



## IRS Tax Tip 2015-22: What You Should Know if You Changed Your Name

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IRS Tax Tips

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### What You Should Know if You Changed Your Name

Did you change your name last year? If you did, it can affect your taxes. All the names on your tax return must match Social Security Administration records. A name mismatch can delay your refund. Here's what you should know if you changed your name:

- **Report Name Changes.** Did you get married and are now using your new spouse's last name or hyphenated your last name? Did you divorce and go back to using your former last name? In either case, you should notify the SSA of your name change. That way, your new name on your IRS records will match up with your SSA records.
- **Dependent Name Change.** Notify the SSA if your dependent had a name change. For example, this could apply if you adopted a child and the child's last name changed.

If you adopted a child who does not have a SSN, you may use an [Adoption Taxpayer Identification Number](#) on your tax return. An ATIN is a temporary number. You can apply for an ATIN by filing [Form W-7A](#), Application for Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions, with the IRS. You can visit

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IRS.gov to view, download, print or order the form at any time.

- **Get a New Card.** File Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, to notify SSA of your name change. You can get the form on SSA.gov or call 800-772-1213 to order it. Your new card will show your new name with the same SSN you had before.
- **Report Changes in Circumstances in 2015.** If you purchase health insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace you may get advance payments of the [premium tax credit](#) in 2015. If you do, be sure to report changes in circumstances, such as a name change, a new address and a change in your income or family size to your [Marketplace](#) throughout the year. Reporting changes will help make sure that you get the proper type and amount of financial assistance and will help you avoid getting too much or too little in advance.

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