

THE BENEFIT BANK

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES TO RESOURCES

Limitations of The Benefit Bank 2015 Federal Tax Section

The Benefit Bank supports the tax return situations that are most common in low- and moderate-income households. This does not include more complicated self-employment situations (Schedule C), capital gains and losses (Schedule D), rental and royalty income (Schedule E), farm income (Schedule F), and shareholder/partnership income or loss (Schedule K-1).

Before you begin, please review the forms that The Benefit Bank supports, as well as situations that may limit your ability to use The Benefit Bank. You can find this information starting on page three of this document.

If you have a unique tax situation that you think The Benefit Bank might not support but is not listed here, please contact the Help Desk for assistance.

Common General Limitations

You cannot use The Benefit Bank if:

- your household adjusted gross income (AGI) is higher than \$65,000 for single filers or \$95,000 for joint filers;
- you are a dual-status or non-resident alien;
- you need to file an amended return;
- you have to make a payment for penalty for underpayment of estimated tax;
- you have to make an alternative minimum tax payment.

Common Home and Household Limitations

You cannot use The Benefit Bank if:

- you need to repay a First-Time Homebuyer Credit;
- you have to make household employment tax payments;
- you paid mortgage interest and want to take a deduction, but you did not receive Form 1098;
- you made energy saving improvements to your home this tax year, and want to take residential energy credits;
- you adopted a child this tax year, and want to claim a credit or income exclusion for the expenses of the adoption.

You can only file your state taxes with The Benefit Bank if you lived in North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, or South Carolina as of December 31 of the tax year.

If you are legally married to a spouse of the same sex, you can use The Benefit Bank to file joint federal taxes; you can file joint state taxes in certain states.

Common Retirement Limitations

You cannot use The Benefit Bank if:

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- you received a Form 1099-R (Pensions, Annuities, IRAs and Insurance Contracts) with information in a box The Benefit Bank does not support (see the **Complete List of Forms We Support** on page three for a list of boxes that are not supported);
- you are age 70 1/2 or older, retired, and do not take a minimum distribution from your retirement plan.

Common Business Limitations

You cannot use The Benefit Bank if:

- you received a Form 1099-MISC (Miscellaneous Income) with information in a box The Benefit Bank does not support (see the **Complete List of Forms We Support** on page three for a list of boxes that are not supported);
- you have moving expenses related to starting work at a new job and want to claim a deduction for these expenses;
- your business expenses are greater than \$5,000;
- you have more than one business or professional activity.

Common Investment Income Limitations

You cannot use The Benefit Bank if:

- you received a Form 1099-INT (Interest Income) with information in a box The Benefit Bank does not support (see the **Complete List of Forms We Support** on page three for a list of boxes that are not supported);
- you received a Form 1099-DIV (Dividends and Distributions) with information in a box The Benefit Bank does not support (see the **Complete List of Forms We Support** on page three for a list of boxes that are not supported);
- you have capital gains or losses, such as from selling investments or real estate, or received either of the following forms:
 - Form 1099-B, Proceeds from Broker and Barter Exchange Transactions
 - Form 1099-S, Proceeds from Real Estate Transactions;
- you received excludable interest from series EE and I U.S. Savings bonds;
- you want to report your child's interest and dividend income on your tax return.

Other Common Limitations

You cannot use The Benefit Bank if:

- you made deductible contributions to MSA, SEP, SIMPLE;
- you received a Form 1099-G (Certain Government Payments) with information in a box The Benefit Bank does not support (see the **Complete List of Forms We Support** on page three for a list of boxes that are not supported);
- you have income from rental real estate, leasing land or other property (e.g. fracking income), estates, trusts, partnerships, royalties, S corporations, and REMICs;
- you received a Form 1098-T (Tuition Statement) with information in a box The Benefit Bank does not support (see the **Complete List of Forms We Support** on page three for a list of boxes that are not supported);
- one of your dependents received Form-1095-A: Health Insurance Marketplace Statement as the primary taxpayer on the form.