

**Sun City Summerlin  
Computer Club**

**Seminar**

**Annual  
Tax Software Review**

**Tax Year 2025**

**Tom Burt**

**January 29, 2026**

# Where to Find the Handout

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**Sun City Summerlin Computer Club Website, Seminar Handouts:**

<https://www.scscclclub.com/smnr>

<https://www.scscclclub.com/smnr/TaxSoftwareReview-2025.pdf>

# Seminar Agenda

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- **Seminar Introduction**
- **Review of Turbo Tax Versions & Features**
- **Review of H&R Block Versions & Features**
- **Review of FreeTaxUSA Versions & Features**
- **Sample Couple - Financials**
- **Step by Step Demo Completing a Return**
- **Tax Reference Links**
- **2025 Tax Law Recap and Rates**
- **2026 Tax Rates**
- **Q and A**

# Seminar Introduction (1)

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- This is a seminar about Tax Software Programs.
- This is *NOT* a seminar about income taxes.
  - Please don't rely on me for tax advice.
  - Please don't rely on me to correctly interpret the tax laws for your tax situation.
- We'll look at Turbo Tax and H&R Block Features
- Then we'll dig into H&R Block Deluxe in more depth
- Our approach will be to use a model senior couple and fill in their tax forms with H&R Block Deluxe.

# Seminar Introduction (2)

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- **Benefits of Tax Software Programs:**
  - **Easy step-by-step interview.**
  - **Also support direct “Forms” entry.**
  - **Imports prior year’s tax return data.**
  - **Can automatically get much financial data.**
  - **Can import from Quicken.**
  - **Instantly recalculates** when you make a change.
  - **Programs know and follow the latest tax rules.**
  - **Powerful error checking and audit review.**
  - **Facilitates electronic filing via an encrypted connection between your PC and the IRS.**
  - **Also does State income taxes (if needed).**
  - **Your tax filing is completely private.**

# Turbo Tax Versions

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- <https://turbotax.intuit.com>
- Turbo Tax Free (1040 A / 1040 EZ) - *online*
- Turbo Tax Basic (Simple returns)
- Turbo Tax Deluxe (For homeowners)
- Turbo Tax Premier (stocks, rentals...)
- Turbo Tax Home & Business (Business, ...)
- Most versions now available on the web in “free trial” mode.
- All versions available online or as downloads

# Turbo Tax Key Features

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- **Step by step interview**
  - **Personal Information**
  - **Income**
  - **Expenses (deductions)**
  - **Credits & other considerations.**
- **Forms mode (direct entry)**
- **Tax summary window**
- **Program and Tax Help**
- **Deduction Finder (Deluxe & above)**
- **Print return (for records, for filing)**
- **Electronic filing**
- **State tax return (Efile is extra cost)**

# H&R Block Versions

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- <https://www.HRBlock.com>
- H&R Block Free (Simple returns) *Online*
- H&R Block Basic (Basic returns)
- H&R Block Deluxe (Stocks, rentals, business ...)
- H&R Block Premium (More help on business)
- H&R Block Premium & Business (Corporate returns)
- Versions available online or as downloads (DVD \$10 extra)
- Also offering “Online Assist” Service.

# H&R Block Deluxe Features

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- **Step by step interview**
  - **Personal Information**
  - **Income**
  - **Expenses (deductions)**
  - **Credits & other considerations.**
- **Forms mode (direct entry)**
- **Tax summary report window**
- **Program and Tax Help**
- **Print return (for records, for filing)**
- **Electronic filing**
- **State tax return (may have extra cost)**

# FreeTaxUSA

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- <https://www.freetaxusa.com/>
- **Free Federal *Online only (Almost all forms)***
- **State versions \$14.99 each**
- **Deluxe version (more support from experts)**
- **Possibly a good option for knowledgeable NV filers**

# John and Mary Smith Taxable Income

Item	John (74)	Mary (72)	Joint
Wages / Self Employment	5,629	3500	
Social Security	20,237	18,631	
Interest (B of A CD)			252
US Treasuries – 10,000 @ 3.5%			350
Dividends (Schwab)			6,930
Stock Sales (Schwab)	Sold 500 PFE @25.65 11-20-25 (bot 27.65 9-7-15) Sold 200 UNM @82.07 10-14-25 (bot 17.22 varl)		
IRA RMD Distributions	3,868	2,364	
IRA to Roth Conversions	7,500	5,000	
Rental Income Property			See Below

# John and Mary Smith Deductions

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Item	John (74)	Mary (72)	Joint
Qualified Business Income 20%		209	
Charitable Contributions			0
Qualified Charitable Donations	3000	1500	
Health Ins. (Med Part B)	2,220	2,220	
Health Ins. (Humana)	0	0	
Health Care	4,235	2,565	
Property Tax			3,275
Long Term Care Ins	2,425	2,425	
Car License Fees (2)	320	267	

# John and Mary Smith Rental Income Property

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Item (1850 sq. ft detached home)	Amount
Original Basis (purchase price in March, 2005)	\$245,000
Major Improvements (Kitchen, bath, AC - financed)	\$45,000
Adjusted Basis	\$290,000
Rent Received (@\$3016 / month - \$1.63 / sq ft)	\$36,192
Mortgage Interest (3.5% on \$241,000)	\$8,435
Real Estate Taxes	\$3,150
Maintenance / Repairs	\$1,700
Management Fees (10%)	\$3,615
Depreciation MACRS-GDS life 27.5 years, 3.636%	\$10,544
HOA Dues + SubAssociation Dues	\$4,983

# H&R Block Step by Step for the Smiths

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- Import prior year's return
- Personal *Interview*
- Income Entry *Interview*
- Expense Entry *Interview* (good to do even if using std. deduction)
- Estimated Tax Payments Made (1040 ES)
- Revisit Income and Expense Topics Lists
  - *To ensure nothing missed – esp. medical expense items.*
- Final Review – correct any issues
- Audit checks
- Print Return for records (paper & PDF)
- E-File
- E-Pay (IRS EFTPS.gov website)

# IRS Free-File Program

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- For taxpayers whose AGI is \$79,000 or below
  - Find at: [www.irs.gov/freefile](http://www.irs.gov/freefile)
  - Fill in some questions and then get directed to a tax software vendor's free tax filing product.
- Alternative for those whose AGI > \$79,000:
  - Free fillable online tax forms that you can fill in, print and submit. (Does basic math).
- Also consider free **AARP Tax Assistance**.  
*Check the LINK Magazine for details.*  
*(Available in 2025 at Sun City Summerlin, but slots filling fast.)*

# IRS Electronic Payments

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- EFTPS: [www.eftps.gov](http://www.eftps.gov)
- Pay tax bills on-line
  - Get a password - call: 1-800-982-3526
  - Or you can enroll online.
  - Once EFTPS account is set up, you can pay all taxes owed online.
  - Links to your checking account.
  - IRS will mail you a PIN.
- Each EFTPS payment gets an e-mail receipt.
- May have to call and reactivate if not used for 6 months or more.

# Tax Reference Links

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- **Tax Law Changes for 2025**
  - <https://www.hrblock.com/tax-center/filing/tax-law-changes/>
- **Federal Budget Analysis – 2024**
  - <https://www.cbpp.org/research/policy-basics-where-do-our-federal-tax-dollars-go>
- **IRS Tax Statistics – Through 2024**
  - <https://www.irs.gov/statistics/soi-tax-stats-irs-data-book>
- **Tax Foundation: Taxpayer Profiles**
  - <https://taxfoundation.org/data/federal-tax/>
- **How Long to Keep Tax Records**
  - <https://www.bottomlineinc.com/money/taxes/how-long-should-you-keep-tax-returns/>

# 2025 OBBBA Tax Law Changes

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- **Links:**

- <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/one-big-beautiful-bill-provisions>
- <https://taxfoundation.org/blog/one-big-beautiful-bill-pros-cons/>
- <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text> (870 pages)

- **Key Provisions:**

- **Makes permanent the provisions of the 2017 tax cut bill**
- **Permanent 100% bonus depreciation for business investments**
- **Ends or phases out many energy tax credits**
- **Makes expanded estate tax exemptions permanent (\$15 / \$30 million)**
- **\$1000 tax deferred accounts for minors born 2025-2028; \$5000 pre-tax contributions allowed**
- **Charitable deductions restored \$1000 / \$2000 (Starts in 2026)**
- **Taxes on tips eliminated up to \$25,000 (phaseout at MAGI of \$150,000 / \$300,000); thru 2028**
- **Taxes on OT eliminated up to \$12,500 (phaseout at MAGI of \$150,000 / \$300,000); thru 2028**
- **SALT tax deduction increased to \$40,000 (sunsets after 2030, has phaseouts)**
- **Seniors get extra \$6,000 / \$12,000 standard deduction; phaseout at MAGI of \$75,000 / \$150,000**

# 2025 Tax Rate Brackets

- 2025 Tax Brackets for Single Filers, Married Couples Filing Jointly, and Heads of Households**  
*Source: Internal Revenue Service*
  - <https://taxfoundation.org/data/all/federal/2025-tax-brackets/>
  - Tax brackets, standard deduction and various credits adjusted for inflation and by OBBBA
  - Over 65 taxpayers get \$6000 (SF) or \$12,000 (MFJ) extra deduction (subject to phase-out)
  - Note the marriage penalty beginning at 35%

Rate	For Single Filers	Married Filing Jointly	Head of Household
10%	\$0 to \$11,925	\$0 to \$23,850	\$0 to \$17,000
12%	\$11,926 to \$48,475	\$23,851 to \$96,950	\$17,001 to \$64,850
22%	\$48,476 to \$103,350	\$96,951 to \$206,700	\$64,851 to \$103,350
24%	\$103,351 to \$197,300	\$206,701 to \$394,600	\$103,351 to \$197,300
32%	\$197,301 to \$250,525	\$394,601 to \$501,050	\$197,301 to \$250,500
35%	\$250,526 to \$626,350	\$501,051 to \$751,600	\$250,501 to \$626,350
37%	\$626,351 or more	\$751,601 or more	\$626,351 or more
SD	\$15,750	\$31,500	\$23,625
65+	\$2,000	\$1,600	\$2,000
Blind	\$2,000	\$1,600	\$2,000

# 2026 Tax Rate Brackets

- **2026 Tax Brackets for Single Filers, Married Couples Filing Jointly, and Heads of Households**  
*Source: Internal Revenue Service*
  - <https://taxfoundation.org/data/all/federal/2026-tax-brackets/>
- **For 2026, so far there are few material changes in rates / deductions from 2025:**
  - **Tax brackets, standard deduction and various credits adjusted for inflation:**
  - **Over 65 taxpayers get \$6000 (SF) or \$12,000 (MFJ) extra deduction (subject to phase-out)**
  - **Note the marriage penalty beginning at 35%**

Rate	For Single Filers	Married Filing Jointly	Head of Household
10%	\$0 to \$12,400	\$0 to \$24,800	\$0 to \$17,700
12%	\$12,401 to \$50,400	\$24,801 to \$100,800	\$17,701 to \$67,450
22%	\$50,401 to \$105,700	\$100,801 to \$211,400	\$67,451 to \$105,700
24%	\$105,701 to \$201,775	\$211,401 to \$403,550	\$105,701 to \$201,775
32%	\$201,776 to \$256,225	\$403,551 to \$512,450	\$201,776 to \$256,225
35%	\$256,226 to \$640,600	\$512,451 to \$768,700	\$256,226 to \$640,600
37%	\$640,601 or more	\$768,701 or more	\$640,601 or more
SD	\$16,100	\$32,200	\$24,150
65+	\$2,050	\$1,650	\$2,050
Blind	\$2,050	\$1,650	\$2,050

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**Questions  
and  
Discussion**