

Accepted IRS Offers In Compromise Are Public Records!

Many taxpayers and tax practitioners are surprised to find out that a taxpayer's accepted Offer In Compromise (settlement) is public record. When the IRS accepts an Offer In Compromise, it prepares a public inspection file. The public inspection file contains a redacted Form 7249, Offer Acceptance Report and a sanitized transcript. Anyone may go to their local IRS Area Office to view and copy the Public Inspection file. These files are maintained for one year. See [Internal Revenue Manual 5.8.8.6](#).

One other fact of note, IRS Offers in Compromise are not reported on your credit report. A tax lien is reported on your credit report but the fact that you settled your tax debt does not negatively impact your credit score.

The public reporting of your Offer In Compromise should not discourage someone from submitting an Offer In Compromise. If a taxpayer needs an Offer In Compromise, there are good financial reasons to do so; but the taxpayer should at least be aware that if the Offer is accepted, that information is public record.

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