

1098-T FAQ's

2023 1098-T's will be available in ctclink after January 31, 2024

You now have the opportunity to receive your 1098-T electronically. If you would like to receive your form electronically you must consent to do so first. If you do not provide consent, the 1098-T form will be printed and mailed to the address on file no later than January 31, 2023.

What is a 1098-T form and what should I do with it?

The 1098-T form is used by eligible educational institutions to report information about their students to the IRS as required by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. Eligible educational institutions are required to submit the student's name, address, and taxpayer's identification number (TIN), enrollment and academic status. Beginning with 2003, educational institutions must also report amounts to the IRS pertaining to qualified tuition and related expenses, as well as scholarships and/or grants, taxable or not. This form is informational only. It serves to alert students that they may be eligible for federal income tax education credits. It should not be considered as tax opinion or advice. While it is a good starting point, the 1098-T, as designed and regulated by the IRS, does not contain all of the information needed to claim a tax credit. There is no IRS requirement that you must claim the tuition and fees deduction or an education credit. Claiming education tax benefits is a voluntary decision for those who may qualify. More information can be found at <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/education-credits-questions-and-answers>.

Why did I receive a 1098-T and what am I supposed to do with it?

In January of each year, Bellingham Technical College makes available an IRS Form 1098-T to all students who had qualified tuition and other related educational expenses paid during the previous calendar year. The form will be mailed out no later than January 31. This form is informational only and should not be considered as tax opinion or advice. It serves to alert students that they may be eligible for federal income tax education credits. Receipt of Form 1098-T does not indicate eligibility for the tax credit. To determine the amount of qualified tuition and fees paid, and the amount of scholarships and grants received, a taxpayer should use their own financial records. You may want to consult with a tax advisor.

Consent to View Electronic 1098-T Form

You now have the opportunity to receive the 1098-T form electronically. If you would like to receive your form electronically, please follow the instructions provide in the link [Consent to View 1098-T](#). If you do not provide consent, the 1098-T form will be mailed to the current address on file, please make sure your address is current and up to date.

Who do I contact if I think the information is incorrect?

Contact us at 360-752-8358. Leave your name, student ID and call back number. A BTC representative will call you back. Or email, businessoffice@btc.edu. Do not email your SSN.

Why didn't I get a 1098-T form?

The 1098-T form is based on a calendar year (January 1 – December 31.) If you received Financial Aid in the form of grants, scholarships or paid by a third party and it was equal to or greater than your qualified tuition and fees in a calendar year, you will not receive a 1098-T form.

What is Academic Credit?

The IRS classifies academic credit as credit awarded by an eligible educational institution for the completion of course work leading to a postsecondary degree, certificate, or other recognized postsecondary educational credential.

The educational institution is NOT required to file and provide the Form 1098-T for the following:

- Students whose tuition and related expenses are entirely waived or paid with scholarships or grants
- Courses taken for no academic credit, even if the student is enrolled in a degree program
- Courses taken by nonresident alien students, unless the student requests the institution to file Form 1098-T
- Students whose tuition and related expenses are covered by a formal billing arrangement with the student's employer or a government agency, such as the Department of Veterans Affairs or the Department of Defense

What is BTC's Tax Identification Number?

Bellingham Technical College's Federal Identification Number is **91-1526618**. This number can also be found on the 1098-T form in the middle left section.

Where will the Form 1098-T be mailed?

1098-Ts are mailed to the students mailing address on file with BTC. If your address is incorrect or it has changed, you can update it through your active ctclink Student account. Click Student Homepage > Click the Profile Tile > Click Addresses. After you have updated your address be sure to review and save any changes you make.

If you have not activated your ctclink Student Account and need to update your address please contact us to make the change at businessoffice@btc.edu or 360-752-8358.

My address listed on the 1098-T has changed. Will this affect me?

No. The address shown on Form 1098-T is irrelevant for IRS income tax filing purposes. The single most important information on the form is your Social Security Number (SSN). Please call (360) 752-8358 if the SSN on your 1098-T is incorrect. If your address is incorrect, you can update it through your ctLink Student account or contact us at 360-752-8358 or by email at businessoffice@btc.edu.

What other information do I need to claim the tax credit?

While it is a good starting point, the 1098-T, as designed and regulated by the IRS, does not contain all of the information needed to claim a tax credit. Most of the information needed must come from the student's personal financial records of what the student paid during the calendar year. Additionally, each taxpayer and his or her tax advisor must make the final determination of qualifying expenses.

Why isn't there an amount in box 2?

The IRS instructs institutions to report **either** payments received (Box 1) **or** amounts billed for qualified tuition and related expenses (Box 2) on the 1098-T. Once an institution has selected one of these options, they cannot change reporting methods between calendar years without IRS permission. **BTC reports payments received for qualified tuition and related expenses (Box 1), therefore, qualified tuition and related expenses that were billed during the tax year (Box 2) will be blank.**

Can I get a copy of my 1098-T from previous years?

You can view your 2021 - 2023 1098-T forms from Bellingham Technical College through your ctLink Account if you have consented to view the form electronically.

If you were eligible to receive a 1098-T in 2020 or earlier and need a copy please contact the business office at 360-752-8358 or businessoffice@btc.edu (please leave a message with your name, student id, last four digits of your SSN, current address, and tax year request.)

Why is BTC asking for my social security number (SSN) or individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN)?

The IRS can impose a penalty of \$50 per information return for missing or incorrect SSN/ITINs to you as a student. If not provided, or your number does not appear to be accurate, we will contact you and request that you submit your number to us. If you do not provide the requested information, **YOU MAY BE LIABLE to the IRS FOR THE \$50 PENALTY.**

Do I need to provide an SSN/ITIN if I am a non-resident alien student?

No, you do not need to provide an SSN or ITIN as the College is not required by the IRS to submit a Form 1098-T for non-resident aliens.

However, if you are a non-resident student and intend to file personal income taxes in the upcoming year you must provide your Taxpayer Identification Number in order to receive a valid Form 1098-T.

Did BTC send a copy of this form to the IRS?

Yes. Section 6050S of the Internal Revenue Code, as enacted by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, requires institutions to file information returns to assist taxpayers and the [Internal Revenue Service](#) in determining eligibility for the education tax credits.

What if I still have questions?

If you have additional questions, you can reach a BTC representative at 360-752-8358 or email businessoffice@btc.edu. Email will provide you with the quickest response.