

Use this checklist to gather everything your bookkeeper or tax preparer needs before filing season. Check off each item as you collect it — organized books mean fewer surprises and faster filing.

Income Documents

Prior year tax return

Your most recently filed federal and state returns

W-2s

Wage and salary statements from all employers

1099-NEC / 1099-MISC

Freelance, contractor, or other non-employee income

1099-INT / 1099-DIV

Interest and dividend income from banks and investments

1099-B

Stock sales, crypto transactions, and brokerage statements

1099-R

Retirement distributions (IRA, 401k, pension)

1099-G

Unemployment compensation or state tax refunds

1099-SSA

Social Security benefit statements

1099-K

Payment card and third-party network transactions

K-1s

Partnership, S-Corp, or trust income (Schedule K-1)

Rental income records

Rent collected, 1099s from property management

Business Records

Profit & Loss statement

Year-to-date or full-year from QuickBooks or your accounting software

Balance Sheet

As of December 31 of the tax year

Bank statements

All business bank accounts for the full year

Credit card statements

All business credit cards for the full year

Loan documents

Any new loans, refinances, or PPP documentation

Depreciation schedules

Fixed asset lists and prior year depreciation

Vehicle mileage log

Business miles driven with dates and purpose

Home office measurements

Square footage of office and total home (if applicable)

Payroll & Contractors

Payroll reports

Annual payroll summary from Gusto, ADP, or payroll provider

W-2s issued to employees

Copies of all W-2s your business issued

1099s issued to contractors

Copies of all 1099-NEC forms issued

Quarterly payroll returns

Form 941 or 944 filings

Deductions & Credits

Health insurance premiums

Self-employed health insurance, marketplace 1095-A

Retirement contributions

SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA, Solo 401k contribution records

Estimated tax payments

Federal and state quarterly payment amounts and dates

Charitable donations

Receipts for cash and non-cash contributions

Education expenses

Form 1098-T, tuition statements

Childcare expenses

Provider name, address, EIN, and amounts paid

Mortgage interest

Form 1098 from your lender

Property tax records

Annual property tax statements

Sales tax records

If applicable, sales tax collected and remitted

Entity-Specific Items

S-Corp: Officer compensation

Reasonable salary documentation and payroll records

S-Corp: Shareholder basis

Stock and loan basis worksheets from prior year

Partnership: Capital accounts

Beginning and ending capital account balances per partner

Partnership: Partnership agreement

Current executed agreement with allocation provisions

All entities: Prior year return

Complete copy including all schedules and K-1s

Need help getting organized?

[Book a free 30-minute consult](#)