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[Should They File a Tax Return? here on the NGPF website](#)



NGPF Activity
Taxes
Spanish Version



PLAY: Should They File a Tax Return?

In this activity you will determine if the person in each of the following scenarios has to file or should file a tax return. Be prepared to explain your reasoning!

NOTE: Refer to [Dependents](#) and [Reference: Do I Need to File a Return?](#) for tax filing requirements that are covered in this activity.



SCENARIO #1

#1: TIM

Tim is 16 years old, a high school student, and lives with his parents. He earned \$5,200 at his part-time job.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.



SCENARIO #2

#2: JESSICA

Jessica is 24 years old and lives in her own apartment. She earned \$48,000 from her salaried position last year.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.



SCENARIO #3

#3: MASON

Mason is 17 years old, a junior in high school, and lives with his parents. He had unearned income of \$750.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.



SCENARIO #4

#4: KATHRYN

Kathryn is 15 years old, a sophomore in high school, and lives with her parents. She had \$200 in unearned income and earned \$800 from her part-time job.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.



SCENARIO #5

#5: YANELY

Yanely is 18 years old, is a high school senior, and lives with her parents. She earned \$6,300 from her part-time job. She claimed EXEMPT on her W-4 on her first day of work.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.



SCENARIO #6

#6: REN

Ren is 21 years old and is a college senior. He lives at home with his parents and commutes to school. He earned \$14,670 from his part-time job.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.



SCENARIO #7

#7: TORI

Tori is 20 years old, a junior in college, and lives with her parents. She has a graphic design side gig and her net earnings were \$2,150.

Questions:

1. Can this person be claimed as a dependent?
2. Is this person *legally required* to file a tax return? Why or why not?
3. If no, *should* they file a tax return? Explain your reasoning.