

Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents

SOC: 13-2081 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$59,740

Median Salary

1,000

Employment

-2.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Bachelor's degree

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Medium Risk - 38.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

■ Work-Life Balance

7.1/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	3.8/10	Investigative	7.2/10
Artistic	4.0/10	Social	6.6/10
Enterprising	8.2/10	Conventional	8.8/10

■ Top Skills Required

Analytical skills, Communication skills, Detail oriented, Interpersonal skills, Math skills, Organizational skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents review, assess, and collect **taxes owed to federal, state, or local governments**. They ensure compliance with tax laws, investigate discrepancies, and provide guidance to taxpayers. Their work is critical in maintaining government revenue and enforcing tax regulations.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy analyzing financial information, working with regulations, and ensuring compliance.

What Do Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents Do?

These professionals examine tax returns, enforce collection procedures, and investigate tax-related issues.

Common responsibilities include:

- Reviewing tax returns and supporting documents for accuracy
- Conducting audits and examinations to identify discrepancies
- Determining taxes owed and assessing penalties when applicable
- Collecting delinquent taxes and negotiating payment plans
- Explaining tax laws, rules, and procedures to taxpayers
- Preparing detailed reports and maintaining records
- Collaborating with other government agencies and legal authorities

Key Areas of Tax Examination and Collection

Professionals may focus on specific types of taxes or functions:

- Individual Income Tax: Reviewing personal tax returns and deductions
- Business and Corporate Tax: Examining business filings, expenses, and compliance
- Audit and Investigation: Identifying underreporting, fraud, or discrepancies
- Collection and Enforcement: Recovering delinquent taxes and enforcing compliance
- Taxpayer Assistance: Providing guidance and clarification on tax obligations

Skills and Abilities Needed

Tax examiners and revenue agents combine analytical, regulatory, and interpersonal skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education and training:

- Bachelor's Degree: Accounting, finance, or related fields
- On-the-Job Training: Learning tax regulations, procedures, and agency protocols
- Professional Certification (optional): CPA or other tax-related credentials
- Continuous Learning: Keeping current with changes in tax law, policies, and software systems

Where Do Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents Work?

They are employed in government agencies responsible for taxation and revenue collection:

- Federal, State, and Local Tax Agencies
- Revenue Departments and Tax Offices
- Government Auditing and Compliance Divisions

- Specialized Units for Tax Investigation
- Policy and Regulatory Divisions

Work environments typically include offices, field inspections, and remote auditing settings.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires analytical ability, attention to detail, and understanding complex tax regulations. Examiners and agents must handle sensitive financial information, enforce laws, and communicate effectively with taxpayers.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy working with numbers, laws, and regulations
- Are detail-oriented and methodical
- Have strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Can communicate effectively and professionally
- Want a career that ensures compliance and supports government revenue

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in accounting, finance, economics, or law
- Gain experience in bookkeeping, auditing, or tax preparation
- Develop analytical, organizational, and communication skills
- Learn tax software and financial recordkeeping systems
- Stay informed on changes in tax law, policies, and regulations

Tax examiners and revenue agents ensure compliance with tax laws, accurately assess obligations, and support government revenue through careful auditing and collection.