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## **FORMS & FILING**

## WHO MUST FILE?

**FOR MOST PEOPLE** - When gross income exceeds the standard deduction plus the personal exemptions allowed.

The 2016 Federal PERSONAL EXEMPTION AMOUNT IS \$4,050.

The 2016 FEDERAL STANDARD DEDUCTIONS ARE:

Single, MFS = \$ 6,300 MFJ = \$12,600

H of H = \$9.300

AGE 65 OR OLDER AND/OR BLIND. Add \$1,250 for each of the joint filers or \$1,550 for single or head of household filers to standard deduction. Add these numbers again if the person is blind.

MINIMUM STANDARD DEDUCTION – Those who can be claimed as a dependent on another's return make use of the minimum standard deduction:

## **GREATER OF**

\$1,050, or

\$350 plus earned income,

but never more than \$6,300 (the 2016 max std deduction for single).

Generally a return is required when income exceeds the minimum and there is at least \$1 of investment income. For a blind dependent, add \$1,550 to each filing threshold. If the dependent is also over 65, add another \$1,550.

WHO ELSE MUST FILE? - If SE income exceeds \$400; to get a refund of tax withheld; to claim any refundable tax credit (EIC, refundable portion of education credits); if the return involves any tax such as AMT, IRA penalty, FICA on tip income, etc.; if T/P is a nonresident alien with a U.S. business or has a tax liability not covered by withholding.

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## CALIFORNIA DIFFERENCES -- WHO MUST FILE FOR 2016?

**CALIFORNIA FILING REQUIREMENTS** are based on gross income as well as AGI per Federal return. A return is required if *either* income exceeds the floor.

**NOTE:** \$250,000 EXCLUSION – SALE OF RESIDENCE. Excludable gain is NOT included in the gross income for purposes of filing requirements.

Status	Age	No depend	1 depend	2 depend
Calif. G		\$16,597	\$28,064	\$36,664
Calif. A		13,278	24,725	33,345
Calif. Gross	ross	22,147	30,747	37,627
Calif. AGI		18,828	27,428	34,308
MFJ, RDP E Calif. G Calif. A	ross	33,197 26,558	44,664 38,025	53,264 46,625
Calif. Gross Calif. AGI Both 65 & up		38,747 32,108	47,347 40,708	54,227 47,588
Calif. G	ross	44,297	52,897	59,777
Calif. A		37,658	46,258	53,138

Dependent of another

All ages - File if Gross Income or AGI exceeds standard deduction.