

What If You Were Eligible, But Did Not File for EITCs Last Year?

Families that were eligible for EITCs in the past three years, but did not file for them, may receive them retroactively by filing amended Federal and New York State income tax forms and filing a New York State Tax Form IT-215 for those years.

What Other Tax Credits Are Available?

- Child Tax Credits:
 - o Federal Child Tax Credit and Additional Child Tax Credit
 - o New York State Empire State Child Credit
- Child and Dependent Care Tax Credits:
 - o Federal Child and Dependent Care Credit
 - o New York State Child and Dependent Care Credit
 - o New York City Child and Dependent Care Credit
- Education Tax Credits:
 - o The American Opportunity Credit or Lifetime Learning Credit
 - o New York's College Tuition Credit or Itemized Deduction
- Other:
 - o Noncustodial Parent New York State Earned Income Tax Credit

Please contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 or the NYS Department of Tax and Finance at 518-457-5181 for more information on these tax credits.



Where Can You Get Tax Forms?

Many tax forms are available at libraries, post offices and local banks.

Federal forms are also available at www.irs.gov by clicking on "More Forms and Publications."

New York State forms are available at www.tax.ny.gov by clicking on "Find forms and instructions."

Where Do You Call If You Have More Questions?

For information and help filing your federal taxes, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

For help with filing NYS taxes, call the NYS Department of Tax and Finance at 518-457-5181.

Families can also receive help by visiting a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) center. To find a VITA center near you, call the IRS toll-free at 1-800-906-9887 or go to www.irs.gov. You may also find a VITA center by visiting www.otda.ny.gov/programs/tax-credits/vita/VITASites.pdf or calling the 2-1-1 Information Line, or 3-1-1 in New York City.

For More Information
Visit
www.otda.ny.gov
and click on
"Resources for Working Families"

Visit www.myBenefits.ny.gov and use the prescreening tool that will show you how valuable the credits can be to you.



New York State
Office of Temporary and
Disability Assistance

www.otda.ny.gov

Pub-4786 (10/11)

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

Can Make Life A Little Easier!



You Earned It. Now File, Claim It, and Get It!

The Earned Income Tax Credits – Helping You Make Ends Meet When Money is Tight! For Families Earning Less Than \$49,078.*

The Federal, New York State, and New York City Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) are tax credits you can claim based on the money you earn from your job. The amounts vary, depending on your marital status, family's earned income, and number of qualified children. Even if you do not owe taxes you may still be eligible for these tax credits.



Imagine Getting these tax credits ... And What it Could Mean for You and Your Family!

EITC Maximum Benefit Amounts*

Number of Qualifying Children	May Be Eligible for up to:
0	\$603
1	\$4,022
2	\$6,646
3 or more	\$7,476

Visit www.myBenefits.ny.gov and use the prescreening tool that will show you how valuable the credits can be to you.

** Based on 2011 Income Levels. Income levels change annually; this is just a guide. Maximum benefit amounts are based on incomes of between \$13,000 and \$21,000 regardless of marital status. NYC EITC Not Included.*

How Do You Know If Your Children Qualify?

A "Qualifying Child" is:

- A child who is your son, daughter, grandchild, adopted child, stepchild, foster child, sibling, stepsibling or a descendent of one of these relatives; and
- Who (at the end of the year) was:
 - under age 19; or
 - Under age 24 and a full-time student; or
 - Any age, and permanently and totally disabled; and
- Who lived with you in the United States for more than half of the year.



EITC money can:

- Help pay for rent, heat and current or past bills.
- Purchase school clothing, school supplies or sports equipment for your children.
- Make improvements to your home.
- Purchase an automobile or buy a more reliable one.
- Buy a computer for you and your children.
- Open a savings account at a bank.

Best of all, EITC money does not affect temporary assistance, Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income, public housing or Medicaid benefits – it's there to help you make ends meet and stretch your hard-earned paycheck!

What Do You Do If You Have More Questions?

You can call the IRS toll-free at 1-800-829-1040.

What Do You Do If You Need Help With Your Taxes?

Don't pay to have your taxes prepared. If you qualify, you can get your refund just as quickly, without ANY fees, by visiting a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Center.

Your return is confidential and your personal information will not be shared with others.

To find a VITA Center near you, call the IRS toll-free at 1-800-906-9887 or visit www.otda.ny.gov/programs/tax-credits/vita/VITAsites.pdf

How Do You Claim Your EITC?

Four out of five eligible people claim and get their EITC. Even people without children can claim EITC. **However, you must file a tax return to claim the credit even if you do not owe any taxes provided you have some earned income for the year.**

What Forms Are Required?

The EITC is based on the money you earn from your job. You must file income tax forms, even if you owe no taxes, to receive the EITCs.

If you are raising "Qualifying Children" you will need to use Federal Tax Form 1040, (or 1040A) and attach Schedule EIC. To claim the New York State and/or New York City EITCs you must also file a New York State tax return (form IT-201) and attach the NYS Tax Form IT-215.

If you do not have children, you may still qualify.