year, CU is again partnering with [Sprintax](#) ^[5] to support nonresident alien employees and students in their personal tax filing obligation. The International Tax Office will share an **access code via email** for Sprintax's online tax preparation tool, Sprintax Returns, free of charge.

The access code will enable nonresident alien employees and students in F or J status to file their 2025 federal tax return and other required forms including IRS Form 8843.

Sprintax can also help with state tax filing. However, if you elect to file a state tax return using

Sprintax, the provided code will not apply and filers should expect to pay an additional fee.

Sprintax Returns integrates with Sprintax Calculus, the International Tax Office's platform for gathering information and documentation to ensure correct taxation of payments issued to international employees and taxable scholarship recipients. Data entered in your Sprintax Calculus profile during the year will be pre-populated in your Sprintax Returns tax forms, saving you time during tax season. All international employees and taxable scholarship recipients are *required* to complete a Sprintax Calculus profile during onboarding and to maintain their profile with updates as their circumstances change. Information to help you better understand the differences between Sprintax Calculus and Sprintax Returns can be found [here](#) [6].

When used together, Sprintax Calculus and Sprintax Returns provide a user-friendly and comprehensive resource to help international employees:

- Determine resident or nonresident U.S. tax residency status and filing requirements.
- Prepare preemployment tax documents including forms W-4, W-8BEN, W-9 and 8233 which can be signed and submitted electronically to ensure accurate withholding.
- Prepare necessary tax return documents including forms 1040-NR and 8843 which can then be printed, signed and mailed for filing with the IRS and State Department of Revenue. (Some users may be able to file electronically.)
- Ensure all applicable tax treaties are applied.
- Find assistance and information with an available [FAQ](#) [7], [blog](#) [8], [YouTube channel](#) [9] and email access to Sprintax tax professionals.

Sprintax resources

Sprintax offers multiple resources for navigating the tax process. Use these resources to make tax time as smooth and stress-free as possible.

- [Tax guides for US nonresident aliens](#) [10]
- [Nonresident alien tax filing explained](#) [11]

Sprintax will also host regular tax webinars where you can learn more about your U.S. tax filing obligations and how Sprintax can help you meet them.

Sprintax webinars:

- Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 5 p.m. MT – [Register here](#) [12]
- Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 1 p.m. MT – [Register here](#) [13]
- Thursday, Feb. 24 at 8 a.m. MT – [Register here](#) [14]
- Thursday, March 5 at 10 a.m. MT – [Register here](#) [15]
- Wednesday, March 11 at 11 a.m. MT – [Register here](#) [16]
- Monday, March 16 at noon MT – [Register here](#) [17]
- Friday, March 27 at 9 a.m. MT – [Register here](#) [18]
- Wednesday, April 1 at 11 a.m. MT – [Register here](#) [19]
- Tuesday, April 7 at 6 a.m. MT – [Register here](#) [20]
- Tuesday, April 14 at noon MT – [Register here](#) [21]

Visit the [International Tax website](#) [22] anytime throughout the year to learn more about your filing obligations.

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