

CREATING AN ONLINE IRS ACCOUNT

(Originally Published in July 2021 Monthly Commentary)

For more articles and White papers, visit our website www.mamportfolios.com



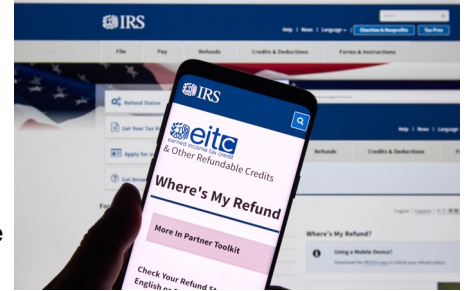
STEVE McCARTHY
CPA®, CFP®
Owner and Principal
650 610-9540 x 303
steve@mamportfolios.com

“Creating an online account with the IRS provides many potential benefits to a taxpayer. In particular, such an account will allow someone to see extensive information the IRS has on them.”

McCarthy Asset Management, Inc. is an independent, fee-only investment advisory firm that has been helping people invest wisely for over fifteen years. Our mission is to help you better understand and improve your financial situation. We specialize in Retirement Planning, Portfolio Management and Tax Planning.



From time to time, we have clients receive a letter from the IRS adjusting their federal tax return. The most common reason for the adjustment is the estimated tax payments claimed on the tax return did not agree with the IRS record of payments. This is one reason we recommend clients create an online account with the IRS. By doing so, they can see a list of estimated payments credited to them by the IRS.



By setting up an online account, a taxpayer can see:

- 1) Federal estimated tax payments by year for the last five years.
- 2) Account Status for the most recent year. Whether the tax return has been processed, is in process, or a tax extension has been filed. This is one way to keep an eye out for suspicious activity with your tax return.
- 3) The amount owed for past years.
- 4) Key information from the most recently processed tax return.
- 5) Details about your payment plan, if you have one.
- 6) Digital copies of select notices and letters from the IRS.
- 7) If applicable, the PIN the IRS has established for the taxpayer to file their federal tax return.
- 8) Access tax records via Get Transcript.

The IRS regularly adds new features to online accounts. For instance, taxpayers can now check the amount of the three Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) paid to them in 2020 and 2021. Later in 2021, taxpayers will be able to digitally sign certain authorization forms, such as a Power of Attorney, initiated by their tax professional.

Here's how to get started for creating an online account:

- 1) Select [View Your Account](#) at IRS.gov homepage.
- 2) Select the “Create or View Your Account” button.
- 3) Click “Create Account”.



Our Services

Investment Management Services:

- MAM creates and manages customized investment portfolios based on each client's investment objectives, timeframe and risk tolerance.

Financial Planning Services:

- The Net Worth Analysis (NWA) tracks the accumulation of Invested Assets for pre-retirees and the retention of Invested Assets for retirees. Updated annually.
- "Retirement Analysis" a comprehensive analysis of your retirement goals, which produces easy-to-read, interactive working plan, stored in the cloud. Updated as needed for life events.

Tax Services:

- Clients have the option of utilizing the income tax services provided through the firm Stephen P. McCarthy, CPA. These services are offered at an hourly rate and may include:

- Tax Return Preparation
- Income Tax Projections
- Tax Minimization Ideas
- Tax Authority Representation

Other Services:

- MAM has retained several outside experts, whose services are available at no cost to our clients:
 - Medicare Planning— Eileen Hamm of Superior LTC Planning Services, Inc.
 - Long Term Care Planning— Allen Hamm of Superior LTC Planning Services, Inc.

- 4) Pass the "Secure Access" authentication. This is a rigorous process to verify that you are who you say you are. You will need to authenticate your identity to continue.
- 5) Create a profile.

All password-protected IRS tools for taxpayers are protected by multi-factor authentication. In my case, when I log into my IRS account, a text is sent to my cell phone with a code that I must then enter to access my IRS online account.

I would be interested in hearing your feedback if you set up and view your IRS online account.