



PARTNER PROFILE

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

- Category:** Financial Assistance; Volunteerism
- Agency Name:** U.S. Internal Revenue Service
- Target Credit Union Participants:** Low-income designated (LID) credit unions and credit unions serving underserved or low-income consumers or distressed communities.
- Program Objective:** The VITA Grant Program supplements the IRS' VITA Program and promotes and supports free tax preparation service for the underserved, in both urban and non-urban locations. Tax preparation service is targeted to low-to-moderate income individuals, persons with disabilities, the elderly and those who speak limited English. The VITA Program uses tax preparation, in conjunction with the increased awareness of eligibility for special credits such as the earned income tax credit (EITC), child tax credit and credit for the elderly or the disabled. It also incorporates outreach and education about asset-building opportunities and financial services that could benefit credit unions and their members.
- Eligibility Requirements:** Credit unions qualify as non-profit organizations exempt from tax under Internal Revenue Code 501.
- Program Features:** Participating credit unions establish or co-host VITA site locations in their office space or an alternate location in the community. The IRS provides the software, training materials for VITA volunteers and in some instances, equipment to support the establishment of the site.
- IRS awards matching grants each year to organizations that offer free tax preparation services during the tax filing season at locations in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Funds are available to:
- Extend services to underserved populations in hardest-to-reach areas, both urban and non-urban
 - Increase the capacity to file returns electronically
 - Heighten quality control
 - Enhance volunteer training
 - Improve the accuracy rate of returns prepared at volunteer sites
- Program Materials:** [*Credit Unions: Using Volunteer Income Tax –VITA to serve the community*](#) brochure
- Contact:** Website: www.irs.gov/Individuals/IRS-VITA-Grant-Program
E-mail: Grant.Program.Office@irs.gov
Phone: 404.338.7894