

Protecting Your Tax Identity: IRS Online Accounts and IP PINs

The IRS has strengthened its defense against tax-related identity theft through two powerful tools: Identity Protection PINs (IP PINs) and IRS Online Accounts.

What is an IP PIN?

An IP PIN is a crucial 6-digit number assigned annually that helps prevent fraudulent tax return filing using your Social Security Number or ITIN.

Key Benefits of IP PINs:

- Effectively locks out fraudsters from e-filing using your SSN
- Provides strong protection against stolen identity tax refund fraud
- Must be included on all federal returns filed during the calendar year
- Available to any taxpayer who can verify their identity

Important Security Tips:

- Share IP PINs only with trusted tax preparers
- Never respond to calls, emails, or texts requesting your IP PIN
- Tax professionals should not store clients' IP PINs on computer systems
- Obtain an IP PIN immediately if you experience data theft

Getting an IP PIN:

- Apply online for immediate access
- Use Form 15227 if eligible (income restrictions apply)
- Visit a Taxpayer Assistance Center in person
- Confirmed identity theft victims receive automatic annual renewal

The IRS Online Account system adds another layer of protection by allowing secure access to tax information while preventing fraudsters from creating unauthorized accounts in your name.

With over 10.4 million taxpayers now using IP PINs, this program continues to be a cornerstone in the IRS's fight against tax-related identity theft.

This information is provided to you by Arrowhead Tax Service. We make every effort to provide honest and accurate tax information. Please use your discretion before making any

decisions based on the information provided, every tax situation is different. If you have any questions, please visit our office or call us at 937-543-5770.