

IRS Tax Filing Season is Here

If you were physically present in the U.S. in F or J status anytime between January 1 and December 31, 2017, you are required to send a [Form 8843](#) to the Internal Revenue Service (the U.S. tax agency), **even if you had no income**. **If you had no income** during the 2017 tax year (January 1-December 31, 2017), you can complete Form 8843 **now**. Completing the Form 8843 is relatively simple and you do NOT need to use a tax preparation software program to complete it. You should be able to complete Form 8843 on your own and mail it to the IRS at: Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service Center, Austin, TX 73301-0215.

If you had income (salary, stipend, prize money, etc.) during the 2017 tax year (January 1-December 31, 2017), in addition to **Form 8843**, you are required to file a tax return (**Form 1040 NR OR Form 1040NR-EZ**) to reconcile your accounts with the IRS. Filing a tax return is how you will receive a refund of any taxes withheld in 2017 above the amount you owe or determine if you owe any additional taxes. The **deadline for filing taxes is April 17, 2018** (or **June 15, 2018**, for those with **scholarship or fellowship income only**).

The Slutzker Center has purchased **access** to a **software tax preparation program** called **Sprintax** to guide you through the non-resident tax preparation process, prepare the necessary documents and determine if you are due a refund or owe taxes. An access code was sent to all registered students **on or about February 15, 2018**. Look for an email from lescis@syr.edu with the subject line "Slutzker Center Sprintax Tax Preparation Software". If you [file as a resident](#), you cannot use Sprintax.