## Publication 929

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# Tax Rules for Children and Dependents 

For use in preparing 2010 Returns



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## Reminders

Social security number (SSN). Dependents who are required to file a tax return must have an SSN. To apply for an SSN, file Form SS-5 with the Social Security Administration. You can go to the website www.socialsecurity.gov for more information.

Individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). The IRS will issue an ITIN to a nonresident or resident alien who does not have and is not eligible to get an SSN. To apply for an ITIN, file Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, with the IRS. It takes 6-10 weeks to get an ITIN. The ITIN is entered wherever an SSN is requested on a tax return. If you are a nonresident alien applying for an ITIN to file a tax return, you generally must attach your original, completed return to Form W-7 to get an ITIN. If you are required to include another person's SSN on your return and that person does not have and cannot get an SSN, enter that person's ITIN.

An ITIN is for tax use only. It does not entitle you to social security benefits or change your employment or immigration status under U.S. law.

Photographs of missing children. The Internal Revenue Service is a proud partner with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Photographs of missing children selected by the Center may appear in this publication on pages that would otherwise be blank. You can help bring these children home by looking at the photographs
and calling 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) if you recognize a child.

## Introduction

Part 1 of this publication explains the filing requirements and other tax information for individuals who can be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return.

Part 2 explains how to report and figure the tax on investment income of certain children (whether or not they can be claimed as dependents).

Definitions. Many of the terms used in this publication, such as "dependent," "earned income," and "unearned income," are defined in the Glossary at the back of this publication.

Comments and suggestions. We welcome your comments about this publication and your suggestions for future editions.

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Tax questions. If you have a tax question, check the information available on IRS.gov or call 1-800-829-1040. We cannot answer tax questions sent to either of the above addresses.

## Useful Items

You may want to see:

## Publication

- 501 Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information

550 Investment Income and Expenses

## Form (and Instructions)

- W-4 Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate
- 8615 Tax for Certain Children Who Have Investment Income of More Than \$1,900
8814 Parents' Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends
See How To Get Tax Help near the end of this publication for information about getting these publications and forms.


## Part 1. Rules for All Dependents

## Terms you may need to know (see Glossary):

Dependent
Earned income
Exemption
Gross income
Itemized deductions
Standard deduction
Unearned income

This part of the publication discusses the filing requirements for dependents, who is responsible for a child's return, how to figure a dependent's standard deduction and exemption (if any), and whether a dependent can claim exemption from federal income tax withholding.

## Filing Requirements

Whether a dependent has to file a return generally depends on the amount of the dependent's earned and unearned income and whether the dependent is married, is age 65 or older, or is blind.

$\Delta$A dependent may have to file a return even if his or her income is less than the amount that would normally require a return. See Other Filing Requirements, later.

The following sections apply to dependents with:

- Earned income only,
- Unearned income only, and
- Both earned and unearned income.

To find out whether a dependent must file, read the section that applies, or use Table 1 on page 3.

Table 1. 2010 Filing Requirements for Dependents
If your parent (or someone else) can claim you as a dependent, use this table to see if you must file a return.
See the definitions of "dependent," "earned income," "unearned income," and "gross income" in the Glossary.
Single dependents-Were you either age 65 or older or blind?
$\square \quad$ No. You must file a return if any of the following apply.

- Your unearned income was over $\$ 950$.
- Your earned income was over \$5,700.
- Your gross income was more than the larger of -
- \$950, or
- Your earned income (up to $\$ 5,400$ ) plus $\$ 300$.
$\square \quad$ Yes. You must file a return if any of the following apply.
- Your unearned income was over $\$ 2,350$ ( $\$ 3,750$ if 65 or over and blind),
- Your earned income was over \$7,100 (\$8,500 if 65 or older and blind),
- Your gross income was more than the larger of-
- $\$ 2,350$ ( $\$ 3,750$ if 65 or older and blind), or
- Your earned income (up to $\$ 5,400$ ) plus $\$ 1,700$ ( $\$ 3,100$ if 65 or older and blind).
Married dependents-Were you either age 65 or older or blind?
$\square \quad$ No. You must file a return if any of the following apply.
- Your gross income was at least $\$ 5$ and your spouse files a separate return and itemizes deductions.
- Your unearned income was over $\$ 950$.
- Your earned income was over \$5,700.
- Your gross income was more than the larger of-
- \$950, or
- Your earned income (up to $\$ 5,400$ ) plus $\$ 300$.
$\square \quad$ Yes. You must file a return if any of the following apply.
- Your gross income was at least $\$ 5$ and your spouse files a separate return and itemizes deductions.
- Your unearned income was over $\$ 2,050$ ( $\$ 3,150$ if 65 or over and blind),
- Your earned income was over \$6,800 (\$7,900 if 65 or older and blind),
- Your gross income was more than the larger of -
- $\$ 2,050$ ( $\$ 3,150$ if 65 or older and blind), or
- Your earned income (up to $\$ 5,400$ ) plus $\$ 1,400(\$ 2,500$ if 65 or older and blind).


## Earned Income Only

A dependent who has only earned income must file a return if the total is more than the amount listed in the following table.

| Marital Status | Amount |
| :---: | :---: |
| Single |  |
| Under 65 and not blind | \$5,700 |
| Either 65 or older or blind | \$7,100 |
| 65 or older and blind | \$8,500 |
| Married* |  |
| Under 65 and not blind | \$5,700 |
| Either 65 or older or blind | \$6,800 |

65 or older and blind
\$7,900
*If a dependent's spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file a return if the dependent has $\$ 5$ or more of gross income (earned and/or unearned).

Example. William is 16 . His mother claims an exemption for him on her income tax return. He worked part time on weekends during the school year and full time during the summer. He earned $\$ 5,800$ in wages. He did not have any unearned income.

He must file a tax return because he has earned income only and his total income is more than $\$ 5,700$. If he were blind, he would not have to file a return because his total income is not more than $\$ 7,100$.

## Unearned Income Only

A dependent who has only unearned income must file a return if the total is more than the amount listed in the following table.

| Marital Status | Amount |
| :---: | :---: |
| Single |  |
| Under 65 and not blind | \$ 950 |
| Either 65 or older or blind | \$2,350 |
| 65 or older and blind | \$3,750 |
| Married* |  |
| Under 65 and not blind | \$ 950 |
| Either 65 or older or blind | \$2,050 |
| 65 or older and blind | \$3,150 |

*If a dependent's spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file a return if the dependent has $\$ 5$ or more of gross income (earned and/or unearned).

Example. Sarah is 18 and single. Her parents can claim an exemption for her on their income tax return. She received $\$ 970$ of taxable interest and dividend income. She did not work during the year.

She must file a tax return because she has unearned income only and her total income is more than $\$ 950$. If she were blind, she would not have to file a return because she has unearned income only and her total income is not more than $\$ 2,350$.
Election to report child's unearned income on parent's return. A parent of a child under age 19 (or under age 24 if a full-time student) may be able to elect to include the child's interest and dividend income on the parent's return. See Parent's Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends in Part 2. If the parent makes this election, the child does not have to file a return.

## Earned and Unearned Income



A dependent who has both earned and unearned income generally must file a return if the total income is more than line 5 of the following worksheet.

## Filing Requirement Worksheet for Most Dependents

1. Enter dependent's earned income plus \$300
2. Minimum amount
\$ 950
3. Compare lines 1 and 2. Enter the larger amount
4. Maximum amount 5,700
5. Compare lines 3 and 4. Enter the smaller amount
6. Enter the dependent's gross (total) income. If line 6 is more than line 5 , the dependent must file an income tax return. If the dependent is married and his or her spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file an income tax return if line 6 is $\$ 5$ or more.

Example 1. Joe is 20 , single, not blind, and a full-time college student. He does not provide more than half of his own support, and his parents claim an exemption for him on their income tax return. He received $\$ 200$ taxable interest income and earned \$2,750 from a part-time job.

He does not have to file a tax return because his total income of $\$ 2,950$ ( $\$ 200$ interest plus $\$ 2,750$ in wages) is not more than $\$ 3,050$, the amount on line 5 of his filled-in Filing Requirement Worksheet for Most Dependents (shown next).

## Filing Requirement Worksheet for Most Dependents

1. Enter dependent's earned income plus $\$ 300$. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$ 3,050
2. Minimum amount . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 950
3. Compare lines 1 and 2. Enter the larger amount . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3, 3, 050
4. Maximum amount . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5,700
5. Compare lines 3 and 4. Enter the smaller amount

3,050
6. Enter the dependent's gross (total) income. If line 6 is more than line 5 , the dependent must file an income tax return. If the dependent is married and his or her spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file an income tax return if line 6 is $\$ 5$ or more. \$ 2,950

Example 2. The facts are the same as in Example 1 except that Joe had $\$ 600$ taxable interest income.

He must file a tax return because his total income of $\$ 3,350$ ( $\$ 600$ interest plus $\$ 2,750$ wages) is more than $\$ 3,050$, the amount on line 5 of his filled-in worksheet (shown next).

## Filing Requirement Worksheet for Most Dependents

1. Enter dependent's earned income plus $\$ 300$ \$ 3,050
2. Minimum amount 950
3. Compare lines 1 and 2. Enter the larger amount 3,050
4. Maximum amount 5,700
5. Compare lines 3 and 4. Enter the smaller amount 3,050
6. Enter the dependent's gross (total) income. If line 6 is more than line 5 , the dependent must file an income tax return. If the dependent is married and his or her spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file an income tax return if line 6 is $\$ 5$ or more.

$F$
Age 65 or older or blind. A dependent who is age 65 or older or blind must file a return if his or her gross (total) income is more than line 7 of the following worksheet.

## Filing Requirement Worksheet for Dependents <br> Who Are Age 65 or Older or Blind

1. Enter dependent's earned income plus \$300
2. Minimum amount
3. Compare lines 1 and 2. Enter the larger amount
4. Maximum amount
5. Compare lines 3 and 4. Enter the smaller amount
6. Enter the amount from the following table that applies to the dependent

| Marital Status | Amount |
| :--- | ---: |
| Single |  |
| $\quad$ Either 65 or older or blind | $\$ 1,400$ |
| 65 or older and blind | $\$ 2,800$ |
| Married | $\$ 1,100$ |
| $\quad$ Either 65 or older or blind | $\$ 2,200$ |

Marital Status浪gle 65 or older and blind \$2,800
Married 65 or older and blind \$2,200
7. Add lines 5 and 6. Enter the total
8. Enter the dependent's gross (total) income. If line 8 is more than line 7 , the dependent must file an income tax return. If the dependent is married and his or her spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file an income tax return if line 8 is $\$ 5$ or more

Example 3. The facts are the same as in Example 2 except that Joe is also blind. He does not have to file a return because his total income of $\$ 3,350$ is not more than $\$ 4,450$, the amount on line 7 of his filled-in Filing Requirement Worksheet for Dependents Who Are Age 65 or Older or Blind (shown next).

## Filing Requirement Worksheet for Dependents <br> Who Are Age 65 or Older or Blind

1. Enter dependent's earned income plus \$300 \$3,050
2. Minimum amount 950
3. Compare lines 1 and 2. Enter the larger amount 3,050
4. Maximum amount . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5 5,700
5. Compare lines 3 and 4. Enter the smaller amount

3,050
6. Enter the amount from the following table that applies to the dependent
1,400

| Marital Status | Amount |
| :--- | ---: |
| Single |  |
| $\quad$ Either 65 or older or blind | $\$ 1,400$ |
| 65 or older and blind | $\$ 2,800$ |
| Married | $\$ 1,100$ |
| $\quad$ Either 65 or older or blind | $\$ 2,200$ |
| 65 or older and blind |  |

7. Add lines 5 and 6. Enter the total

$$
4,450
$$

8. Enter the dependent's gross (total) income. If line 8 is more than line 7 , the dependent must file an income tax return. If the dependent is married and his or her spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return, the dependent must file an income tax return if line 8 is $\$ 5$ or more

## Other Filing Requirements

Some dependents may have to file a tax return even if their income is less than the amount that would normally require them to file a return.

A dependent must file a tax return if he or she owes any other taxes, such as:

- Social security and Medicare taxes on tips not reported to his or her employer or on wages received from an employer who did not withhold these taxes,
- Uncollected social security and Medicare or railroad retirement taxes on tips reported to his or her employer or on group-term life insurance,
- Alternative minimum tax,
- Additional tax on a health savings account from Form 8889, Part III,
- Recapture taxes, such as the tax from recapture of an education credit, or
- Additional tax on a qualified plan, including an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), or other tax-favored account. But if the dependent is filing a
return only because of this tax, the dependent can file Form 5329 by itself.

A dependent must also file a tax return if he or she:

- Received any advance earned income credit payments from his or her employers in 2010,
- Had wages of $\$ 108.28$ or more from a church or qualified church-controlled organization that is exempt from employer social security and Medicare taxes, or
- Had net earnings from self-employment of at least $\$ 400$.

Spouse itemizes. A dependent must file a return if the dependent's spouse itemizes deductions on a separate return and the dependent has $\$ 5$ or more of gross income (earned and/or unearned).

## Should a Return Be Filed Even If Not Required?

Even if a dependent does not meet any of the filing requirements discussed earlier, he or she should file a tax return if either of the following applies.

- Income tax was withheld from his or her income.
- He or she qualifies for the earned income credit, additional child tax credit, health coverage tax credit, refundable credit for prior year minimum tax, first-time homebuyer credit, making work pay credit, adoption credit, or refundable American opportunity education credit. See the tax return instructions to find out who qualifies for these credits.
By filing a return, the dependent can get a refund.


## Responsibility for Child's

## Return

Generally, the child is responsible for filing his or her own tax return and for paying any tax, penalties, or interest on that return. If a child cannot file his or her own return for any reason, such as age, the child's parent or guardian is responsible for filing a return on his or her behalf.

Signing the child's return. If the child cannot sign his or her return, a parent or guardian can sign the child's name in the space provided at the bottom of the tax return. Then, he or she should add: "By (signature), parent (or guardian) for minor child."

Authority of parent or guardian. A parent or guardian who signs a return on a child's behalf can deal with the IRS on all matters connected with the return.

In general, a parent or guardian who does not sign the child's return can only provide information concerning the child's return and pay the child's tax. That parent or guardian is not entitled to receive information from the IRS or legally bind the child to a tax liability arising from the return.

Third party designee. A child's parent or guardian who does not sign the child's return may be authorized, as a third party designee, to discuss the processing of the return with the IRS as well as provide information concerning the return. The child or the person signing the return on the child's behalf must check the "Yes" box in the "Third Party Designee" area of the return and name the parent or guardian as the designee.

If designated, a parent or guardian can respond to certain IRS notices and receive information about the processing of the return and the status of a refund or payment. This designation does not authorize the parent or guardian to receive any refund check, bind the child to any tax liability, or otherwise represent the child before the IRS. See the return instructions for more information.

Designated as representative. A parent or guardian who does not sign the child's return may be designated as the child's representative by the child or the person signing the return on the child's behalf. Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative, is used to designate a child's representative. See Publication 947, Practice Before the IRS and Power of Attorney, for more information.

If designated, a parent or guardian can receive information about the child's return but cannot legally bind the child to a tax liability unless authorized to do so by the law of the state in which the child lives.

IRS notice. If you or the child receives a notice from the IRS concerning the child's return or tax liability, you should immediately inform the IRS that the notice concerns a child. The notice will show who to contact. The IRS will try to resolve the matter with the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the child consistent with their authority.

Child's earnings. For federal income tax purposes, the income a child receives for his or her personal services (labor) is the child's, even if, under state law, the parent is entitled to and receives that income.

If the child does not pay the tax due on this income, the parent may be liable for the tax.

Child's expenses. Deductions for payments that are made out of a child's earnings are the child's, even if the payments are made by the parent.

Example. You made payments on your child's behalf that are deductible as a business expense and a charitable contribution. You made the payments out of your child's earnings. These items can be deducted only on the child's return.

Use this worksheet only if someone can claim you (or your spouse, if filing jointly) as a dependent.
Do not use this worksheet for a dependent who paid any state or local sales or excise tax in 2010 for the purchase of any new motor vehicle after February 16, 2009, and before January 1, 2010. Use Schedule L (Form 1040A or 1040).

If you were 65 or older and/or blind, check the correct number of boxes below. Put the total number of boxes checked in box c and go to line 1.
a. You

65 or older $\square \quad$ Blind
b. Your spouse, if claiming spouse's exemption 65 or older $\square \quad$ Blind
c. Total boxes checked

1. Enter your earned income (defined below) plus $\$ 300$. If none, enter $-0-$.
2. 
3. Minimum amount.
4. $\qquad$
5. Compare lines 1 and 2. Enter the larger of the two amounts here.
6. 
7. Enter on line 4 the amount shown below for your filing status.

- Single or Married filing separately -\$5,700
- Married filing jointly - $\$ 11,400$
- Head of household-\$8,400

4. 
5. Standard deduction.
a. Compare lines 3 and 4. Enter the smaller amount here. If under 65 and not blind, stop
$5 a$. $\qquad$ here. This is your standard deduction. Otherwise, go on to line 5b.
b. If 65 or older or blind, multiply $\$ 1,400$ ( $\$ 1,100$ if married) by the number in box c above. Enter the result here.
c. Add lines 5a and 5b. This is your standard deduction for 2010.

5b. $\qquad$
5c. $\qquad$

Earned income includes wages, salaries, tips, professional fees, and other compensation received for personal services you performed. It also includes any amount received as a scholarship that you must include in income.

## Standard Deduction

The standard deduction for an individual who can be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return is generally limited to the larger of:

1. $\$ 950$, or
2. The individual's earned income plus $\$ 300$, but not more than the regular standard deduction (generally $\$ 5,700)$.
However, the standard deduction is higher for a dependent who:

- Is 65 or older,
- Is blind, or
- Paid state or local sales or excise tax in 2010 for the purchase of any new motor vehicle after February 16, 2009 and before January 1, 2010.

For more information about the higher standard deduction for sales or excise tax paid for the purchase of a new motor vehicle, see Publication 501.

Certain dependents cannot claim any standard deduction. See Standard Deduction of Zero, later.

Worksheet 1. Use Worksheet 1 to figure the dependent's standard deduction.

Example 1. Michael is single, age 15, and not blind. His parents can claim him as a dependent on their tax return. He has taxable interest income of $\$ 800$ and wages of $\$ 150$. He did not purchase a new motor vehicle. He enters $\$ 450$ (his earned income plus \$300) on line 1 of Worksheet 1. On line 3, he enters $\$ 950$, the larger of $\$ 450$ or $\$ 950$. Michael enters $\$ 5,700$ on line 4. On line 5a, he enters $\$ 950$, the smaller of $\$ 950$ or $\$ 5,700$. His standard deduction is $\$ 950$.

Example 2. Judy, a full-time student, is single, age 22, and not blind. Her parents can claim her as a dependent on their tax return. She has dividend income of $\$ 275$ and
wages of $\$ 2,500$. She did not purchase a new motor vehicle. She enters $\$ 2,800$ (her earned income plus \$300) on line 1 of Worksheet 1 . On line 3 , she enters $\$ 2,800$, the larger of $\$ 2,800$ or $\$ 950$. She enters $\$ 5,700$ on line 4 . On line $5 a$, she enters $\$ 2,800$ (the smaller of $\$ 2,800$ or $\$ 5,700$ ) as her standard deduction.

Example 3. Amy, who is single, is claimed as a dependent on her parents' tax return. She is 18 and blind. She has taxable interest income of $\$ 1,000$ and wages of $\$ 2,000$. She did not purchase a new motor vehicle. She enters $\$ 2,300$ (her earned income plus $\$ 300$ ) on line 1 of Worksheet 1. She enters $\$ 2,300$ (the larger of $\$ 2,300$ or $\$ 950$ ) on line $3, \$ 5,700$ on line 4 , and $\$ 2,300$ (the smaller of $\$ 2,300$ or $\$ 5,700$ ) on line 5 a . Because Amy is blind, she checks the box for blindness and enters " 1 " in box c at the top of Worksheet 1 . She enters $\$ 1,400$ (the number in box c times $\$ 1,400$ ) on line 5 b. Her standard deduction on line $5 c$ is $\$ 3,700(\$ 2,300+\$ 1,400)$.

## Standard Deduction of Zero

The standard deduction for the following dependents is zero.

- A married dependent filing a separate return whose spouse itemizes deductions.
- A dependent who files a return for a period of less than 12 months due to a change in his or her annual accounting period.
- A nonresident or dual-status alien dependent, unless the dependent is married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien at the end of the year and chooses to be treated as a U.S. resident for the year. See Publication 519, U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens, for information on making this choice.

Example. Jennifer, who is a dependent of her parents, is entitled to file a joint return with her husband. However, her husband elects to file a separate return and itemize his deductions. Because he itemizes, Jennifer's standard deduction on her return is zero. She can, however, itemize any of her allowable deductions.

## Dependent's Own Exemption

A person who can be claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's return cannot claim his or her own exemption. This is true even if the other taxpayer does not actually claim the exemption.

Example. James and Barbara can claim their child, Ben, as a dependent on their return. Ben is a college student who works during the summer and must file a tax return. Ben cannot claim his own exemption on his return. This is true even if James and Barbara do not claim him as a dependent on their return.

## Withholding From Wages

Employers generally withhold federal income tax, social security tax, and Medicare tax from an employee's wages. If the employee claims exemption from withholding on Form W-4, the employer will not withhold federal income tax. The exemption from withholding does not apply to social security and Medicare taxes.

Conditions for exemption from withholding. An employee can claim exemption from withholding for 2011 only if he or she meets both of the following conditions.

1. For 2010, the employee had a right to a refund of all federal income tax withheld because he or she had no tax liability.
2. For 2011, the employee expects a refund of all federal income tax withheld because he or she expects to have no tax liability.

Dependents. An employee who is a dependent ordinarily cannot claim exemption from withholding if both of the following are true.

- The employee's total income will be more than \$950, the minimum standard deduction for 2011.
- The employee's unearned income will be more than $\$ 300$.

Exceptions. An employee may be able to claim exemption from withholding even if the employee is a dependent if the employee:

1. Is age 65 or older,
2. Is blind, or
3. Will claim on his or her 2011 tax return:
a. Adjustments to income,
b. Tax credits, or
c. Itemized deductions.

For more information, see Exemption From Withholding in chapter 1 of Publication 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

Example. Guy is 17 and a student. During the summer he works part time at a grocery store. He expects to earn about $\$ 1,000$ this year. He also worked at the store last summer and received a refund of all his withheld income tax because he did not have a tax liability. The only other income he expects during the year is $\$ 375$ interest on a savings account. He expects that his parents will be able to claim him as a dependent on their tax return. He is not blind and will not claim adjustments to income, itemized deductions, a higher standard deduction, or tax credits on his return.

Guy cannot claim exemption from withholding when he fills out Form W-4 because his parents will be able to claim him as a dependent, his total income will be more than
$\$ 950$, the minimum standard deduction amount, and his unearned income will be more than $\$ 300$.

Claiming exemption from withholding. To claim exemption from withholding, an employee must enter "Exempt" in the space provided on Form W-4, line 7. The employee must complete the rest of the form, as explained in the form instructions, and give it to his or her employer.

Renewing an exemption from withholding. An exemption from withholding is good for only one year. An employee must file a new Form W-4 by February 15 each year to continue the exemption.

## Part 2. Tax on Investment Income of Certain Children

## Terms you may need to know (see Glossary):

Adjusted gross income
Adjustments to income
Alternative minimum tax
Capital gain distribution
Dependent
Earned income
Full-time student
Gross income
Investment income
Itemized deductions
Net capital gain
Net investment income
Qualified dividends
Standard deduction
Support
Tax year
Taxable income
Unearned income
Unrecaptured section 1250 gain
$28 \%$ rate gain

The two rules that follow may affect the tax on the investment income of certain children.

1. If the child's interest and dividend income (including capital gain distributions) total less than $\$ 9,500$, the child's parent may be able to choose to include that income on the parent's return rather than file a return for the child. (See Parent's Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends, later.)
2. If the child's interest, dividends, and other investment income total more than $\$ 1,900$, part of that income may be taxed at the parent's tax rate instead of the child's tax rate. (See Tax for Certain Children Who Have Investment Income of More Than \$1,900, later.)
For these rules, the term "child" includes a legally adopted child and a stepchild. These rules apply whether or not the child is a dependent.

These rules do not apply if neither of the child's parents were living at the end of the year.

## Which Parent's Return To Use

If a child's parents are married to each other and file a joint return, use the joint return to figure the tax on the child's investment income. The tax rate and other return information from that return are used to figure the child's tax as explained later under Tax for Certain Children Who Have Investment Income of More Than \$1,900.

## Parents Who Do Not File a Joint Return

For parents who do not file a joint return, the following discussions explain which parent's tax return must be used to figure the tax.

Only the parent whose tax return is used can make the election described under Parent's Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends.

Parents are married. If the child's parents file separate returns, use the return of the parent with the greater taxable income.

Parents not living together. If the child's parents are married to each other but not living together, and the parent with whom the child lives (the custodial parent) is considered unmarried, use the return of the custodial parent. If the custodial parent is not considered unmarried, use the return of the parent with the greater taxable income.

For an explanation of when a married person living apart from his or her spouse is considered unmarried, see Head of Household in Publication 501.

Parents are divorced. If the child's parents are divorced or legally separated, and the parent who had custody of the child for the greater part of the year (the custodial parent) has not remarried, use the return of the custodial parent.

Custodial parent remarried. If the custodial parent has remarried, the stepparent (rather than the noncustodial parent) is treated as the child's other parent. Therefore, if the custodial parent and the stepparent file a joint return, use that joint return. Do not use the return of the noncustodial parent.

If the custodial parent and the stepparent are married, but file separate returns, use the return of the one with the greater taxable income. If the custodial parent and the stepparent are married but not living together, the earlier discussion under Parents not living together applies.

Parents never married. If a child's parents have never been married to each other, but lived together all year, use the return of the parent with the greater taxable income. If the parents did not live together all year, the rules explained earlier under Parents are divorced apply.
Widowed parent remarried. If a widow or widower remarries, the new spouse is treated as the child's other parent. The rules explained earlier under Custodial parent remarried apply.

## Parent's Election To Report Child's Interest and Dividends

You may be able to elect to include your child's interest and dividend income (including capital gain distributions) on your tax return. If you do, your child will not have to file a return.

You can make this election only if all the following conditions are met.

- Your child was under age 19 (or under age 24 if a full-time student) at the end of the year.
- Your child had income only from interest and dividends (including capital gain distributions and Alaska Permanent Fund dividends).
- The child's gross income was less than \$9,500.
- The child is required to file a return unless you make this election.
- The child does not file a joint return for the year.
- No estimated tax payment was made for the year, and no overpayment from the previous year (or from any amended return) was applied to this year under your child's name and social security number.
- No federal income tax was taken out of your child's income under the backup withholding rules.
- You are the parent whose return must be used when applying the special tax rules for children. (See Which Parent's Return To Use, earlier.)
These conditions are also shown in Figure 1.
Certain January 1 birthdays. A child born on January 1, 1992, is considered to be age 19 at the end of 2010. You cannot make this election for such a child unless the child was a full-time student.

A child born on January 1, 1987, is considered to be age 24 at the end of 2010. You cannot make this election for such a child.

How to make the election. Make the election by attaching Form 8814 to your Form 1040 or Form 1040NR. (If you make this election, you cannot file Form 1040A or Form 1040EZ.) Attach a separate Form 8814 for each child for whom you make the election. You can make the election for one or more children and not for others.

Figure 1. Can You Include Your Child's Income On Your Tax Return?


[^0]
## Effect of Making the Election

The federal income tax on your child's income may be more if you make the Form 8814 election.

Rate may be higher. If your child received qualified dividends or capital gain distributions, you may pay up to $\$ 95$ more tax if you make this election instead of filing a separate tax return for the child. This is because the tax rate on the child's income between $\$ 950$ and $\$ 1,900$ is $10 \%$ if you make this election. However, if you file a separate return for the child, the tax rate may be as low as $0 \%$ (zero percent) because of the preferential tax rates for qualified dividends and capital gain distributions.

Deductions you cannot take. By making the Form 8814 election, you cannot take any of the following deductions that the child would be entitled to on his or her return.

- The additional standard deduction for a blind child.
- The deduction for a penalty on an early withdrawal of your child's savings.
- Itemized deductions (such as your child's investment expenses or charitable contributions).

Deductible investment interest. If you use Form 8814, your child's investment income is considered your investment income. To figure the limit on your deductible investment interest, add the child's investment income to yours. However, if your child received qualified dividends, capital gain distributions, or Alaska Permanent Fund dividends, see chapter 3 of Publication 550 for information about how to figure the limit.

Alternative minimum tax. If your child received tax-exempt interest (or exempt-interest dividends paid by a regulated investment company) from certain private activity bonds, you must determine if that interest is a tax preference item for alternative minimum tax (AMT) purposes. If it is, you must include it with your own tax preference items when figuring your AMT. For more information, get the instructions for Form 6251, Alternative Minimum Tax-Individuals.

Reduced deductions or credits. If you use Form 8814, your increased adjusted gross income may reduce certain deductions or credits on your return, including the following.

- Deduction for contributions to a traditional individual retirement arrangement (IRA).
- Deduction for student loan interest.
- Itemized deductions for medical expenses, casualty and theft losses, and certain miscellaneous expenses.
- Total itemized deductions.
- Personal exemptions.
- Credit for child and dependent care expenses.
- Child tax credit.
- Education tax credits.
- Earned income credit.
- Making work pay credit.
- First-time homebuyer credit. For homes that were purchased before May 1, 2010, or were under a binding written contract before May 1, 2010, and closed before July 1, 2010.

Penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. If you make this election for 2010 and did not have enough tax withheld or pay enough estimated tax to cover the tax you owe, you may be subject to a penalty. If you plan to make this election for 2011, you may need to increase your federal income tax withholding or your estimated tax payments to avoid the penalty. Get Publication 505 for more information.

## Figuring Child's Income

Use Form 8814, Part I, to figure your child's interest and dividend income to report on your return. Only the amount over $\$ 1,900$ is added to your income. The amount over $\$ 1,900$ is shown on Form 8814, line 6. Unless the child's income includes qualified dividends or capital gain distributions (discussed next), the same amount is shown on Form 8814, line 12. Include the amount from Form 8814, line 12, on Form 1040 or Form 1040NR, line 21. If you file more than one Form 8814, include the total amounts from line 12 of all your Forms 8814 on Form 1040 or Form 1040NR, line 21. On the dotted line next to line 21, enter "Form 8814" and the total of the Form 8814, line 12 amounts.

Note. The tax on the first $\$ 1,900$ is figured on Form 8814, Part II. See Figuring Additional Tax, later.

Qualified dividends. Enter on Form 8814, line 2a, any ordinary dividends your child received. This amount may include qualified dividends. Qualified dividends are those dividends reported on Form 1040, line 9b, or Form 1040 NR, line 10b, and are eligible for the lower tax rates that apply to a net capital gain. For detailed information about qualified dividends, see Publication 550.

If your child received qualified dividends, the amount of these dividends that is added to your income must be reported on Form 1040, lines 9a and 9b, or Form 1040NR, lines 10a and 10b. You do not include these dividends on Form 8814, line 12, or on line 21 of Form 1040 or Form 1040NR.

Enter the child's qualified dividends on Form 8814, line 2b. But do not include this amount on Form 1040, lines 9a and 9b, or Form 1040NR, lines 10a and 10b. Instead, include the amount from Form 8814, line 9, on Form 1040, lines 9a and 9b, or Form 1040NR, lines 10a and 10b. (The amount on Form 8814, line 9, may be less than the amount on Form 8814, line 2b, because lines 7 through 12 of the form divide the $\$ 1,900$ base amount on Form 8814, line 5 , between the child's qualified dividends, capital gain distributions, and other interest and dividend income, reducing each of those amounts.)

Capital gain distributions. Enter on Form 8814, line 3, any capital gain distributions your child received. The amount of these distributions that is added to your income must be reported on Schedule D (Form 1040), line 13, or, if you are not required to file Schedule D, on Form 1040, line 13, or Form 1040NR, line 14. You do not include it on Form 8814, line 12, or on line 21 of Form 1040 or Form 1040NR. Include the amount from Form 8814, line 10, on Schedule D (Form 1040), line 13; Form 1040, line 13; or Form 1040NR, line 14, whichever applies. (The amount on Form 8814, line 10, may be less than the amount on Form 8814, line 3, because lines 7 through 12 of the form divide the $\$ 1,900$ base amount on Form 8814 , line 5 , between the child's qualified dividends, capital gain distributions, and other interest and dividend income, reducing each of those amounts.)

Collectibles (28\% rate) gain. If any of the child's capital gain distributions are reported on Form 1099-DIV as collectibles ( $28 \%$ rate) gain, you must determine how much to also include on line 4 of the $28 \%$ Rate Gain Worksheet, in the instructions for line 18, Schedule D. Multiply the child's capital gain distribution included on Schedule D, line 13, by a fraction. The numerator is the part of the child's total capital gain distribution that is collectibles ( $28 \%$ rate) gain. The denominator is the child's total capital gain distribution. Enter the result on line 4 of the $28 \%$ Rate Gain Worksheet.

Unrecaptured section 1250 gain. If any of the child's capital gain distributions are reported on Form 1099-DIV as unrecaptured section 1250 gain, you must determine how much to include on line 11 of the Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain Worksheet in the instructions for line 19 of Schedule D. Multiply the child's capital gain distribution included on Schedule D, line 13, by a fraction. The numerator is the part of the child's total capital gain distribution that is unrecaptured section 1250 gain. The denominator is the child's total capital gain distribution. Enter the result on line 11 of the Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain Worksheet.

Section 1202 gain. If any of the child's capital gain distributions are reported as section 1202 gain (gain on qualified small business stock) on Form 1099-DIV, part or all of that gain may be eligible for the section 1202 exclusion. (For information about the exclusion, see chapter 4 of Publication 550.) To figure that part, multiply the child's capital gain distribution included on Schedule D, line 13, by a fraction. The numerator is the part of the child's total capital gain distribution that is section 1202 gain. The denominator is the child's total capital gain distribution. Your section 1202 exclusion is generally $50 \%$ of the result, but may be subject to a limit. See the instructions for Schedule D for details and information on how to report the exclusion amount.

Example. Fred is 6 years old. In 2010, he received dividend income of $\$ 2,000$, which included $\$ 1,500$ of ordinary dividends and a $\$ 500$ capital gain distribution from a mutual fund. (None of the distributions were reported on Form 1099-DIV as unrecaptured section 1250 gain, section 1202 gain, or collectibles (28\% rate) gain.) All of the ordinary dividends are qualified dividends. He has no other
income and is not subject to backup withholding. No estimated tax payments were made under his name and social security number.

Fred's parents elect to include Fred's income on their tax return instead of filing a return for him.

They figure the amount to report on Form 1040, lines 9a and 9b, the amount to report on their Schedule D, line 13, and the amount to report on Form 1040, line 21, as follows.

They leave lines 1a and 1b of Form 8814 blank because Fred does not have any interest income. They enter his ordinary dividends of $\$ 1,500$ on lines $2 a$ and $2 b$ because all of Fred's ordinary dividends are qualified dividends. They enter the amount of Fred's capital gain distributions, $\$ 500$, on line 3. Next, they add the amounts on lines 1a, 2 a , and 3 and enter the result, $\$ 2,000$, on line 4.

They subtract the base amount on line $5, \$ 1,900$, from the amount on line 4, \$2,000, and enter the result, $\$ 100$, on line 6. This is the total amount from Form 8814 to be reported on their return. Next, they figure how much of this amount is qualified dividends and how much is capital gain distributions.

- They divide the amount on line $2 b, \$ 1,500$, by the amount on line 4, \$2,000. They enter the result, .75, on line 7.
- They divide the amount on line $3, \$ 500$, by the amount on line 4, \$2,000. They enter the result, .25, on line 8.
- They multiply the amount on line $6, \$ 100$, by the decimal on line $7, .75$, and enter the result, $\$ 75$, on line 9.
- They multiply the amount on line $6, \$ 100$, by the decimal on line $8, .25$, and enter the result, $\$ 25$, on line 10.
- They include the amount from line $9, \$ 75$, on lines 9a and 9b of their Form 1040 and enter "Form 8814 - \$75" on the dotted lines next to lines 9a and 9b. They include the amount from line 10, $\$ 25$, on line 13 of their Schedule D (Form 1040) and enter "Form 8814 - \$25" on the dotted line next to line 13 of Schedule D.

They enter \$100 (\$75 + \$25) on line 11 and -0- (\$100 $\$ 100$ ) on line 12. Because the amount on line 12 is $-0-$, they do not include any amount from Form 8814 on line 21 of their Form 1040.

## Figuring Additional Tax

Use Form 8814, Part II, to figure the tax on the $\$ 1,900$ of your child's interest and dividends that you do not include in your income. This tax is added to the tax figured on your income.

This additional tax is the smaller of:

1. $10 \% \times$ (your child's gross income $-\$ 950$ ), or
2. \$95.
 Include the amount from line 15 of all your Forms 8814 in the total on Form 1040, line 44, or Form 1040NR, line 42. Check box a on Form 1040, line 44 , or Form 1040NR, line 42.

## Illustrated Example

David and Linda Parks are married and will file separate tax returns for 2010. Their only child, Philip, is 8. Philip received a Form 1099-INT showing \$1,650 taxable interest income and a Form 1099-DIV showing \$1,150 ordinary dividends. All the dividends were qualified dividends. His parents decide to include that income on one of their returns so they will not have to file a return for Philip.

First, David and Linda each figure their taxable income (Form 1040, line 43) without regard to Philip's income. David's taxable income is $\$ 56,700$ and Linda's is $\$ 74,300$. Because her taxable income is greater, Linda can elect to include Philip's income on her return. (See Which Parent's Return To Use, earlier.)

On Form 8814 (illustrated on page 14), Linda enters her name and social security number, then Philip's name and social security number. She enters Philip's taxable interest income, $\$ 1,650$, on line 1a. Philip had no tax-exempt interest income, so she leaves line 1b blank. Linda enters Philip's ordinary dividends, $\$ 1,150$, on line 2a. All of Philip's ordinary dividends were qualified dividends, so Linda also enters $\$ 1,150$ on line $2 b$. Philip did not have any capital gain distributions, so she leaves line 3 blank.

Linda adds lines 1 a and 2 a and enters the result, $\$ 2,800$, on line 4. Because Philip had qualified dividends, Linda must complete lines 7 through 11 of Form 8814. She includes the amount from line 9 of Form 8814 (\$370) on lines $9 a$ and $9 b$ of her Form 1040. On the dotted lines next to lines 9a and 9b, she enters "Form 8814-\$370."

Linda includes $\$ 530$ in the total on line 21 of her Form 1040 (not illustrated) and in the space next to that line writes "Form 8814-\$530." Adding that amount, plus the $\$ 370$ of qualified dividends, to her income increases each of the amounts on lines 22, 37, 38, 41, and 43 of her Form 1040 by $\$ 900$. Linda is not claiming any deductions that are affected by the increase to her income. Therefore, her revised taxable income on line 43 is \$75,200 (\$74,300 + $\$ 370$ + \$530).

On Form 8814, Linda subtracts the $\$ 950$ shown on line 13 from the $\$ 2,800$ on line 4 and enters the result, $\$ 1,850$, on line 14. Because that amount is not less than $\$ 950$, she enters $\$ 95$ on line 15 . This is the tax on the first $\$ 1,900$ of Philip's income, which Linda did not have to add to her income. She must add this additional tax to the tax figured on her revised taxable income.

The tax on her \$75,200 revised taxable income, figured using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet in the Form 1040 instructions, is $\$ 15,129$. She adds $\$ 95$, and enters the \$15,224 total on Form 1040, line 44, and checks box a.

Linda attaches Form 8814 to her Form 1040.

Caution. The federal income tax on your child's income, including qualified dividends and capital gain distributions, may be less if you file a separate tax return for the child instead of making this election. This is because you cannot take certain tax benefits that your child could take on his or her own return. For details, see Tax benefits you cannot take on page 2.


## Part II Tax on the First \$1,900 of Child's Interest and Dividends

13 Amount not taxed
14 Subtract line 13 from line 4. If the result is zero or less, enter -0- .
15 Tax. Is the amount on line 14 less than $\$ 950$ ?
$\square$ No. Enter $\$ 95$ here and see the Note below.Yes. Multiply line 14 by $10 \%$ (.10). Enter the result here and see the Note below.

| 13 | 950 | 00 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathbf{1 4}$ | 1,850 |  |
| $\mathbf{1 5}$ | 95 |  |

Note. If you checked the box on line C above, see the instructions. Otherwise, include the amount from line 15 in the tax you enter on Form 1040, line 44, or Form 1040NR, line 42. Be sure to check box a on Form 1040, line 44, or Form 1040NR, line 42.
For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see your tax return instructions.
Form 8814 (2010)

## Tax for Certain Children Who Have Investment Income of More Than \$1,900

If a child's interest, dividends, and other investment income total more than $\$ 1,900$, part of that income may be taxed at the parent's tax rate instead of the child's tax rate. If the parent does not or cannot choose to include the child's income on the parent's return, use Form 8615 to figure the child's tax. Attach the completed form to the child's Form 1040, Form 1040A, or Form 1040NR.

When Form 8615 must be filed. Form 8615 must be filed for a child if all of the following statements are true.

1. The child's investment income was more than \$1,900.
2. The child is required to file a return for 2010.
3. The child either:
a. Was under age 18 at the end of the year,
b. Was age 18 at the end of the year and did not have earned income that was more than half of his or her support, or
c. Was a full-time student over age 18 and under age 24 at the end of the year and did not have earned income that was more than half of his or her support.
4. At least one of the child's parents was alive at the end of 2010.
5. The child does not file a joint return for 2010.

These conditions are also shown in Figure 2.

Certain January 1 birthdays. Use the following chart to determine whether certain children with January 1 birthdays meet condition 3 under When Form 8615 must be filed.

| IF a child was born on... | THEN, at the end of 2010, <br> the child is considered to <br> be... |
| :---: | :---: |
| January 1, 1993 | $18^{\star}$ |
| January 1, 1992 | $19^{\star *}$ |
| January 1, 1987 | $24^{\star \star *}$ |

*This child is not under age 18. The child meets condition 3 only if the child did not have earned income that was more than half of the child's support.
**This child meets condition 3 only if the child was a full-time student who did not have earned income that was more than half of the child's support.
***Do not use Form 8615 for this child.

Figure 2. Do You Have To Use Form 8615 To Figure Your Child's Tax?


[^1]
## Providing Parental Information (Form 8615, Lines A-C)

On Form 8615, lines A and B, enter the parent's name and social security number. (If the parents filed a joint return, enter the name and social security number listed first on the joint return.) On line C , check the box for the parent's filing status.

See Which Parent's Return To Use, earlier, for information on which parent's return information must be used on Form 8615.

Parent with different tax year. If the parent and the child do not have the same tax year, complete Form 8615 using the information on the parent's return for the tax year that ends in the child's tax year.

Example. Kimberly must use her mother's tax and taxable income to complete her Form 8615 for calendar year 2010 (January 1 - December 31). Kimberly's mother files her tax return on a fiscal year basis (July 1 - June 30). Kimberly must use the information on her mother's return for the tax year ending June 30, 2010, to complete her 2010 Form 8615.

Parent's return information not known timely. If the information needed from the parent's return is not known by the time the child's return is due (usually April 15), you can file the return using estimates.

You can use any reasonable estimate. This includes using information from last year's return. If you use an estimated amount on Form 8615, enter "Estimated" on the line next to the amount.

When you get the correct information, file an amended return on Form 1040X, Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

Extension of time to file. Instead of using estimates, you can get an automatic 6 -month extension of time to file if, by the date your return is due, you file Form 4868, Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return. You can file a paper Form 4868 or you can file it electronically. See the instructions for Form 4868 for details.

$\Delta$
An extension of time to file is not an extension of time to pay. You must make an accurate estimate of the tax for 2010. If you do not pay the full amount due by the regular due date, the child will owe interest and may also be charged penalties. See Form 4868 and its instructions.

Parent's return information not available. If a child cannot get the required information about his or her parent's tax return, the child (or the child's legal representative) can request the necessary information from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

How to request. After the end of the tax year, send a signed, written request for the information to the Internal Revenue Service Center where the parent's return will be filed. (The IRS cannot process a request received before the end of the tax year.) time to file the child's return, because there may be a delay in getting the requested information.

The request must contain all of the following.

- A statement that you are making the request to comply with section $1(\mathrm{~g})$ of the Internal Revenue Code and that you have tried to get the information from the parent.
- Proof of the child's age (for example, a copy of the child's birth certificate).
- Evidence the child has more than $\$ 1,900$ of unearned income (for example, a copy of the child's prior year tax return or copies of Forms 1099 for the current year).
- The name, address, social security number (if known), and filing status (if known) of the parent whose information is to be shown on Form 8615.

A child's legal representative making the request should include a copy of his or her Power of Attorney, such as Form 2848, or proof of legal guardianship.

## Step 1. Figuring the Child's Net Investment Income (Form 8615, Part I)

The first step in figuring a child's tax using Form 8615 is to figure the child's net investment income. To do that, use Form 8615, Part I. For an example, see the Illustrated Part I of Form 8615 on the next page.

## Line 1 (Investment Income)

If the child had no earned income, enter on this line the adjusted gross income shown on the child's return. Adjusted gross income is shown on Form 1040, line 38; Form 1040A, line 22; or Form 1040NR, line 37. Form 1040EZ and Form 1040NR-EZ cannot be used if Form 8615 must be filed.

If the child had earned income, figure the amount to enter on Form 8615, line 1, by using the worksheet in the instructions for the form. ducted a loss from self-employment, or has a net operating loss from another year.

## Alternate Worksheet for Form 8615, Line 1

A. Enter the amount from the child's

Form 1040, line 22, or Form 1040NR, line 23 .
$\qquad$

Carla's total income on Form 1040A, line 15 , is $\$ 5,000$. This total includes wages (earned income) of $\$ 600$ reported on line 7. She has no itemized deductions. Carla's taxable income on Form 1040A, line 27, is $\$ 4,050$. Because Carla has earned income, the worksheet in the instructions is used to figure the amount on line 1 of Form 8615.

Carla's filled-in worksheet and Part I of her Form 8615, with lines 1 through 5 filled in, are shown here.

Carla's total income of \$5,000 (on line 15 of her Form 1040A) is entered on
line 1 of the worksheet. Her earned income of \$600 (her wages on line 7 of her Form 1040A) is entered on line 2 of the worksheet. Line 3 is the result of subtracting $\$ 600$ from $\$ 5,000$.

The amount from line 3 of the worksheet is entered on line 1 of Form 8615. Carla did not itemize deductions, so $\$ 1,900$ is entered on line 2. Line 3 of Form 8615 is the result of subtracting $\$ 1,900$ from $\$ 4,400$. Carla's taxable income of $\$ 4,050$ (on line 27 of her Form 1040A) is entered on line 4 of Form 8615. The smaller of $\$ 2,500$ or $\$ 4,050$ is entered on line 5. This is her net investment income.

Worksheet - Line 1

1. Enter the amount from the child's

Form 1040, line 22; Form 1040A, line 15; or Form 1040NR, line 23, whichever applies

5,000
2. Enter the child's earned income plus the amount of any penalty on early withdrawal of savings from the child's Form 1040, line 30, or Form 1040NR, line 30, whichever applies

600
3. Subtract line 2 from line 1. Enter the result here and on Form 8615, line 1

B. Enter the total of any net loss from self-employment, any net operating loss deduction, any foreign earned income exclusion, and any foreign housing exclusion from the child's Form 1040 or Form 1040NR. Enter this total as a positive number (greater than zero)
C. Add line $A$ and line $B$ and enter the total
D. Enter the child's earned income plus any amount from the child's Form 1040, line 30, or the child's Form 1040NR, line 30 Generally, the child's earned income is the total of the amounts reported on Form 1040, lines 7, 12, and 18 (if line 12 or 18 is a loss, use zero) or Form 1040 NR , lines 8,13 , and 19 (if line 13 or 19 is a loss, use zero)
E. Subtract line D from line C. Enter the result here and on Form 8615, line 1

Investment income defined. Investment income is generally all income other than salaries, wages, and other amounts received as pay for work actually done. It includes taxable interest, dividends, capital gains (including capital gain distributions), the taxable part of social security and pension payments, and certain distributions from trusts. Investment income includes amounts produced by assets the child obtained with earned income (such as interest on a savings account into which the child deposited wages).

Nontaxable income. For this purpose, investment income includes only amounts the child must include in total income. Nontaxable investment income, such as tax-exempt interest and the nontaxable part of social security and pension payments, is not included.

Capital loss. A child's capital losses are taken into account in figuring the child's investment income. Capital losses are first applied against capital gains. If the capital losses are more than the capital gains, the difference (up to $\$ 3,000$ ) is subtracted from the child's interest, dividends, and other investment income. Any difference over $\$ 3,000$ is carried to the next year.

Income from property received as a gift. A child's investment income includes all income produced by property belonging to the child. This is true even if the property was transferred to the child, regardless of when the property was transferred or purchased or who transferred it.

A child's investment income includes income produced by property given as a gift to the child. This includes gifts to the child from grandparents or any other person and gifts made under the Uniform Gift to Minors Act.

Example. Amanda Black, age 13, received the following income.

- Dividends-\$600
- Wages-\$2,100
- Taxable interest-\$1,200
- Tax-exempt interest—\$100
- Capital gains-\$300
- Capital losses-(\$200)

The dividends were qualified dividends on stock given to her by her grandparents.

Amanda's investment income is $\$ 1,900$. This is the total of the dividends (\$600), taxable interest (\$1,200), and capital gains reduced by capital losses (\$300 - \$200 = $\$ 100)$. Her wages are earned (not investment) income because they are received for work actually done. Her tax-exempt interest is not included because it is nontaxable.

Trust income. If a child is the beneficiary of a trust, distributions of taxable interest, dividends, capital gains, and other investment income from the trust are investment income to the child.

However, taxable distributions from a qualified disability trust are considered earned income for the purposes of completing Form 8615. See the Form 8615 instructions for details.

Adjustment to income. In figuring the amount to enter on line 1, the child's investment income is reduced by any penalty on the early withdrawal of savings.

## Line 2 (Deductions)

If the child does not itemize deductions on Schedule A (Form 1040 or Form 1040NR), enter \$1,900 on line 2.

If the child does itemize deductions, enter on line 2 the larger of:

1. $\$ 950$ plus the portion of the child's itemized deductions on Schedule A (Form 1040), line 29 (or Schedule A (Form 1040NR), line 17), that are directly connected with the production of the investment income entered on line 1 , or
2. $\$ 1,900$.

Directly connected. Itemized deductions are directly connected with the production of investment income if they are for expenses paid to produce or collect taxable income or to manage, conserve, or maintain property held for
producing income. These expenses include custodian fees and service charges, service fees to collect taxable interest and dividends, and certain investment counsel fees.

These expenses are added to certain other miscellaneous itemized deductions on Schedule A (Form 1040). Only the amount greater than $2 \%$ of the child's adjusted gross income can be deducted. See Publication 529, Miscellaneous Deductions, for more information.

Example 1. Roger, age 12, has investment income of $\$ 8,000$, no other income, no adjustments to income, and itemized deductions of $\$ 300$ (net of the $2 \%$-of-adjusted-gross-income limit) that are directly connected with his investment income. His adjusted gross income is $\$ 8,000$, which is entered on Form 1040, line 38, and on Form 8615 , line 1 . Line 2 is $\$ 1,900$ because that is more than the sum of $\$ 950$ and his directly-connected itemized deductions of $\$ 300$.

Example 2. Eleanor, age 8, has investment income of $\$ 16,000$ and an early withdrawal penalty of $\$ 100$. She has no other income. She has itemized deductions of \$1,050 (net of the 2\%-of-adjusted-gross-income limit) that are directly connected with the production of her investment income. Her adjusted gross income, entered on line 1, is $\$ 15,900(\$ 16,000-\$ 100)$. The amount on line 2 is $\$ 2,000$. This is the larger of:

1. $\$ 950$ plus the $\$ 1,050$ of directly connected itemized deductions, or
2. $\$ 1,900$.

## Line 3

Subtract line 2 from line 1 and enter the result on this line. If zero or less, do not complete the rest of the form. However, you must still attach Form 8615 to the child's tax return. Figure the tax on the child's taxable income in the normal manner.

## Line 4 (Child's Taxable Income)

Enter on line 4 the child's taxable income from Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; or Form 1040NR, line 41.

Child files Form 2555 or 2555-EZ. If the child files Form 2555 or 2555 -EZ to claim the foreign earned income exclusion, housing exclusion, or housing deduction, the Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet is used to figure the child's tax. When using Form 8615 to figure the amount to enter on line 4 of that worksheet, enter the amount from line 3 of the worksheet, instead of the child's taxable income, on line 4 of Form 8615.

## Line 5 (Net Investment Income)

A child's net investment income cannot be more than his or her taxable income. Enter on Form 8615, line 5, the smaller of line 3 or line 4 . This is the child's net investment income.

## Randy and his sister must each file Form

 8615. Their parents' joint return information is used on the Forms 8615 of both children. The net investment income on line 5 of Randy's Form 8615 is $\$ 2,280$. His sister's net investment income is $\$ 1,520$. Randy's parents' taxable income is $\$ 50,570$. Their tax, from the Tax Table, is $\$ 6,749$.Part II of Randy's Form 8615, with lines 6 through 13 filled in, is shown here.

Randy's parents' taxable income of $\$ 50,570$ (from line 43 of Form 1040) is entered on Form 8615, line 6. $\$ 1,520$ (from line 5 of her Form 8615) is entered on line 7 of Randy's Form 8615. The amounts on line $5(\$ 2,280)$, line $6(\$ 50,570)$, and line $7(\$ 1,520)$ are added and the total of $\$ 54,370$ is entered on line 8.
The tax on $\$ 54,370$ is found in the Tax Table using the parents' joint filing status. The tax, $\$ 7,319$, is entered on line 9. Randy's parents' tax of $\$ 6,749$ (from line 44 of Form 1040) is entered on line 10 and is subtracted from the amount on line 9 . The difference, $\$ 570$, is entered on line 11.

Randy's net investment income on line 5 $(\$ 2,280)$ is added to his sister's net investment income on line $7(\$ 1,520)$ and the total, $\$ 3,800$, is entered on line 12a.
The amount on line $5(\$ 2,280)$ is divided by the amount on line $12 \mathrm{a}(\$ 3,800)$ and the result, .600 , is entered on line 12 b .
The amount on line 11 (\$570) is multiplied by the amount on line $12 \mathrm{~b}(.600)$ and the result, $\$ 342$, is entered on line 13 . This is Randy's tentative tax based on his parents' tax rate.

| Part II Tentative Tax Based on the Tax Rate of the Parent |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | Enter the parent's taxable income from Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; Form 1040EZ, line 6; Form 1040NR, line 41; or Form 1040NR-EZ, line 14. If zero or less, enter -0-. If the parent files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, see the instructions | 6 | 50,570 |  |
| 7 | Enter the total, if any, from Forms 8615 , line 5, of all other children of the parent named above Do not include the amount from line 5 above | 7 | 1,520 |  |
| 8 | Add lines 5, 6, and 7 (see instructions) | 8 | 54,370 |  |
| 9 | Enter the tax on the amount on line 8 based on the parent's filing status above (see instructions). If the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule $J$ (Form 1040) is used to figure the tax, check here. | 9 | 7,319 |  |
| 10 | Enter the parent's tax from Form 1040, line 44; Form 1040A, line 28, minus any alternative minimum tax; Form 1040EZ, line 11; Form 1040NR, line 42; or Form 1040NR-EZ, line 15. Do not include any tax from Form $\mathbf{4 9 7 2}$ or $\mathbf{8 8 1 4}$ or any tax from recapture of an education credit. If the parent files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, see the instructions. If the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule J (Form 1040) was used to figure the tax, check here | 10 | 6,749 |  |
| 11 | Subtract line 10 from line 9 and enter the result. If line 7 is blank, also enter this amount on line 13 and go to Part III | 11 | 570 |  |
| 12a | Add lines 5 and 7 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 12 a \| 3,800 |  |  |  |
| $b$ | Divide line 5 by line 12a. Enter the result as a decimal (rounded to at least three places) | 12b |  | 600 |
| 13 | Multiply line 11 by line 12 b | 13 | 342 |  |

If zero or less, do not complete the rest of the form. However, you must still attach Form 8615 to the child's tax return. Figure the tax on the child's taxable income in the normal manner.

## Step 2. Figuring a Tentative Tax at the Parent's Tax Rate <br> (Form 8615, Part II)

The next step in completing Form 8615 is to figure a tentative tax on the child's net investment income at the parent's tax rate. The tentative tax at the parent's tax rate is the difference between the tax on the parent's taxable income figured with the child's net investment income (plus the net investment income of any other child whose Form 8615 includes the tax return information of that parent) and the tax figured without it.

When figuring the tentative tax at the parent's tax rate, do not refigure any of the exclusions, deductions, or credits on the parent's return because of the child's net investment income. For example, do not refigure the medical expense deduction.

Figure the tentative tax on lines 6 through 13. For an example, see the Illustrated Part II of Form 8615 above.

## Line 6 (Parent's Taxable Income)

Enter on line 6 the amount from the parent's Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; Form 1040EZ, line 6; Form 1040NR, line 41; or Form 1040NR-EZ, line 14. If the parent's taxable income is zero or less, enter zero on line 6.

Parent files Form $\mathbf{2 5 5 5}$ or $\mathbf{2 5 5 5}$-EZ. If the parent files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$ to claim the foreign earned income exclusion, housing exclusion, or housing deduction, the Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet in the Form 1040 instructions is used to figure the parent's tax. Enter the amount from line 3 of that worksheet, instead of the parent's taxable income, on line 6 of Form 8615.

## Line 7 (Net Investment Income of Other Children)

If the tax return information of the parent is also used on any other child's Form 8615, enter on line 7 the total of the amounts from line 5 of all the other children's Forms 8615. Do not include the amount from line 5 of the Form 8615 being completed.

Example. Paul and Jane Persimmon have three children, Sharon, Jerry, and Mike, who must attach Form 8615 to their tax returns. The children's net investment income amounts on line 5 of their Forms 8615 are:

- Sharon-\$800
- Jerry-\$600
- Mike-\$1,000

Line 7 of Sharon's Form 8615 will show $\$ 1,600$, the total of the amounts on line 5 of Jerry's and Mike's Forms 8615.

Line 7 of Jerry's Form 8615 will show $\$ 1,800$ ( $\$ 800+$ $\$ 1,000)$.

Line 7 of Mike's Form 8615 will show $\$ 1,400$ ( $\$ 800+$ $\$ 600)$.

Other children's information not available. If the net investment income of the other children is not available when the return is due, either file the return using estimates or get an extension of time to file. Estimates and extensions are discussed earlier under Providing Parental Information (Form 8615, Lines A-C).

## Line 8 (Parent's Taxable Income Plus Children's Net Investment Income)

Enter on this line the total of lines 5, 6, and 7. You must determine the amount of net capital gain and qualified dividends included on this line before completing line 9 of Form 8615.

Net capital gain. Net capital gain is the smaller of the gain, if any, on Schedule D, line 15, or the gain, if any, on Schedule D, line 16. If Schedule $D$ is not required, it is the amount on Form 1040, line 13; Form 1040A, line 10; or Form 1040NR, line 14.

Qualified dividends. Qualified dividends are those dividends reported on line 9b of Form 1040 or Form 1040A, or line 10b of Form 1040NR.

Net capital gain and qualified dividends on line 8. If neither the child, parent, nor any other child has net capital gain, the net capital gain on line 8 is zero.

If neither the child, parent, nor any other child has qualified dividends, the amount of qualified dividends on line 8 is zero.

If the child, parent, or any other child has net capital gain, figure the amount of net capital gain included on line 8 by adding together the net capital gain amounts included on lines 5, 6, and 7 of Form 8615. If the child, parent, or any other child has qualified dividends, figure the amount of qualified dividends included on line 8 by adding together the qualified dividend amounts included on lines 5, 6, and 7. Use the instructions for Form 8615, line 8, including the appropriate Line 5 Worksheet, to find these amounts.

Note. The amount of any net capital gain or qualified dividends is not separately reported on line 8 . It is needed, however, when figuring the tax on line 9 .

## Line 9 (Tax on Parent's Taxable Income Plus Children's Net Investment Income)

Figure the tax on the amount on line 8 using the Tax Table, the Tax Computation Worksheet, the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet (in the Form 1040,

1040A, or 1040NR instructions), the Schedule D Tax Worksheet (in the Schedule D instructions), or Schedule J (Form 1040), as follows.

- If line 8 does not include any net capital gain or qualified dividends, use the Tax Table or Tax Computation Worksheet to figure this tax. But if Schedule J , Income Averaging for Farmers and Fishermen, is used to figure the tax on the parent's return, use it to figure this tax.
- If line 8 does include any net capital gain or qualified dividends, use the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet to figure this tax. For details, see the instructions for Form 8615, line 9. However, if the child, parent, or any other child has $28 \%$ rate gain or unrecaptured section 1250 gain, use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet. But if Schedule $J$ is used to figure the tax on the parent's return, use it to figure this tax.

Child files Form $\mathbf{2 5 5 5}$ or 2555-EZ. If line 8 includes any net capital gain or qualified dividends and the child or any other child filing Form 8615 also files Form 2555 or 2555-EZ, use Using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax, next, to figure the line 9 tax.

Using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax. Use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet (in the Schedule D instructions) to figure the line 9 tax on Form 8615 if the child, parent, or any other child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain or $28 \%$ rate gain. If you must use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet, first complete any Schedule D and any actual Schedule D Tax Worksheet required for the child, parent, or any other child. Then figure the line 9 tax using another Schedule D Tax Worksheet. (Do not attach this Schedule D Tax Worksheet to the child's return.)

Complete this Schedule D Tax Worksheet as follows.

1. On line 1, enter the amount from Form 8615, line 8.
2. On line 2, enter the qualified dividends included on Form 8615, line 8. (See the earlier discussion for line 8.)
3. On line 3, enter the total of the amounts, if any, on line 4 g of all Forms 4952 filed by the child, parent, or any other child.
4. On line 4, enter the total of the amounts, if any, on line 4 e of all Forms 4952 filed by the child, parent, or any other child. If applicable, include instead the smaller amount entered on the dotted line next to line 4 e.
5. On lines 5 and 6 , follow the worksheet instructions.
6. On line 7, enter the net capital gain included on Form 8615, line 8. (See the earlier discussion for line 8.)
7. On lines 8 through 10, follow the worksheet instructions.
8. On line 11, enter zero if neither the child, parent, nor any other child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain (Schedule D, line 19) or $28 \%$ rate gain (Schedule D,
line 18). Otherwise, enter the amount of unrecaptured section 1250 gain and $28 \%$ rate gain included in the net capital gain on line 8 of Form 8615. Figure these amounts as explained later under Figuring unrecaptured section 1250 gain (line 11) and Figuring $28 \%$ rate gain (line 11).
9. If the Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet was used to figure the parent's tax or the tax of any child, go to step 10 below. Otherwise, skip steps 10, 11, and 12 below, and go to step 13.
10. Determine whether there is a line 8 capital gain excess as follows.
a. Add the amounts on line 2 of all Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheets completed by the parent or any child for whom Form 8615 is filed. (But for each child do not add more than the excess, if any, of the amount on line 5 of the child's Form 8615 over the child's taxable income on Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; or Form 1040NR, line 41.)
b. Subtract (a) from the amount on line 1 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet.
c. Subtract (b) from the amount on line 10 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet. If the result is more than zero, that amount is the line 8 capital gain excess. If the result is zero or less, there is no line 8 capital gain excess.
11. If there is no line 8 capital gain excess, skip step 12 below and go to step 13.
12. If there is a line 8 capital gain excess, complete a second Schedule D Tax Worksheet as instructed above and in step 13, but in its entirety and with the following additional modifications. (These modifications are to be made only for purposes of filling out this Schedule D Tax Worksheet.)
a. Reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 9 (but not below zero) by the line 8 capital gain excess.
b. Reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 6 (but not below zero) by any of the line 8 capital gain excess not used in (a) above.
c. If the child, parent, or any other child has $28 \%$ rate gain, reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 8 of Worksheet 1 for Line 11 of the Schedule D Tax Worksheet - 28\% Rate Gain (Line 9 Tax), shown later, (but not below zero) by the line 8 capital gain excess, and refigure the amount on line 11 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet.
d. If the child, parent, or any other child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain, reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 8 of Worksheet 2 for Line 11 of the Schedule D Tax Worksheet Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain (Line 9 Tax) (but not below zero) by the line 8 capital gain excess
not used in 12(c), and refigure the amount on line 11 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet.
13. Complete lines 12 through 36 following the worksheet instructions. Use the parent's filing status to complete lines 15,33 , and 35.
Enter the amount from line 36 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet on Form 8615, line 9, and check the box on that line. Do not attach this worksheet to the child's return.

Figuring 28\% rate gain (line 11). If the child, parent, or any other child has $28 \%$ rate gain, figure the amount of $28 \%$ rate gain included in the net capital gain on line 8 of Form 8615 using the following worksheet.

## Worksheet 1 for Line 11 of the Schedule D Tax Worksheet - 28\% Rate Gain (Line 9 Tax)

1. Enter the amount, if any, from the child's Schedule D, line 18.
If line 1 is zero or blank, skip lines 2 through 4, enter -0-on line 5 , and go to line 6.
2. Enter the amount from the last line of the child's completed Line 5 Worksheet in the instructions for Form 8615, line 8 $\qquad$
$\qquad$
3. Enter the amount from line 2 of the child's completed Line 5 Worksheet $\qquad$
$\qquad$
4. Divide line 2 by line 3 . Enter the result as a decimal $\qquad$
$\qquad$
5. Multiply line 1 by line 4 $\qquad$
$\qquad$
6. If no other child has $28 \%$ rate gain, enter -0 -. Otherwise, repeat lines 1 through 5 above for each other child who has 28\% rate gain and enter the total of the line 5 amounts for those other children. $\qquad$
$\qquad$
7. Enter the amount, if any, from line 18 of the parent's Schedule D. $\qquad$
8. Add lines 5,6 , and 7. Also include this amount on the Schedule D Tax Worksheet, line 11. $\qquad$

Figuring unrecaptured section 1250 gain (line 11). If the child, parent, or any other child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain, figure the amount of unrecaptured section 1250 gain included in the net capital gain on line 8 of Form 8615 using the following worksheet.

## Worksheet 2 for Line 11 of the Schedule D Tax Worksheet - Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain (Line 9 Tax)

1. Enter the amount, if any, from the child's Schedule D, line 19.

## If line 1 is zero or blank, skip lines 2 <br> through 4, enter -0- <br> on line 5, and go to line 6.

2. Enter the amount, if any, from
the last line of the child's
completed Line 5 Worksheet in the instructions for Form 8615, line 8
3. Enter the amount from line 2 of the child's completed Line 5 Worksheet
4. Divide line 2 by line 3 . Enter the result as a decimal
5. Multiply line 1 by line 4
6. If no other child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain, enter -0-. Otherwise, repeat lines 1 through 5 for each other child who has unrecaptured section 1250 gain and enter the total of the line 5 amounts for those children
7. Enter the amount, if any, from line 19 of the parent's Schedule D
8. Add lines 5, 6, and 7. Also include this amount on the Schedule D Tax
Worksheet, line 11.
Using Schedule J for line 9 tax. Use Schedule J, Income Averaging for Farmers and Fishermen, to figure the line 9 tax on Form 8615 if Schedule $J$ is used to figure the tax on the parent's return. First complete the actual Schedule J for the parent, then use another Schedule J as a worksheet to figure the tax to enter on line 9 of Form 8615. (Do not attach this worksheet to the child's return.)

Complete this worksheet Schedule J as follows.

1. On line 1, enter the amount from Form 8615, line 8.
2. On lines $2 a, 2 b$, and $2 c$, enter the amounts from the parent's Schedule J, lines $2 \mathrm{a}, 2 \mathrm{~b}$, and 2c.
3. Complete line 3 following the Schedule J instructions.
4. Complete line 4. If Form 8615, line 8, includes any net capital gain, use the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet to figure the tax amount on this line. For details on how to use the worksheet, see the instructions for Form 8615, line 9, but use the amount on line 3 of this worksheet Schedule J (instead of the amount on Form 8615, line 8) in step (1) of Using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax. However, if the child, parent, or any other child has $28 \%$ rate gain, or unrecaptured section 1250 gain, use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet. Follow the earlier instructions under Using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax, except use the amount on line 3 of this worksheet Schedule J (instead of the amount on Form 8615, line 8) in step (1).
5. On lines 5 through 16, enter the amounts from the parent's Schedule J, lines 5 through 16.
6. Complete lines 17 and 18 following the Schedule J instructions.
7. On lines 19 through 22, enter the amounts from the parent's Schedule J, lines 19 through 22.
8. Complete line 23 following the Schedule J instructions.
Enter the amount from line 23 of this worksheet Schedule J on Form 8615 , line 9, and check the box on that line.

## Line 10 (Parent's Tax)

Enter on line 10 the amount from the parent's Form 1040, line 44; Form 1040A, line 28 (minus any alternative minimum tax); Form 1040EZ, line 11; Form 1040NR, line 42; or Form 1040NR-EZ, line 15. Do not include the tax, if any, from Form 4972 or Form 8814 or any tax from recapture of an education credit.

If the parent files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, enter the amount from line 4 of the parent's Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet, instead of the parent's tax from Form 1040, line 44.

## Line 11 (Tentative Tax)

Subtract line 10 from line 9 and enter the result on this line. This is the tentative tax.

If line 7 is blank, skip lines 12a and 12b and enter the amount from line 11 on line 13. Also skip the discussion for lines 12a and 12b that follows.

## Lines 12a and 12b (Dividing the Tentative Tax)

If an amount is entered on line 7, divide the tentative tax shown on line 11 among the children according to each child's share of the total net investment income. This is done on lines 12a, 12b, and 13. Add the amount on line 7 to the amount on line 5 and enter the total on line 12a. Divide the amount on line 5 by the amount on line 12a and enter the result, as a decimal, on line 12 b .

Example. In the earlier example under Line 7 (Net Investment Income of Other Children), Sharon's Form 8615 shows $\$ 1,600$ on line 7 . The amount entered on line $12 a$ is $\$ 2,400$, the total of the amounts on lines 5 and 7 (\$800 + $\$ 1,600)$. The decimal on line $12 b$ is .333 , figured as follows and rounded to three places.

$$
\frac{\$ 800}{\$ 2,400}=.333
$$

## Line 13 (Child's Share of Tentative Tax)

If an amount is entered on line 7 , multiply line 11 by the decimal on line $12 b$ and enter the result on line 13. This is the child's share of the tentative tax.

## Step 3. Figuring the Child's Tax (Form 8615, Part III)

The final step in figuring a child's tax using Form 8615 is to determine the larger of:

1. The total of:
a. The child's share of the tentative tax based on the parent's tax rate, plus
b. The tax on the child's taxable income in excess of net investment income, figured at the child's tax rate, or
2. The tax on the child's taxable income, figured at the child's tax rate.

This is the child's tax. It is figured on Form 8615, lines 14 through 18.

## Line 14 (Child's Taxable Income in Excess of Net Investment Income)

If lines 4 and 5 of Form 8615 are the same, the child's taxable income is not more than the child's net investment income. Enter zero on lines 14 and 15, and go to line 16. Also skip the rest of this discussion and the discussion for line 15 that follows.

If lines 4 and 5 are not the same, subtract line 5 from line 4 and enter the result on line 14 . Then, before completing line 15 , you must determine the amount of net capital gain and qualified dividends, if any, included on line 14.

Net capital gain and qualified dividends on line 14. If the child does not have any net capital gain or qualified dividends, the amount of the net capital gain and qualified dividends included on line 14 is zero.

If the child has net capital gain, the amount of net capital gain included on line 14 is the amount from line 2 of the child's completed Line 5 Worksheet minus the amount from the last line of that worksheet. (See the earlier discussion for line 8 of Form 8615.)

If the child has qualified dividends, the amount of qualified dividends included on line 14 is the amount from line 1 of the child's completed Line 5 Worksheet minus the amount from the next to the last line of that worksheet. (See the earlier discussion of line 8 of Form 8615.)

## Line 15 (Tax on Child's Taxable Income in Excess of Net Investment Income)

Figure the tax on the amount on line 14 using the Tax Table, the Tax Computation Worksheet, the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, the Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule J (Form 1040), as follows.

- If line 14 does not include any net capital gain or qualified dividends, use the Tax Table or Tax Computation Worksheet (or Schedule J, if applicable) to figure this tax.
- If line 14 does include any net capital gain or qualified dividends, use the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet to figure this tax. For
details, see the instructions for Form 8615, line 15. However, if the child has $28 \%$ rate gain or unrecaptured section 1250 gain, use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet. (But use Schedule J instead, if it applies.)

Child files Form 2555 or 2555-EZ. If line 14 includes any net capital gain or qualified dividends and the child files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, use Using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet for line 15 tax, next, to figure the line 15 tax.
Using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet for line 15 tax. Use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet (in the Schedule D instructions) to figure the line 15 tax on Form 8615 if the child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain or $28 \%$ rate gain. Do not attach this Schedule D Tax Worksheet to the child's return.

Complete this Schedule D Tax Worksheet as follows.

1. On line 1, enter the amount from Form 8615, line 14.
2. On line 2, enter the qualified dividends included on Form 8615, line 14. (See the earlier discussion for line 14.)
3. Leave lines 3 through 5 blank.
4. Enter the amount from line 2 on line 6.
5. On line 7, enter the net capital gain included on Form 8615, line 14. (See the earlier discussion for line 14.)
6. Skip line 8.
7. Enter the amount from line 7 on line 9.
8. Complete line 10, following the worksheet instructions.
9. On line 11, enter zero if the child has no $28 \%$ rate gain (Schedule D, line 18) or unrecaptured section 1250 gain (Schedule D, line 19). Otherwise, see Worksheet 1 for Line 11 of the Schedule D Tax Worksheet - 28\% Rate Gain (Line 9 Tax) and Worksheet 2 for Line 11 of the Schedule D Tax Worksheet - Unrecaptured Section 1250 Gain (Line 9 Tax) under Using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax, earlier. For each worksheet you complete, subtract line 5 of that worksheet from line 1 of that worksheet, and include the result on line 11 of this worksheet.
10. If the child is not filing Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, skip steps 11,12 , and 13 below, and go to step 14 . If the child is filing Form 2555 or 2555-EZ, go to step 11.
11. Determine whether there is a line 14 capital gain excess as follows.
a. Subtract from line 2 of the child's Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet the excess, if any, of the amount on line 5 of the child's Form 8615 over the child's taxable income on Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; or Form 1040NR, line 41.
b. Subtract (a) from the amount on line 14 of Form 8615.
c. Subtract (b) from the amount on line 10 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet. If the result is more than zero, that amount is the line 14 capital gain
excess. If the result is zero or less, there is no line 14 capital gain excess.
12. If there is no line 14 capital gain excess, skip step 13 below and go to step 14.
13. If there is a line 14 capital gain excess, complete a second Schedule D Tax Worksheet as instructed above and in step 14 below but in its entirety and with the following additional modifications. (These modifications are to be made only for purposes of filling out this Schedule D Tax Worksheet.)
a. Reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 9 (but not below zero) by the line 14 capital gain excess.
b. Reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 6 (but not below zero) by any of the line 14 capital gain excess not used in (a) above.
c. If the child has $28 \%$ rate gain, reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 11, as figured in step 9, (but not below zero) by the line 14 capital gain excess.
d. If the child has unrecaptured section 1250 gain, reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on line 11, as figured in step 9, (but not below zero) by the line 14 capital gain excess not used in (c) above.
14. Complete lines 12 through 36 following the worksheet instructions. Use the child's filing status to complete lines 15, 33, and 35.
Enter the amount from line 36 of this Schedule D Tax Worksheet on Form 8615, line 15, and check the box on that line. Do not attach this worksheet to the child's return.
Using Schedule J for line 15 tax. If Schedule J applies, use it as a worksheet to figure the tax to enter on Form 8615, line 15. On line 1 of this worksheet, enter the amount from Form 8615, line 14. Complete lines 2a through 23 following the Schedule J instructions. Use the child's filing status to complete lines 4, 8, 12, and 16.

Enter the amount from line 23 of this worksheet Schedule J, on Form 8615, line 15, and check the box on that line. Do not attach this worksheet to the child's return.

## Line 16 (Combined Tax)

Add lines 13 and 15 and enter the total on line 16. This is the child's tax figured at the parent's rate on net investment income and the child's rate on other income.

## Line 17 (Tax at Child's Rate)

Figure the tax on the amount on line 4. Use the Tax Table, the Tax Computation Worksheet, the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, the Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or the child's actual Schedule J, whichever applies. Enter the tax amount on line 17. If it is from the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, the Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule J, check the box on that line.

Child files Form 2555 or $\mathbf{2 5 5 5}$-EZ. If the child files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$ and has a net capital gain or qualified dividends, figure the tax using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet or the Schedule D Tax Worksheet, whichever applies. To fill out that worksheet, follow the instructions in the footnote to the Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet.

## Line 18 (Tax)

Enter on line 18 the larger of line 16 or line 17. Also enter this amount on the child's Form 1040, line 44; Form 1040A, line 28; or Form 1040NR, line 42. This is the child's tax.

Child files Form 2555 or $\mathbf{2 5 5 5}$-EZ. If the child files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, do not enter the amount from Form 8615, line 18, on the child's Form 1040, line 44. Instead, enter the amount from Form 8615, line 18, on line 4 of the child's Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet. Then complete the rest of the Foreign Earned Income Tax Worksheet to figure the child's tax.

## Alternative Minimum Tax

A child may be subject to alternative minimum tax (AMT) if he or she has certain items given preferential treatment under the tax law. These items include accelerated depreciation and certain tax-exempt interest income. The AMT may also apply if the child has passive activity losses or certain distributions from estates or trusts.

For more information on who is liable for AMT and how to figure it, see Form 6251.

Limit on exemption amount. Ordinarily, single individuals can subtract a $\$ 47,450$ exemption amount from their AMT taxable income. However, a child who files Form 8615 has a limited exemption amount. The child's exemption amount for 2010 is limited to the child's earned income plus $\$ 6,700$. Figure the child's allowable exemption amount on the worksheet in the instructions for Form 6251, line 29.

## Illustrated Example

This example shows how to fill out Forms 8615 and 1040A for Joshua Blake. It also shows how to use the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet in the Form 1040A instructions to figure Joshua's tax.

Bob and Laura Blake have one child, Joshua. He is 13 and has $\$ 1,050$ taxable interest, $\$ 1,050$ qualified dividend income, $\$ 700$ capital gain distributions, and $\$ 1,550$ earned income. He does not itemize deductions. Bob and Laura file a joint return with Bob's name and social security number listed first. They claim three exemptions, including an exemption for Joshua, on their return.

Because he is under age 18 and has more than $\$ 1,900$ investment income, part of his income may be subject to tax at his parents' rate. A completed Form 8615 must be attached to his return.

Joshua's father, Bob, fills out Joshua's return. He completes Joshua's Form 1040A through line 27, then begins completing Joshua's Form 8615.

Bob enters his name and social security number on Joshua's Form 8615 because his name and number are listed first on the joint return he and Laura are filing. He checks the box for married filing jointly.

He enters Joshua's investment income, \$2,800, on line 1. Joshua does not itemize deductions, so Bob enters $\$ 1,900$ on line 2. He enters $\$ 900(\$ 2,800-\$ 1,900)$ on line 3.

Joshua's taxable income, as shown on his Form 1040A, line 27, is $\$ 2,500$. This is his total income $(\$ 4,350)$ minus his standard deduction $(\$ 1,850)$. His standard deduction is limited to the amount of his earned income plus $\$ 300$. Bob enters $\$ 2,500$ on line 4.

Bob compares lines 3 and 4 and enters the smaller amount, $\$ 900$, on line 5.

Bob enters $\$ 48,000$ on line 6 . This is the taxable income from line 43 of Bob and Laura's joint Form 1040 return. Joshua is an only child, so line 7 is blank. He adds line 5 ( $\$ 900$ ), line 6 ( $\$ 48,000$ ), and line 7 (blank) and enters $\$ 48,900$ on line 8.

Because Joshua's capital gain distributions and qualified dividends are included on line 5, Bob uses Line 5 Worksheet \#1 (in the instructions for Form 8615) to figure out that $\$ 225$ net capital gain and $\$ 337$ qualified dividends are included on line 5. He completes that worksheet as follows.

## Line 5 Worksheet \#1

1. Enter the child's qualified dividends ..... $\$ 1,050$
2. Enter the child's net capital gain
3. Enter the amount from the child's Form 8615, line 1

2,800
4. Divide line 1 by line 3 . Enter the result as a decimal (rounded to at least 3 places). Do not enter more than 1.000 .375
5. Divide line 2 by line 3 . Enter the result as a decimal (rounded to at least 3 places). Do not enter more than 1.000
6. Multiply $\$ 1,900$ by line 4
7. Multiply $\$ 1,900$ by line 5
8. Qualified dividends on Form 8615, line 5. Subtract line 6 from line 1 (but do not enter less than zero or more than the amount on Form 8615, line 5)
9. Net capital gain on Form 8615, line 5. Subtract line 7 from line 2 (but do not enter less than zero or more than the excess of Form 8615, line 5, over line 8 of this worksheet)

Joshua's parents do not have a net capital gain or any qualified dividends, so no net capital gain or qualified dividends are on line 6 of Joshua's Form 8615. Therefore, the amount of net capital gain on line 8 of Joshua's Form 8615 is $\$ 225$, and the amount of qualified dividends on that line is $\$ 337$. Bob uses the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet (in the Form 1040A instructions) and follows the instructions under Using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax in the Form 8615 instructions to figure the tax to enter on Joshua's Form 8615, line 9.

Bob enters $\$ 337$ on line 2 of the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, and \$225 on line 3 of that worksheet. That completed worksheet is shown later as Filled-in Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet \#1. Bob enters the tax of $\$ 6,411$ on Joshua's Form 8615, line 9.

He enters the tax from his and Laura's Form 1040 $(\$ 6,366)$ on Joshua's Form 8615, line 10, then subtracts that amount from the $\$ 6,411$ on line 9 , and enters the $\$ 45$ remainder on line 11 . Because line 7 is blank, Bob skips lines 12a and 12b and enters $\$ 45$ on line 13.

Bob subtracts line $5(\$ 900)$ from line $4(\$ 2,500)$ and enters the result, $\$ 1,600$, on line 14 . Using the instructions for line 14 earlier, Bob subtracts the net capital gain included on line 5 (\$225) from Joshua's net capital gain ( $\$ 700$ ) to figure the $\$ 475$ net capital gain included on line 14. He also subtracts the qualified dividends included on line 5 ( $\$ 337$ ) from Joshua's qualified dividends $(\$ 1,050)$ to figure the $\$ 713$ qualified dividends included on line 14. He uses another Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet and follows the instructions under Using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet for line 15 tax, in the Form 8615 instructions, to figure the $\$ 41$ tax to enter on Form 8615, line 15. That completed worksheet is shown later as Filled-in Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet \#2.

Bob adds lines 13 and 15 of Form 8615, and enters the sum, $\$ 86$, on line 16 . Then he uses another Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet to figure the $\$ 76$ tax on Joshua's $\$ 2,500$ taxable income to enter on Form 8615, line 17. That completed worksheet is shown later as Filled-in Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet \#3.

Finally, Bob compares lines 16 and 17 and enters the larger amount, $\$ 86$, on line 18 of Joshua's Form 8615. He also enters that amount on Joshua's Form 1040A, line 28.


For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions. Cat. No. 11327A Form 1040A (2010)




# Tax for Certain Children Who Have Investment 

 Income of More Than \$1,900Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service (99)
Child's name shown on return

- Attach only to the child's Form 1040, Form 1040A, or Form 1040NR.
- See separate instructions.

Joshua A. Blake $\quad$| Child's social security numb |
| ---: |
| $111-00-1111$ |

Before you begin: If the child, the parent, or any of the parent's other children for whom Form 8615 must be filed must use the Schedule D Tax Worksheet or has income from farming or fishing, see Pub. 929, Tax Rules for Children and Dependents. It explains how to figure the child's tax using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet or Schedule J (Form 1040).

| A Parent's name (first, initial, and last). Caution: See instructions before completing. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Bob Blake |$\quad$| B Parent's social security number |
| :---: |
| $000-00-0001$ |

## Part I Child's Net Investment Income

1 Enter the child's investment income (see instructions)
2 If the child did not itemize deductions on Schedule A (Form 1040 or Form 1040NR), enter $\$ 1,900$. Otherwise, see instructions
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1. If zero or less, stop; do not complete the rest of this form but do attach it to the child's return
4 Enter the child's taxable income from Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; or Form 1040NR, line 41. If the child files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, see the instructions
5 Enter the smaller of line 3 or line 4. If zero, stop; do not complete the rest of this form but do attach it to the child's return

| $\mathbf{1}$ | 2,800 |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | 1,900 |  |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | 900 |  |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | 2,500 |  |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | 900 |  |

## Part II Tentative Tax Based on the Tax Rate of the Parent

6 Enter the parent's taxable income from Form 1040, line 43; Form 1040A, line 27; Form 1040EZ, line 6; Form 1040NR, line 41; or Form 1040NR-EZ, line 14. If zero or less, enter -0-. If the parent files Form 2555 or 2555-EZ, see the instructions
7 Enter the total, if any, from Forms 8615, line 5, of all other children of the parent named above. Do not include the amount from line 5 above
8 Add lines 5, 6, and 7 (see instructions)
9 Enter the tax on the amount on line 8 based on the parent's filing status above (see instructions). If the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule $J$ (Form 1040) is used to figure the tax, check here

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | 48,000 |  |
| $\mathbf{7}$ |  |  |
| 8 | 48,900 |  |
|  |  |  |
| 9 | 6,411 |  |
|  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |
| 11 | 6,366 |  |
| $12 b$ | 45 |  |
| 13 | 45 |  |

13 Multiply line 11 by line 12b
Part III Child's Tax - If lines 4 and 5 above are the same, enter -0- on line 15 and go to line 16.

14 Subtract line 5 from line 4

15 Enter the tax on the amount on line 14 based on the child's filing status (see instructions). If the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule J (Form 1040) is used to figure the tax, check here

16 Add lines 13 and 15
17 Enter the tax on the amount on line 4 based on the child's filing status (see instructions). If the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, Schedule D Tax Worksheet, or Schedule $J$ (Form 1040) is used to figure the tax, check here
18 Enter the larger of line 16 or line 17 here and on the child's Form 1040, line 44; Form 1040A, line 28; or Form 1040NR, line 42. If the child files Form 2555 or $2555-E Z$, see the instructions


For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see your tax return instructions.
Cat. No. 64113U
Form 8615 (2010)

## Before you begin: $\sqrt{ }$ Be sure you do not have to file Form 1040 (see the instructions for Form 1040A, line 10)

1. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 27
2. $48,900^{*}$
3. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 9b
4. $\qquad$
5. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 10
6. $\qquad$
7. Add lines 2 and 3
8. $\qquad$
9. Subtract line 4 from line 1 . If zero or less, enter -0 -
10. $\qquad$
11. Enter the smaller of:

- The amount on line 1 , or
- $\$ 34,000$ if single or married filing separately, $\$ 68,000$ if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er),
or
$\$ 45,550$ if head of household.

6. 


7. Is the amount on line 5 equal to or more than the amount on line 6 ?Yes.
Skip lines 7 and 8; go to line 9 and check the "No" box.
$\square$ No.
Enter the amount from line 5
7.
$\qquad$
8. Subtract line 7 from line 6
8. $\qquad$
9. Are the amounts on lines 4 and 8 the same?
Yes.
Skip lines 9 through 12; go to line 13.
No.
Enter the smaller of line 1 or line 4
9.
10. Enter the amount from line 8 (if line 8 is blank, enter -0-)
10.
11. Subtract line 10 from line 9
11. $\qquad$
12. Multiply line 11 by $15 \%$ (.15)
12.
13. Figure the tax on the amount on line 5. Use the Tax Table on pages $74-85$. Enter the tax here
13. $\qquad$
14. Add lines 12 and 13
14. $\qquad$
15. Figure the tax on the amount on line 1. Use the Tax Table on pages 74-85. Enter the tax here
15. $\qquad$
16. Tax on all taxable income. Enter the smaller of line 14 or line 15 here and on Form 1040A, line 28
16. $\qquad$

[^2]
## Before you begin: $\sqrt{ }$ Be sure you do not have to file Form 1040 (see the instructions for Form 1040A, line 10)

1. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 27

## 1. $1,600^{*}$

2. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 9b
3. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 10
4. $\qquad$
5. Add lines 2 and 3
6. $\qquad$
7. Subtract line 4 from line 1 . If zero or less, enter $-0-$
8. $\qquad$
9. Enter the smaller of:

- The amount on line 1 , or
- $\$ 34,000$ if single or married filing separately, $\$ 68,000$ if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er), or

6. 

 $\$ 45,550$ if head of household.
7. Is the amount on line 5 equal to or more than the amount on line 6 ?
$\square$ Yes. Skip lines 7 and 8; go to line 9 and check the "No" box.
No. Enter the amount from line 5
7. $\qquad$
8. Subtract line 7 from line 6
8. $\qquad$
9. Are the amounts on lines 4 and 8 the same?

Yes. Skip lines 9 through 12; go to line 13.No. Enter the smaller of line 1 or line 4
9.
10. Enter the amount from line 8 (if line 8 is blank, enter -0-)
10.
11. Subtract line 10 from line 9
11.
12. Multiply line 11 by $15 \%$ (.15)
13. Figure the tax on the amount on line 5 . Use the Tax Table on pages $74-85$. Enter the tax here
13. $\qquad$
14. Add lines 12 and 13
14.
12. $\qquad$
15. Figure the tax on the amount on line 1. Use the Tax Table on pages $74-85$. Enter the tax here
15. $\qquad$
16. Tax on all taxable income. Enter the smaller of line 14 or line 15 here and on Form 1040A, line 28
16. $\qquad$

[^3]
## Before you begin: $\sqrt{ }$ Be sure you do not have to file Form 1040 (see the instructions for Form 1040A, line 10)

1. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 27

## 1. 2,500

2. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 9b
3. Enter the amount from Form 1040A, line 10
4. $\qquad$
5. Add lines 2 and 3
6. $\qquad$
7. Subtract line 4 from line 1 . If zero or less, enter $-0-$
8. $\qquad$
9. Enter the smaller of:

- The amount on line 1 , or
- $\$ 34,000$ if single or married filing separately, $\$ 68,000$ if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er), or
 $\$ 45,550$ if head of household.

7. Is the amount on line 5 equal to or more than the amount on line 6 ?
$\square$ Yes. Skip lines 7 and 8; go to line 9 and check the "No" box.
No. Enter the amount from line 5
8. 750
9. Subtract line 7 from line 6
10. $\qquad$
11. Are the amounts on lines 4 and 8 the same?

Yes. Skip lines 9 through 12; go to line 13.No. Enter the smaller of line 1 or line 4
9.
10. Enter the amount from line 8 (if line 8 is blank, enter -0-)
10.
11. Subtract line 10 from line 9
11.
12. Multiply line 11 by $15 \%$ (.15)
12.
13. Figure the tax on the amount on line 5 . Use the Tax Table on pages $74-85$. Enter the tax here
13. $\qquad$
14. Add lines 12 and 13
14. $\qquad$
15. Figure the tax on the amount on line 1. Use the Tax Table on pages $74-85$. Enter the tax here
15. $\qquad$
16. Tax on all taxable income. Enter the smaller of line 14 or line 15 here and on Form 1040A, line 28
16. $\qquad$

The definitions in this glossary are the meanings of the terms as used in this publication. The same term used in another publication may have a slightly different meaning.

Adjusted gross income. Gross income (defined later) minus adjustments to income (defined next).

Adjustments to income. Deductions that are subtracted from gross income in figuring adjusted gross income. They include deductions for moving expenses, alimony paid, a penalty on early withdrawal of savings, and contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA). Adjustments to income can be taken even if itemized deductions (defined later) are not claimed.

Alternative minimum tax. A tax designed to collect at least a minimum amount of tax from taxpayers who benefit from the tax laws that give special treatment to certain kinds of income and allow deductions and credits for certain kinds of expenses.

Capital gain distribution. An allocated amount paid to, or treated as paid to, a shareholder by a mutual fund, regulated investment company, or real estate investment trust from its net realized long-term capital gains. This amount is in addition to any ordinary dividend paid to the shareholder. You will receive a statement from the payer if this applies to you.

Dependent. A person, other than the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse, for whom an exemption (defined later) can be claimed. To be your dependent, a person must be your qualifying child or qualifying relative (both defined later). For more information, see Exemptions for Dependents in Publication 501.

Earned income. Salaries, wages, tips, professional fees, and other amounts received as pay for work actually done.

For purposes of determining a dependent's standard deduction, earned income also includes any part of a scholarship or fellowship grant that the
dependent must include in his or her gross income.

For purposes of completing Form 8615, earned income also includes a taxable distribution from a qualified disability trust. It does not include investment income as defined under Line 1 (Investment Income).

Exemption. An amount (\$3,650 for 2010) that can be subtracted from income in figuring how much income will be taxed. Exemptions generally are allowed for the taxpayer, the taxpayer's spouse, and dependents.

Full-time student. A child who during any part of 5 calendar months of the year was enrolled as a full-time student at a school, or took a full-time, on-farm training course given by a school or a state, county, or local government agency. A school includes a technical, trade, or mechanical school. It does not include an on-the-job training course, correspondence school, or school offering courses only through the Internet.

Gross income. All income from all sources (other than tax-exempt income) that must be included on your tax return. Gross income is the total of your earned and unearned income.

For purposes of determining whether you must file a return, gross income includes gain from the sale of your main home (even if you can exclude part of all of it) and includes income earned outside the United States (even if you can exclude part or all of it).

Investment income. See Unearned income, later, and Investment income defined, earlier, under Line 1 (Investment Income).

Itemized deductions. Deductions allowed on Schedule A (Form 1040) for medical and dental expenses, taxes, home mortgage interest and investment interest, charitable contributions, casualty and theft losses, and miscellaneous deductions. They are subtracted from adjusted gross income in figuring taxable income. Itemized deductions cannot be claimed if the standard deduction is chosen.

Net capital gain. The excess of net long-term capital gain over any net short-term capital loss. For 2010, this is the smaller of the gain on line 15 or the gain on line 16 of Schedule D (Form 1040). If Schedule D is not required, net capital gain is the amount of capital gain distributions on Form 1040, line 13; Form 1040A, line 10; or Form 1040NR, line 14.

Net investment income. The total of all investment income (other than tax-exempt income) reduced by the sum of:

1. Any adjustments to income related to the investment income, plus
2. The larger of:
a. $\$ 950$ plus the portion of the child's itemized deductions on Schedule A (Form 1040), line 29 (or Schedule A (Form 1040NR), line 17), that are directly connected with producing the investment income, or
b. $\$ 1,900$.

Qualified dividends. Dividends eligible for the lower tax rates that apply to a net capital gain. They are reported to you in box 1b of Form 1099-DIV. You report them on Form 1040 or Form 1040A, line 9b, or Form 1040NR, line 10b. For more information, see Publication 550.

Qualifying child. To be your dependent (defined earlier), a person must be either your qualifying child or your qualifying relative (defined next). Generally, a person is your qualifying child if that person:

- Is your child, stepchild, foster child, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, or a descendant of any of them,
- Lived with you for more than half of the year,
- Did not provide more than half of his or her own support for the year,
- Was under age 19 at the end of the year and younger than you (or your spouse if filing jointly) (or was under age 24 at the end of the year, a student, and younger than you (or your spouse if filing jointly), or was any age and permanently and totally disabled), and
- Did not file a joint return with his or her spouse.

For details, see Exemptions for Dependents in Publication 501.

Qualifying relative. To be your dependent (defined earlier), a person must be either your qualifying child (defined earlier) or your qualifying relative. Generally, a person is your qualifying relative if that person:

- Lives with or is related to you,
- Does not have $\$ 3,650$ or more of gross (total) income,
- Is supported (generally more than $50 \%$ ) by you, and
- Is neither your qualifying child nor the qualifying child of anyone else.

For details, see Exemptions for Dependents in Publication 501.

Standard deduction. An amount that can be subtracted from adjusted gross income in figuring taxable income. The standard deduction is not used if itemized deductions are claimed.

Support. All amounts spent to provide the child with food, lodging, clothing, education, medical and dental care, recreation, transportation, and similar necessities. To figure your child's support, count support provided by you, your child, and others. However, a scholarship received by your child is not considered support if your child is a full-time student. See Publication 501 for details.

Tax year. The time period covered by a tax return. Usually this is January 1 to December 31, a calendar year, but taxpayers can elect a fiscal tax year with different beginning and ending dates.

Taxable income. Gross income minus any adjustments to income, any allowable exemptions, and either itemized deductions or the standard deduction.

Unearned income. Income other than earned income. This is invest-ment-type income and includes interest, dividends, and capital gains. Distributions of interest, dividends, capital gains, and other unearned income from a trust are also unearned income to a beneficiary of the trust. However, for purposes of completing Form 8615, a taxable distribution from a qualified disability trust is considered earned income.

Unrecaptured section 1250 gain. Generally, any part of your net capital gain from selling section 1250 property (real property) that is due to depreciation. For details, see Publication 550.
$\mathbf{2 8 \%}$ rate gain. Gain from the sale of collectibles and, generally, the taxable part of your gain from the sale of qualified small business stock held more than 5 years. For details, see the instructions for Schedule D (Form 1040).

## How To Get Tax Help

You can get help with unresolved tax issues, order free publications and forms, ask tax questions, and get information from the IRS in several ways. By selecting the method that is best for you, you will have quick and easy access to tax help.

Contacting your Taxpayer Advocate. The Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) is an independent organization within the IRS. We help taxpayers who are experiencing economic harm, such as not being able to provide necessities like housing, transportation, or food; taxpayers who are seeking help in resolving tax problems with the IRS; and those who believe that an IRS system or procedure is not working as it should. Here are seven things
every taxpayer should know about TAS:

- The Taxpayer Advocate Service is your voice at the IRS.
- Our service is free, confidential, and tailored to meet your needs.
- You may be eligible for our help if you have tried to resolve your tax problem through normal IRS channels and have gotten nowhere, or you believe an IRS procedure just isn't working as it should.
- We help taxpayers whose problems are causing financial difficulty or significant cost, including the cost of professional representation. This includes
businesses as well as individuals.
- Our employees know the IRS and how to navigate it. If you qualify for our help, we'll assign your case to an advocate who will listen to your problem, help you understand what needs to be done to resolve it, and stay with you every step of the way until your problem is resolved.
- We have at least one local taxpayer advocate in every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. You can call your local advocate, whose number is in your phone book, in Pub. 1546, Taxpayer Advocate Serv-ice-Your Voice at the IRS, and on our website at www.irs.gov/
advocate. You can also call our toll-free line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.
- You can learn about your rights and responsibilities as a taxpayer by visiting our online tax toolkit at www.taxtoolkit.irs.gov. You can get updates on hot tax topics by visiting our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/ tasnta and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/YourVoiceAtlRS, or by following our tweets at www.twitter.com/YourVoiceAtIRS.

Low Income Taxpayer Clinics (LITCs). The Low Income Taxpayer Clinic program serves individuals who have a problem with the IRS and whose income is below a certain level. LITCs are independent from the IRS. Most LITCs can provide representation before the IRS or in court on audits, tax collection disputes, and other issues for free or a small fee. If an individual's native language is not English, some clinics can provide multilingual information about taxpayer rights and responsibilities. For more information, see Publication 4134, Low Income Taxpayer Clinic List. This publication is available at IRS.gov, by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676), or at your local IRS office.

Free tax services. Publication 910, IRS Guide to Free Tax Services, is your guide to IRS services and resources. Learn about free tax information from the IRS, including publications, services, and education and assistance programs. The publication also has an index of over 100 TeleTax topics (recorded tax information) you can listen to on the telephone. The majority of the information and services listed in this publication are available to you free of charge. If there is a fee associated with a resource or service, it is listed in the publication.

Accessible versions of IRS published products are available on request in a variety of alternative formats for people with disabilities.
Free help with your return. Free help in preparing your return is available nationwide from IRS-trained volunteers. The Volunteer Income Tax

Assistance (VITA) program is designed to help low-income taxpayers and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program is designed to assist taxpayers age 60 and older with their tax returns. Many VITA sites offer free electronic filing and all volunteers will let you know about credits and deductions you may be entitled to claim. To find the nearest VITA or TCE site, call 1-800-829-1040.

As part of the TCE program, AARP offers the Tax-Aide counseling program. To find the nearest AARP Tax-Aide site, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit AARP's website at www.aarp.org/money/taxaide.

For more information on these programs, go to IRS.gov and enter keyword "VITA" in the upper right-hand corner.


Internet. You can access the IRS website at IRS.gov 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to:

- E-file your return. Find out about commercial tax preparation and $e$-file services available free to eligible taxpayers.
- Check the status of your 2010 refund. Go to IRS.gov and click on Where's My Refund. Wait at least 72 hours after the IRS acknowledges receipt of your e-filed return, or 3 to 4 weeks after mailing a paper return. If you filed Form 8379 with your return, wait 14 weeks ( 11 weeks if you filed electronically). Have your 2010 tax return available so you can provide your social security number, your filing status, and the exact whole dollar amount of your refund.
- Download forms, including talking tax forms, instructions, and publications.
- Order IRS products online.
- Research your tax questions online.
- Search publications online by topic or keyword.
- Use the online Internal Revenue Code, Regulations, or other official guidance.
- View Internal Revenue Bulletins (IRBs) published in the last few years.
- Figure your withholding allowances using the withholding calculator online at www.irs.gov/ individuals.
- Determine if Form 6251 must be filed by using our Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) Assistant.
- Sign up to receive local and national tax news by email.
- Get information on starting and operating a small business.


Phone. Many services are available by phone.

- Ordering forms, instructions, and publications. Call 1-800-TAX -FORM (1-800-829-3676) to order current-year forms, instructions, and publications, and prior-year forms and instructions. You should receive your order within 10 days.
- Asking tax questions. Call the IRS with your tax questions at 1-800-829-1040.
- Solving problems. You can get face-to-face help solving tax problems every business day in IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers. An employee can explain IRS letters, request adjustments to your account, or help you set up a payment plan. Call your local Taxpayer Assistance Center for an appointment. To find the number, go to www.irs.gov/localcontacts or look in the phone book under United States Government, Internal Revenue Service.
- TTY/TDD equipment. If you have access to TTY/TDD equipment, call 1-800-829-4059 to ask tax questions or to order forms and publications.
- TeleTax topics. Call 1-800-829-4477 to listen to pre-recorded messages covering various tax topics.
- Refund information. To check the status of your 2010 refund, call

1-800-829-1954 or 1-800-829-4477 (automated refund information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Wait at least 72 hours after the IRS acknowledges receipt of your e-filed return, or 3 to 4 weeks after mailing a paper return. If you filed Form 8379 with your return, wait 14 weeks ( 11 weeks if you filed electronically). Have your 2010 tax return available so you can provide your social security number, your filing status, and the exact whole dollar amount of your refund. If you check the status of your refund and are not given the date it will be issued, please wait until the next week before checking back.

- Other refund information. To check the status of a prior-year refund or amended return refund, call 1-800-829-1040.

Evaluating the quality of our telephone services. To ensure IRS representatives give accurate, courteous, and professional answers, we use several methods to evaluate the quality of our telephone services. One method is for a second IRS representative to listen in on or record random telephone calls. Another is to ask some callers to complete a short survey at the end of the call.

Walk-in. Many products and services are available on a walk-in basis.

- Products. You can walk in to many post offices, libraries, and IRS offices to pick up certain forms, instructions, and publications. Some IRS offices, libraries, grocery stores, copy centers, city and county government offices, credit unions, and office supply
stores have a collection of products available to print from a CD or photocopy from reproducible proofs. Also, some IRS offices and libraries have the Internal Revenue Code, Regulations, Internal Revenue Bulletins, and Cumulative Bulletins available for research purposes.
- Services. You can walk in to your local Taxpayer Assistance Center every business day for personal, face-to-face tax help. An employee can explain IRS letters, request adjustments to your tax account, or help you set up a payment plan. If you need to resolve a tax problem, have questions about how the tax law applies to your individual tax return, or you are more comfortable talking with someone in person, visit your local Taxpayer Assistance Center where you can spread out your records and talk with an IRS representative face-to-face. No appointment is necessary-just walk in. If you prefer, you can call your local Center and leave a message requesting an appointment to resolve a tax account issue. A representative will call you back within 2 business days to schedule an in-person appointment at your convenience. If you have an ongoing, complex tax account problem or a special need, such as a disability, an appointment can be requested. All other issues will be handled without an appointment. To find the number of your local office, go to www.irs.gov/localcontacts or look in the phone book under United States Government, Internal Revenue Service.

Mail. You can send your order for forms, instructions, and publications to the address below. You should receive a response within 10 days after your request is received.

Internal Revenue Service 1201 N. Mitsubishi Motorway<br>Bloomington, IL 61705-6613

DVD for tax products. You can order Publication 1796, IRS Tax Products DVD, and obtain:

- Current-year forms, instructions, and publications.
- Prior-year forms, instructions, and publications.
- Tax Map: an electronic research tool and finding aid.
- Tax law frequently asked questions.
- Tax Topics from the IRS telephone response system.
- Internal Revenue Code-Title 26 of the U.S. Code.
- Fill-in, print, and save features for most tax forms.
- Internal Revenue Bulletins.
- Toll-free and email technical support.
- Two releases during the year. - The first release will ship the beginning of January 2011. - The final release will ship the beginning of March 2011.

Purchase the DVD from National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at www.irs.gov/cdorders for \$30 (no handling fee) or call 1-877-233-6767 toll free to buy the DVD for $\$ 30$ (plus a $\$ 6$ handling fee).

To help us develop a more useful index, please let us know if you have ideas for index entries. See "Comments and Suggestions" in the "Introduction" for the ways you can reach us.

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## Tax Publications for Individual Taxpayers

See How To Get Tax Help for a variety of ways to get publications, including by computer, phone, and mail.

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General Guides
    1 Your Rights as a Taxpayer
    1 7 \text { Your Federal Income Tax For}
        Individuals
    334 Tax Guide for Small Business (For
                Individuals Who Use Schedule C or
                C-EZ)
    5 0 9 \text { Tax Calendars for } 2 0 1 1
    910 IRS Guide to Free Tax Services
Specialized Publications
    3 Armed Forces' Tax Guide
    54 Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and
                Resident Aliens Abroad
    225 Farmer's Tax Guide
    463 Travel, Entertainment, Gift, and Car
                Expenses
    501 Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and
                Filing Information
    5 0 2 \text { Medical and Dental Expenses (Including}
                the Health Coverage Tax Credit)
    503 Child and Dependent Care Expenses
    5 0 4 \text { Divorced or Separated Individuals}
    505 Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax
    514 Foreign Tax Credit for Individuals
    516 U.S. Government Civilian Employees
                Stationed Abroad
    517 Social Security and Other Information
                for Members of the Clergy and
                Religious Workers
    5 1 9 \text { U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens}
    5 2 1 ~ M o v i n g ~ E x p e n s e s
    5 2 3 \text { Selling Your Home}
    524 Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled
    525 Taxable and Nontaxable Income
    5 2 6 \text { Charitable Contributions}
    527 Residential Rental Property (Including
        Rental of Vacation Homes)
    5 2 9 ~ M i s c e l l a n e o u s ~ D e d u c t i o n s
    5 3 0 \text { Tax Information for Homeowners}
    5 3 1 \text { Reporting Tip Income}
    5 3 5 \text { Business Expenses}
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537 Installment Sales
541 Partnerships
544 Sales and Other Dispositions of Assets
547 Casualties, Disasters, and Thefts
550 Investment Income and Expenses (Including Capital Gains and Losses)
551 Basis of Assets
552 Recordkeeping for Individuals
554 Tax Guide for Seniors
555 Community Property
556 Examination of Returns, Appeal Rights, and Claims for Refund
559 Survivors, Executors, and Administrators
561 Determining the Value of Donated Property
570 Tax Guide for Individuals With Income From U.S. Possessions
571 Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans (403(b) Plans) For Employees of Public Schools and Certain Tax-Exempt Organizations
575 Pension and Annuity Income
584 Casualty, Disaster, and Theft Loss Workbook (Personal-Use Property)
587 Business Use of Your Home (Including Use by Daycare Providers)
590 Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)
593 Tax Highlights for U.S. Citizens and Residents Going Abroad
594 The IRS Collection Process
596 Earned Income Credit (EIC)
721 Tax Guide to U.S. Civil Service Retirement Benefits
901 U.S. Tax Treaties
907 Tax Highlights for Persons with Disabilities
908 Bankruptcy Tax Guide
915 Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits

919 How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding?
925 Passive Activity and At-Risk Rules
926 Household Employer's Tax Guide For Wages Paid in 2011
929 Tax Rules for Children and Dependents
936 Home Mortgage Interest Deduction
946 How To Depreciate Property
947 Practice Before the IRS and Power of Attorney
950 Introduction to Estate and Gift Taxes
967 The IRS Will Figure Your Tax
969 Health Savings Accounts and Other Tax-Favored Health Plans
970 Tax Benefits for Education
971 Innocent Spouse Relief
972 Child Tax Credit
1542 Per Diem Rates (For Travel Within the Continental United States)
1544 Reporting Cash Payments of Over \$10,000 (Received in a Trade or Business)
1546 Taxpayer Advocate Service - Your Voice at the IRS

## Spanish Language Publications

1SP Derechos del Contribuyente
17(SP) El Impuesto Federal sobre los Ingresos Para Personas Fisicas
547(SP) Hechos Fortuitos Desastres y Robos
584(SP) Registro de Pérdidas por Hechos Fortuitos (Imprevistos), Desastres y Robos (Propiedad de Uso Personal)
594SP El Proceso de Cobro del IRS
596SP Crédito por Ingreso del Trabajo
850(EN/SP) English-Spanish Glossary of Words and Phrases Used in Publications Issued by the Internal Revenue Service
1544(SP) Informe de Pagos en Efectivo en Exceso de \$10,000 (Recibidos en una Ocupación o Negocio)

Commonly Used Tax Forms See How To Get Tax Help for a variety of ways to get forms, including by computer, phone, and mail.



[^0]:    *See Which Parent's Return To Use

[^1]:    *See Which Parent's Return To Use

[^2]:    *See the instructions under Using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet for line 9 tax in the Form 8615 instructions.

[^3]:    *See the instructions under Using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet for line 15 tax in the Form 8615 instructions.

