

This is our 20th Tax Season! Thank you for continuing to put your faith and trust in us!

Happy New Year!

As we look back and reflect on what we faced in 2019, we cannot help but be revitalized, encouraged, and so blessed. We are grateful for the challenges, triumphs, and journey that God has taken us on this year and are encouraged as we move forward in 2020.

A Look Back for Integrity

2019 brought many exciting and enlightening moments for Integrity Tax Group. From mergers, to new partnerships, 2019 has been a great year for all of us!

Our values have always been very important to us. With the name "Integrity," we continually strive to live up to our name. We have been working to integrate Integrity's best practices and culture into all our offices for a number of years now. We encourage you to help hold us accountable.

- Committed Team Player
- Relationships and Family Values
- Proactive Continuous Improvement
- Enthusiastic Customer Service
- Professionalism and Expertise
- Lean Stewardship

A big piece of "Professionalism and Expertise" and "Proactive Continuous Improvement" includes ensuring that we solve tax and business needs for our clients. To do this, we have a renewed commitment to education. Especially regarding the new tax laws, we continue to stay on top of any and all changes. If you have any questions on tax law changes you've heard about, don't hesitate to ask us about them and how, if at all, they may impact you.

This Year's Tax Filings

The major tax overhaul we saw in 2018 is still impacting us in the 2019 Tax Year. We will see a few changes repeat themselves from the last few years along with some new changes and updates.

- Alimony cannot be deducted for divorces after January 1, 2019 (recipient does not have to claim the income)
- The penalty for not having Health Insurance in 2019 is gone.
- Standard Deductions have increased for 2019. We will still calculate if itemizing would be more beneficial for you.
 - Single: \$12,200 - Up from \$12,000
 - Married: \$24,400 - Up from \$24,000
 - Head of Household: \$18,350 - Up from \$18,000
- Energy credits are back for 2019 and are able to be claimed retroactively for 2018! Things like insulation, doors, windows, furnaces, water heaters, etc. are eligible.

Integrity Accounting Solutions

Integrity Accounting Solutions is a budget-friendly way to not have to do the monthly accounting needed to run a business. We would love to do your books so you can focus on what you love - running your business. If you'd like a quote for our Accounting Services, simply ask your Tax Advisor or call one of our offices - phone numbers are on page 2. For more information on Integrity Accounting Solutions, go to www.accountingwithintegrity.com.

How are we Keeping up with Technology Changes?

After the 2018 Tax Season, we sent out information regarding our policy change with QuickBooks. As a reminder, we will not be accepting QuickBooks files on flash drives - reasons include no access to QuickBooks Desktop (we've emigrated to QuickBooks Online), and an attempt to avoid potential viruses on our computers. For us to complete your taxes, please provide a Profit and Loss Report and Balance Sheet (if applicable) for 2019 with your tax documents.

Phishers are Still Scamming... Some are Still Biting

In 2018, we saw an enormous increase in email and letter scams. 2019 saw more scams and some law enforcement crackdowns on scammers. Despite best efforts, there are still scammers and con-artists out there. **Bring any correspondence you receive mentioning tax information to us.** Our offices are full of Enrolled Agents - tax preparers that are

specially licensed to talk to the IRS on your behalf - who will be able to tell if correspondence is genuine and advise on the proper course of action. Talk with your friends and family too. These con-artists mostly like to prey on the retired population.

If you need to issue 1099's, be aware of the penalty increases for late filing

New penalties are in place for 1099's that get filed to the IRS late - after January 31, 2020. We can help you avoid these penalties. Simply bring in all the information and documentation needed to any of our locations by January 17, 2020 to allow us ample time to get the 1099's prepared and filed on time.

Documentation needed for us to complete 1099's include:

- Completed W-9's for all contractors
- Amounts paid to all contractors
- Your/Business Name (whomever paid contractors)
- Your SSN/EIN
- Your Phone Number, Email Address, Mailing Address

Integrity Family Office!

At our Jenison, Rockford, and Grand Haven offices, we are piloting a new partnership with DeLong and Brower Financial Services and Buursma Agency out of Holland. This partnership gives us the opportunity to assist you in more needs than taxes, payroll, and bookkeeping. You don't need to drive to Holland to benefit from this partnership! The amazing staff at DeLong and Brower and Buursma Agency share our values and passion for what we do.

By partnering with DeLong and Brower, we will be able to assist and guide you through investments and financial planning. Buursma Agency gives us the opportunity to help you with more insurance needs than Marketplace insurance.

Feel free to ask your advisor how this partnership can benefit you! Our hope is that you will see the benefits and utilize them as much as we do!

Action Items...

The deadline to file individual tax returns this year will be **April 15, 2020**. **S-Corps and Partnerships** is **March 16, 2020**. Please call us if you would like an

extension filed. We may not file these for personal returns unless requested.

A friendly reminder about extensions: they are an extension of time to file, **NOT** an extension of time to pay. If an extension is filed, any balances owed are still due by the original deadline. If there is any chance you may owe, let us know. We'll do a quick calculation to estimate your tax liability for 2019 to minimize potential penalty and interest charges.

Don't Forget about your Friends!

Friends confused with the new tax laws and need help? Do you know someone who had a life event happen last year (divorce, marriage, had a baby, bought a house, etc.)? Do you know someone looking for a tax professional to help with more than just taxes? For every person you refer that files with us, we give YOU \$50. Your referral also receives \$50 off their tax bill when they come in. Yes, those amounts are greater than in years past. To celebrate our 20th Tax Season, we have increased our referral payments for this year!

Your Checklist

The checklist is available on our website or you can call one of our offices to request a checklist to be sent to you:

www.integritytaxgroup.com

Call to Make your Appointment Now!

If you still need to schedule your appointment or would like to reschedule, please contact us now at:

Jenison: (616) 457-5652

Grand Haven: (616) 842-8860

Benton Harbor: (269) 925-1912

Kentwood: (616) 534-3336

NE Grand Rapids: (616) 361-6148

Holland: (616) 392-5598

Rockford: (616) 866-4704

or email us at help@integritytaxgroup.com.

As always, feel free to stop in the office, mail, or fax your information to us. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Your team at

