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The 2026/2027 Renewal Cycle

August 1, 2026 - October 31, 2026

Renewal Registrations Now Open

[Ready to Renew? Click Here!](#)



To renew your registration online, visit the CTEC homepage and click the [CRTP Login](#) button located at the top of the page.

Ensure you have the following ready:

- Basic personal information.
- Current bond information—including any claims made against your bond; see below for details.
- 20 hours of continuing education (10 hours federal tax law, 3 hours federal tax law updates, 2 hours ethics, 5 hours state) already uploaded into the CTEC database *by your education provider*.
- A current IRS Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN).
- Visa or MasterCard to pay the \$33 registration fee plus a \$2 processing fee.

Important Note: Reprinting your CTEC certificate for \$10 does not renew your registration. Some CRTPs mistakenly believe this completes the renewal process, but it does not.

Completing your continuing education (CE) requirements alone also *does not renew your registration*. Your education provider's role is only to report your

completed CE hours to CTEC—they cannot renew your registration on your behalf.

Your renewal is not complete until you:

- Log in to your CTEC account.
- Complete and submit your renewal application.
- Pay the required registration fee.

[Renew Here!](#)

If You Miss the Deadline?

A Late Fee Will Apply

If you miss the October 31 deadline, CTEC provides a late renewal period through January 15, which is the final deadline for late renewals. A \$55 late fee, in addition to \$33 renewal and \$2 processing fees will apply. If you do not complete your renewal by January 15, your registration will expire and you will be required to start over with a [New Preparer Application](#).



Have Renewal Questions?

[What if My Education Has Not
Been Reported?](#)

[Can I Apply Unused Education
from Last Year?](#)

[What Happens if I Have a Bond
Claim?](#)

[Do I Have to Display My
Certificate?](#)

Get Answers Here!

Nationwide Tax Forum

To receive continuing education credits at the [IRS Nationwide Tax Forums](#), CRTPs **must provide their CTEC Identification Number** (which begins with an "A" followed by six digits) when registering with the IRS.

Many CRTPs have reported not receiving a certificate of completion from the IRS Tax Forum. This is most often because a CTEC ID number was not provided during the IRS registration process.

CTEC will attend the San Diego Forum on September 15–17.

Campaign Reaches Millions of Californians



CTEC's 2026 public awareness campaign delivered one of its most successful outreach efforts, helping connect millions of Californians with taxpayer protection information.

Through a strategic mix of digital advertising, social media, search marketing, video content, and multilingual outreach, campaign messaging generated more than **179 million paid advertising impressions** across California. Combined with state and national earned media coverage, total exposure exceeded **400 million impressions**.

Research following the campaign demonstrated strong public awareness and engagement. Among Los Angeles County taxpayers surveyed, **51% reported being familiar with CTEC**, while 84% indicated they would verify a tax preparer's credentials, 83% said they would report suspected fraud, and **77% reported they would visit CTEC.org** for taxpayer protection information.

The research also confirmed the strength of CTEC's messaging. Taxpayer protection messages achieved exceptionally high levels of credibility and trust, with several key messages receiving credibility ratings approaching 90 percent among respondents.

Building on these results, CTEC will continue to expand its public awareness efforts by increasing its presence in the San Francisco Bay Area while maintaining strong outreach in Los Angeles. The Council also plans to enhance multilingual communications and digital engagement statewide. Ongoing research will continue to measure public awareness, provide insights into taxpayer attitudes and behaviors, and help guide future consumer protection initiatives.

2025/2026

FTB Enforcement Update

Unregistered tax preparers who are caught preparing or assisting with preparing tax returns for a fee will receive a \$2,500 penalty - a first failure to register penalty. However, the penalty will be waived if proof of a valid credential is provided to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) within 90-days from the date the penalty notice is mailed to the tax preparer.

If the tax preparer does not provide the FTB with proof of a valid credential, the FTB will issue a \$5,000 penalty for each subsequent failure to register.

The below results are as of May 1, 2026:

1655

Total Contacts

692

First Contact Letters

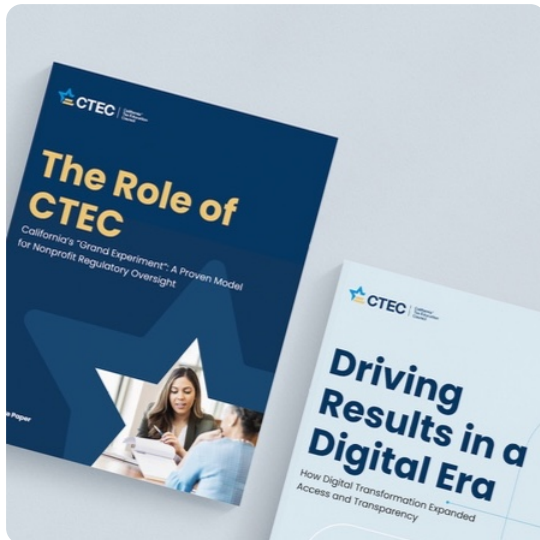
346

Previous Contact Letters

CTEC pays for the entire enforcement program. All penalties collected by the FTB are deposited into the state's general fund. Enforcement updates will be provided in CTEC's annual report.

To view the FTB's presentation to the CTEC Board of Directors outlining updates as of May, [click here](#).

**Data Collected from 1/1/26 - 5/1/26*

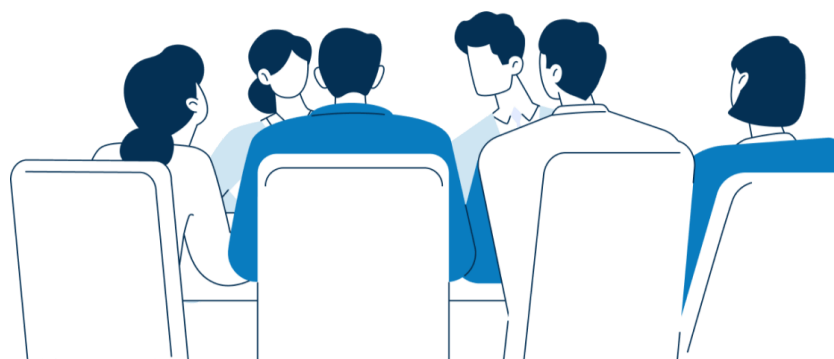


New!

White Paper Series

Explore CTEC's latest white papers highlighting digital transformation, taxpayer protection, and the organization's ongoing efforts to improve access to trusted information.

[Download Now](#)



Want to Serve on the CTEC Board?

Would you like to be part of CTEC's efforts to support tax preparers and protect the public? We're always looking for dedicated CRTPs to serve on the Council

as positions become available. To learn more and submit your application,
please watch our video.

[Apply Here](#)

Upcoming Board Meetings

Orange County, CA
November 4 - 5, 2026

Sacramento, CA
May 26 - 27, 2027

*The Curriculum Provider Task Force Meeting will be held virtually May 25, 2026

Monterey/Carmel, CA
November 4 - 5, 2027

CTEC Board

PO Box 2890
Sacramento, CA 95812

This email was sent to {{ contact.EMAIL }}



[View in browser](#)