



## **U.S. Taxes**

**All JET Program participants are responsible for filing their own U.S. income taxes while living and working in Japan on the JET Program.**

**Resources:**

[IRS Site for Taxpayers Living Abroad](#)

[US Embassy in Tokyo Information Site on Taxes](#)

[CLAIR site for current JETs](#)

[Kumamoto AJET Site for US JETs filing taxes](#) (unofficial – provides more detailed instructions/samples)

*Disclaimer: The JET Program Office is not an authority on US or Japanese taxes. These instructions are provided as a courtesy to help Program participants anticipate what will be expected of them while on the Program, but it is the responsibility of the JET participant to see to their own filing of U.S. taxes. If you have any questions about your personal filing, we encourage you to contact the IRS or a tax specialist as the JET Program Office cannot offer specific tax advice to individuals.*

**What is it: Filing Taxes as a U.S. Citizen Living/Working Overseas**

IRS website: “Your worldwide income is subject to US income tax, regardless of where you reside.”

This means that you as a US citizen are liable for paying federal taxes (and possibly also state taxes) on the income you earn in Japan as a JET Program participant.

Please see the second page of this document for forms of note.

**Note:** While you may have seen advice online about a tax exemption for US ALTs (ex: Form 8802 and 6616), this exemption is no longer available and you should not complete either of the aforementioned forms. American JETs are now all subject to both US and Japanese income taxes.

**Forms of Note:**

<b>Form</b>	<b>What it does</b>
8822 Change of Address	Formally filing a change of address shows the IRS that you are a US citizen residing abroad. This gives you an automatic 2-month extension on filing your taxes. <b>File this as soon as you know your address in Japan</b>
1040	This is the main tax form to be submitted when filing taxes. If you earned income in the US in 2021 before going abroad, you will also need to report that income on your 1040, file appropriate forms (W-2, 1099, etc.), and are liable for income taxes on it.
Statement of Earnings (not an IRS form)	The gensen chōshū hyō (源泉徴収票) is the Japanese equivalent of a W-2 and lists your income in Japan. You must include the form itself when filing US taxes. It will be in Japanese yen, so to list your salary on your 1040 use the <a href="#">IRS yearly average exchange rate page</a> to convert to US dollars.
8965 Health Coverage Exemptions	As part of the Affordable Care Act, Americans are required to have health insurance or face a tax penalty if they do not have any. Please note, if someone is claiming you as dependent on their tax form (most likely a parent), you do not need file form 8965 and will not owe any penalties.
2555 <a href="#">Foreign Earned Income Exclusion</a>	Filing this form allows you to claim the foreign earned income exclusion. You must report your Japanese income, but you will not have to pay U.S. taxes on it. Note: You must live in Japan for 330 days in order to be able to get the exclusion based on the physical presence test therefore this only be available for 2021 JETs from their second year.