



The Earned Income Tax Credit – EITC Fact Sheet

What is the EITC

The EITC can be a boost to you, your family and community. If you worked last year and had income of less than \$55,952 you may be eligible for the EITC.

In order to claim the EITC, you must file a federal tax return, even if you owe no tax or aren't required to file a return. You can also file for the EITC for the past three years.

EITC can mean up to a \$6,557 refund when you file a return if you have qualifying children. Workers without a qualifying child could be eligible for a smaller credit up to \$529. According to the Internal Revenue Service, the average amount credited for 2019 was \$2,504.

Who can get the EITC

EITC is for workers whose income does not exceed the following limits in 2019:

- \$50,162 (\$55,952 married filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children
 - \$46,703 (\$52,493 married filing jointly) with two qualifying children
 - \$41,094 (\$46,884 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child
 - \$15,570 (\$21,370 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children
- ** Investment income must be \$3,600 or less

Qualifying children means that 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](https://www.irs.gov) or [Publication 596](#).

In addition to the federal EITC, you can claim a state Earned Income Credit on your Oregon return.

A tax refund under EITC cannot be counted as income against your eligibility for TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, or housing assistance.

Who can help

Use the online [EITC Assistant](#) at www.irs.gov to help you determine if you are eligible. CASH Oregon provides free or low-cost in-person tax preparation services throughout Oregon. Here are their locations, www.cashoregon.org. Also, you can call 211 to find free tax preparation sites.