

# FY 2021 Appeals CATI Survey Instrument

## SAMPLE VARIABLES:

REPFLAG. Imported sample variable: REPFLAG

0 Taxpayer  
1 POA/Rep

NAMEFLAG. Imported sample variable: NAMEFLAG

I Individual  
B Business

RESPFLAG. Imported sample variable: RESPFLAG

T Taxpayer  
B Business

MFT. Imported sample variable: MFT

0 non ic/cic  
1 ic/cic  
2 exm/tege

REPNAMECLEAN. Imported sample variable: REPNAMECLEAN

[TEXT BOX]

TPNAMECLEAN. Imported sample variable: TPNAMECLEAN

[TEXT BOX]

## Sample elements:

TEL01 (telephone number)  
DATE AND TIME OF INTERVIEW:  
MFT CODES:  
IC/CIC

FEATRCD

//PROGRAMMER: Assign DISPO 61 to CATI completes and DISPO 62 to web completes//

## //ASK ALL//

**INTRO1.** Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_ calling from ICF on behalf of the Internal Revenue Service's Independent Office of Appeals. We are contacting taxpayers who have recently appealed a tax issue with the IRS Independent Office of Appeals. We are conducting a customer satisfaction survey for Appeals and [if repflag=0 insert TPNAMECLEAN] [if repflag=1 insert REPNAMECLEAN] should have recently received a letter from Appeals explaining the survey and that we would be calling.

01 CONTINUE

## //ASK IF NAMEFLAG= I AND REPFLAG=0//

**Q1a1.** May I please speak with [IF NEWNAME NOT 01 INSERT TPNAMECLEAN; IF NEWNAME=01 INSERT NEWNAME]?

01 Yes, respondent answers

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02 Yes, respondent available  
03 No such person  
04 Respondent not available/Not a good time //GO TO CALLBACK SCREEN//  
99 REFUSED

### //ASK IF NAMEFLAG=I AND REPFLAG=1//

**Q1a2.** May I please speak with [IF NEWNAME NOT 01 INSERT REPNAMECLEAN; IF NEWNAME=01 INSERT NEWNAME]?

01 Yes, respondent answers  
02 Yes, respondent available  
03 No such person  
04 Respondent not available/Not a good time //GO TO CALLBACK SCREEN//  
99 REFUSED

### //ASK IF NAMEFLAG=B OR ((NAMEFLAG=I AND Q1A1=03 AND RESPFLAG NOT T) OR (Q1A2=03 AND RESPFLAG NOT T))//

**Q1b.** I would like to speak with the person most knowledgeable about your tax issues. Who would that be?

01 PERSON ON PHONE  
02 TO ENTER NAME //GO TO NEWNAME//  
03 NO SUCH PERSON  
04 TRANSFERRING  
98 DON'T KNOW //GO TO CALLBACK SCREEN//  
99 REFUSED

### //ASK IF Q1B=02//

**NEWNAME:** ENTER NEW NAME

01 Gave Response [TEXT BOX]

### //ASK IF Q1B=02//

**TEL03:** [INTERVIEWER PRESS ENTER IF NUMBER IS SAME, ELSE ENTER NEW NUMBER]

ORIGINAL NUMBER: \$N

[NUMBER BOX]

### //ASK IF Q1b=02//

**Q1c.** May I please speak with [NEWNAME]?

01 YES, TRANSFERRING  
02 NO, SCHEDULE CALLBACK //GO TO CALLBACK SCREEN//  
99 REFUSED

### //ASK IF Q1a1=02 or Q1a2=02 or Q1b=04 or Q1c=01//

**Intro2.** Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_ calling from ICF on behalf of the Internal Revenue Service's Independent Office of Appeals. We are contacting taxpayers who have recently appealed a tax issue with the IRS Independent Office of Appeals. We are conducting a customer satisfaction survey for Appeals and you should have recently received a letter from Appeals explaining the survey and that we would be calling.

01 CONTINUE

### //ASK IF Q1a1 = 01,02 or Q1a2 = 01,02 or Q1B=01 or Q1b=04 or Q1C=01//

**Q1.** If you worked with the IRS Appeals Officer or Settlement Officer on a recent tax appeals process, are you the taxpayer or representative? [Read list]

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01	Taxpayer
02	Representative
03	Other
04	Never had a case with the Independent Office of Appeals
05	Had a case with the Independent Office of Appeals, but are not the person who worked with Appeals Officer or Settlement Officer
99	REFUSED

**//ASK IF (RESPFLAG=T AND Q1a1=03) or (RESPFLAG=T AND Q1a2=03) or Q1B=03 or Q1=04, 05//**

**X1.** Thank you for your time. Have a nice day/afternoon/evening.

01 CONTINUE //TERM AS DISP S1 (No such person/never had case)//

**//ASK IF Q1A1=99 OR Q1A2=99 OR Q1B=99 OR Q1C=99 or Q1=99 //**

**X2.** Thank you for your time. Have a nice day/afternoon/evening.

01 CONTINUE //GO TO REFUSAL SCREEN//

**///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///**

**APA.** As you may know, the Independent Office of Appeals is independent of any other IRS office and provides a place where disagreements about the application of tax law can be resolved on a fair and impartial basis. This is a survey to give the Independent Office of Appeals feedback on how they can improve the service they provide to customers like you. You should have recently received a letter from Appeals inviting you to take this survey. It should take around 5 minutes. This call may be monitored for quality assurance. May we continue?

01	Yes	
02	No, CALL BACK ANOTHER TIME	//GO TO CALLBACK SCREEN//
99	REFUSED	

**//ASK IF APA=99//**

**X3.** Thank you for your time. Have a nice afternoon/evening.

01 CONTINUE // DISPO AS R1//

**///ASK IF APA=01///**

**OMB.** Before we begin, we'd like you to know the Independent Office of Appeals and ICF appreciate your time and feedback. If you have questions about this survey, please feel free to email us at [IRSAppealsSurvey@icfsurvey.com](mailto:IRSAppealsSurvey@icfsurvey.com) or call the help line at 1-800-427-4275.

The IRS's authority for requesting information with this survey is 5 U.S.C. Section 301, and 26 U.S.C. Section 7801, 7803, and 7805. The information you provide will help the Independent Office of Appeals improve its service to taxpayers and practitioners. Providing the information is voluntary and there are no penalties for not answering some or all of the questions.

The information collected may be disclosed as authorized by the routine uses published for the Privacy Act System of Records entitled Treas/IRS 00.001 Correspondence Files and Correspondence Control Files, as published in the Federal Register: September 8, 2015 (Volume 80, Number 173) pages 54065-6. We are also required by law to report to you the OMB (Office of Management and Budget) Control Number for this public information request. That number is [1545-2290](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2015/09/08/2015-18441/privacy-act-system-of-records).

In addition, if you have any comments about the time used to complete this survey or ways to improve the survey, you may write to the IRS. Let me know at this time if you would like that address. Otherwise, let's begin.

### READ ONLY IF NECESSARY:

Internal Revenue Service

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Special Services Section  
SE:W:CAR:MP:T:M:S – Room 6129,  
1111 Constitution Ave. NW,  
Washington, DC 20224

01 CONTINUE

### ///ASK IF OMB=01///

**INTRO3.** The next seven questions will ask you to rate your level of agreement with a series of statements. Regardless of the outcome of your appeal, please rate them using the following scale:

Strongly agree  
Agree  
Neither agree nor disagree  
Disagree  
Strongly disagree

01 CONTINUE

### ///ASK IF Q1=02///

**POATP.** For this survey, please think about the case concerning [TPNAMECLEAN].

01 CONTINUE

### ///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q2.** This interaction increased my trust in the Independent Office of Appeals.

01 Strongly agree  
02 Agree  
03 Neither agree nor disagree  
04 Disagree  
05 Strongly disagree  
99 REFUSED

### ///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q3.** I am satisfied with the service I received from the Independent Office of Appeals.

01 Strongly agree  
02 Agree  
03 Neither agree nor disagree  
04 Disagree  
05 Strongly disagree  
99 REFUSED

### ///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q4.** My need was addressed.

01 Strongly agree  
02 Agree  
03 Neither agree nor disagree  
04 Disagree  
05 Strongly disagree  
99 REFUSED

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///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q5.** It was easy to complete what I needed to do.

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Agree
- 03 Neither agree nor disagree
- 04 Disagree
- 05 Strongly disagree
  
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q6.** From the first time that I heard from the Appeals Officer, it took a reasonable amount of time to complete my appeal.

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Agree
- 03 Neither agree nor disagree
- 04 Disagree
- 05 Strongly disagree
  
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q7.** I was treated fairly by the Independent Office of Appeals.

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Agree
- 03 Neither agree nor disagree
- 04 Disagree
- 05 Strongly disagree
  
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q8.** The Independent Office of Appeals employees that I interacted with were helpful.

- 01 Strongly agree
- 02 Agree
- 03 Neither agree nor disagree
- 04 Disagree
- 05 Strongly disagree
  
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q9.** What type of conference would you prefer if you were to come back to the Independent Office of Appeals in the future? *[Read list]*

- 01 In-person
- 02 Telephone
- 03 Mail
- 04 Video conference such as WebEx or Zoom
  
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

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**Q10.** Did the Appeals Officer explain how they are separate from the rest of IRS?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q11.** Whether or not you agree with the decision, did you understand why the Independent Office of Appeals reached the decision it did in your case?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q12.** Did the Appeal Officer consider your side of the dispute?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q13.** Was the Appeals Officer professional?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q14.** Do you have any other comments that you would like to add or suggestions on how to improve the appeal process?

- 01 Enter response [TEXT BOX]
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**Q15.** Regardless of the outcome of your appeal, rate your satisfaction with the appeals process on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very satisfied, 3 neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, and 5 very dissatisfied.

- 01 Very satisfied
- 02 Somewhat satisfied
- 03 Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- 04 Somewhat dissatisfied
- 05 Very dissatisfied
- 98 DON'T KNOW

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99 REFUSED

///ASK IF Q1=01 or 02 or 03///

**CLOSE.** That completes the survey. Thank you for your time. Have a nice day/afternoon/evening.

01 END INTERVIEW