A tax consultant can help you minimize your tax liability, capitalize on [tax deductions](https://smartasset.com/taxes/self-employed-tax-deductions) and manage your tax situation. With more expertise than standard tax preparers, tax consultants can help with tax planning, inheritance issues, charitable giving and other complex tax needs. Often, these advisors have training in tax law or accounting. Fees vary, depending on the scope of work and the skill and experience of the tax consultant. If you need further help with your taxes, investments or long-term finances, a [financial advisor could help you create a financial plan](https://smartasset.com/retirement/find-a-financial-planner?utm_source=smartasset&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=sma__falc_relevant&utm_content=whatistaxconsultant).

**What Does a Tax Consultant Do?**

Tax consultants are professionals who specialize in tax law and financial-related counseling. They advise clients on [income tax returns](https://smartasset.com/taxes/income-taxes) and a range of financial matters, including [trust](https://smartasset.com/taxes/trust-tax-rates), [estate](https://smartasset.com/taxes/all-about-the-estate-tax) and [retirement taxes](https://smartasset.com/retirement/retirement-taxes). They also must stay informed on the most recent tax requirements and law changes, both on the federal and state levels.

Not unlike individuals, businesses and their owners also need help with taxes. In fact, corporate tax law is often more intricate than the rules surrounding individual income. As a result, many tax consultants specialize in business tax services. This can involve minimizing a company’s [tax liability,](https://smartasset.com/taxes/tax-liability) ensuring the company is taking advantage of all tax benefits and more.

**Services Provided by Tax Accountants**

Tax consultants offer a variety of services to their clients from preparing your tax return to helping you with your very complex personal financial situation. The most popular services that are offered to clients include:

 Preparing your tax return

 Looking for deductions to [lower your tax burden](https://smartasset.com/taxes/)

 Minimizing your [tax liability](https://smartasset.com/taxes/tax-liability) in [retirement](https://smartasset.com/retirement/retirement-calculator)

 Dealing with taxes on rental property income

 Helping manage your [capital gains taxes](https://smartasset.com/investing/capital-gains-tax-calculator)

 Sorting through the tax implications of life events, like marriages, divorces, deaths and births

Tax consultants usually work for financial consulting firms, public accounting firms or government agencies. On the other hand, some may operate completely independently. In many cases, tax consultant services are available online, though you can also access their services through an office. Clients range from individuals and families to organizations and corporations.

**How Much Does a Tax Consultant Cost?**

Tax consultant fees vary widely, as they’re based on several key factors. Location plays a major role, with prices peaking where the cost of living is highest. Another factor is the complexity and scope of your [tax](https://smartasset.com/taxes/articles) situation. In short, the more the tax consultant has to deal with, the more you’ll pay. Also, if your situation requires highly specialized knowledge about tax codes, their fees will be commensurate with their qualifications.