

# Should you hire a **TAX PRO?**

If any of these situations are true for you, consider working with an expert this tax season.



## **Complicated tax situations**

Business owners, people with rental properties, those claiming several deductions, or people who are divorced and paying alimony.



## **Experienced a life change**

You purchased a home, got married, had a child, or another major financial change.



## **Live and work in different provinces**

A pro makes sure you pay the correct amount to each province.



## **Foreign investments or bank accounts**

All income that goes into these accounts must be reported, even if you didn't withdraw any money in 2018.



## **You want to save more money**

Tax experts know the laws inside and out and can use them to your advantage to help you owe less or get a bigger refund.




## **You want to reduce mistakes**

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has four years after your file date to conduct an audit. Returns stand out when there's a mistake—use a pro to reduce the risk.



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# Tax Regulations to Note

Be aware of these regulations and tax services that might come up as you file your 2018 taxes.

## Understanding Up Front Refunds



- ✓ **It's called "Tax Discounting"** – Regulated by the Tax Rebate Discounting Act. When a service offers your refund up front in exchange for a percentage of the amount you receive.
- ✓ **What they take** – Under the law, they get 15% of the first \$300 of the refund, and 5% of the remaining amount.
- ✓ **Stay vigilant** – If you choose this service, keep track of what you're charged to make sure it complies with the regulation.

To stay on top of regulations and to get help with tax forms, visit [Canada.ca](http://Canada.ca). You can also contact a tax pro.

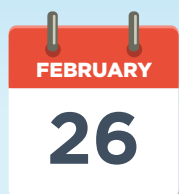
## Sold a Home in 2018?



In 2016, a regulation changed the way capital gains taxes worked on investments and investment properties. The idea was to get proper taxes from foreign investors/house flippers. The rules are different when you sell your principal residence.

- ✓ **Investment properties** – You must declare capital gains when you sell a property or an investment for more than you paid. Fifty percent of the declared capital gains goes toward your taxable income.
- ✓ **Principal residence** – If you sold your main home for more than you bought it for, there are no triggered capital gains. Still, it's helpful to put the transaction details in your tax return.

## Important Tax Dates



CRA begins accepting returns



Tax Day: Last day to file



File deadline for some self-employed taxpayers

The CRA does not offer file date extensions — except in special cases. Taxpayers are encouraged to file on time to avoid penalties and fees.

All information is general in nature and should not be taken as legal advice or guaranteed. Readers should not rely solely on this information. Contact a tax professional for more context on the tax law changes. Source: CRA

