

2014 TAX YEAR FAST FACTS: Earned Income Tax Credit

- EITC is for workers whose income does not exceed the following limits in 2014:
 - \$46,997 (\$52,427 married filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children
 - \$43,756 (\$49,186 married filing jointly) with two qualifying children
 - \$38,511 (\$43,941 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child
 - \$14,590 (\$20,020 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children** Investment income must be \$3,350 or less.

- Children must meet certain relationship, age, residency and joint return requirements to be a qualifying child. See if your child qualifies you for EITC; see "[Qualifying Child Rules](#)" on irs.gov or [Publication 596](#).

- Take the credit you're due. The EITC credit ranges from:
 - \$11 to \$6,143 with three or more qualifying children
 - \$10 to \$5,460 with two qualifying children
 - \$9 to \$3,305 with one qualifying child
 - \$2 to \$496 with no qualifying children

- You could be new to EITC. About one-third of the EITC eligible population turns over each year, so check your EITC eligibility today at www.irs.gov/eitc.

- EITC can be a boost to you, your family and community. Anyone with earnings of \$52,427 or less should see if they qualify at www.irs.gov/eitc or visit a volunteer tax assistance site.

- Four of five eligible workers claim and get their EITC. We want to raise that number to five out of five. You earned it, "now file, claim it and get it." See if you qualify at www.irs.gov/eitc.

- You work? Now put EITC to work for you. EITC is one of the nation's largest anti-poverty programs, annually lifting over 6 million people out of poverty each year; more than 3.3 million of them children.

- Millions of workers qualify for EITC for the first time this year, making awareness critical. Workers move into and out of eligibility based on changes in their marital, parental and financial status.

- If you qualify for EITC, see what other child-related tax credits you may be eligible to claim.

- If you qualify for EITC, you must file a federal income tax return and claim the credit to get it, even if you owe no tax or aren't required to file a return.

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- The amount of the EITC depends on the amount you earned from working for someone or for yourself, whether you are married or single, and the number of qualifying children you have, if any. Don't miss out; find out if you are eligible at www.irs.gov/eitc.
- Workers at risk for overlooking this important credit include those:
 - Living in non-traditional homes, such as a grandparent raising a grandchild
 - Whose earnings declined or whose marital or parental status changed
 - Without children
 - With limited English skills
 - Living in rural areas
 - Who are Native Americans
 - With earnings below the filing requirement
 - Who have disabilities or are raising children with disabilities
- If you qualify for the Federal EITC, you may also be eligible for a similar credit from your state or local government. Twenty-four states, plus local municipalities including the District of Columbia, New York City and Montgomery County, Maryland, offer residents an earned income tax credit for 2014.
- You can determine your eligibility for, file and claim your EITC for free:
 - Available late January, 2015, you can use the online [EITC Assistant](#) at www.irs.gov to help you determine if you are eligible. It is available in English and Spanish.
 - If you make \$52,427 a year or less, you can access free tax return preparation services available at more than 13,000 community [volunteer tax assistance](#) sites.
 - You can use brand name software products through IRS's Free File and electronically file your return to claim your EITC. Visit www.irs.gov to access the software.
 - The IRS works with national partners, community-based coalitions and thousands of local partners and governments. These partnerships provide [free EITC tax return preparation](#) and tax help and tax education.
- You should choose a tax preparer carefully. You are responsible for the accuracy of your own return. If you pay someone to prepare your tax return, the preparer must sign it and enter his or her PTIN, Preparer Tax Identification Number. Don't ever sign a blank tax return. Find out what you should know if [you pay someone to do your taxes](#).
- If you claim EITC in error, your refund could be delayed, denied and you may be banned from claiming the credit for two to ten years.

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