

What should I know about the EITC?

- The Earned-Income Tax Credit (EITC) may help you get a bigger tax refund from the IRS
- It's targeted to help working families
- The Credit has been around for over 40 years.
- It's one of the largest and most important tax breaks available to low to moderate-income workers, and yet one in five eligible workers don't claim it.

Do I Qualify For the Credit ?

Eligibility depends on:

- How much you make
- How many qualifying children you have
- And a few other factors, such as whether you are in the military or have foreign income.

You can use the **EITC Assistant** on www.irs.gov to determine what your credit should be. Just search "EITC Assistant" in the search bar at the top-right corner of the screen. It's a free online calculator that can tell if, and how much of the credit you can claim, based on the answers you give it about your situation. This way, you can file for the right amount without any guesswork.

If you made less than \$60,000 last year, you should check if you qualify. Depending on your income, you may be able to get part of the credit even if you don't have any children, so check it out!

How Do I Claim the Credit

You can claim the EITC when you file your annual tax returns.

- Free tax preparation assistance. Anyone who makes less than \$60,000 a year may qualify for free filing help from the CASH Campaign of Maryland, which offers in-person appointments to discuss and file your taxes. Go to www.cashmd.org to learn more. Or, you can check the VITA locator tool on www.irs.gov to find a volunteer tax prep site near you. And if you want to file taxes yourself for free, go to www.irs.gov/filing/free-file-do-your-federal-taxes-for-free to see IRS-certified free file programs that you can use yourself.