

# Tax Help Program

## What is the Tax Help Program?

The Bundaberg & District Neighbourhood Centre (BNC) facilitates the Tax Help Program in conjunction with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) between August and October (dependent upon demand) each year. We help you to complete your annual tax return via MyGov. ATO trained Tax Help Volunteers help low income earners who have simple tax returns to ensure their lodgements are accurate and fully compliant.

You are required to have a MyGov account to do your Tax Returns with this service – but we can help you with that also.

Tax Help assistance is by appointment only, between August and October each year.

See Tax Help website for full conditions of the program. (link to <https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Lodging-your-tax-return/Tax-Help-program/>)

## Is this for me?

We highly recommend the program for people who have difficulties with literacy and numeracy, who meet the criteria below, and cannot afford to pay a tax agent to prepare their return.

*Unfortunately, you cannot access the service if you are self-employed, a company director, part of a partnership, investor, or beneficiary of some other sources of income even if you earned less than \$60,000.*

You are **eligible** for assistance with your Tax Return if you are a low income earner of less than \$60,000 per year and if you are:

- an individual wage/salary earner
- a pensioner
- a Centrelink recipient.

You are **ineligible** for assistance if you:

- were employed as a contractor – for example, a contract cleaner or taxi driver
- were in business, including being a sole trader
- had partnership or trust matters
- sold shares or an investment property
- owned a rental property
- had Capital Gains Tax (CGT)
- received royalties
- received distributions from a trust other than a managed fund
- received foreign income other than a foreign pension or annuity.

