



Life's a little easier with



eitc

earned income tax credit

The **EITC** is for people who earn less than \$42,000. If you qualify, it could be worth up to \$4,800 this year. So you could pay less federal tax or even get a refund. **Just imagine what you could do with that.**

See if you qualify. Visit www.irs.gov/eitc

Are you eligible for the EITC in 2008? Here are the rules to claim the credit . . .

- Must work and have earned income
- Must have a valid Social Security number
- Investment income limited to \$2,950
- Generally must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien all year
- Cannot use “married filing separately” filing status
- Cannot be a qualifying child of another person
- Cannot file Form 2555 or 2555-EZ (related to foreign earned income)

Did you meet the rules? If so, your earned income must be less than . . .

- \$12,880 (\$15,880 if married filing jointly) with no qualifying children
- \$33,995 (\$36,995 if married filing jointly) with one qualifying child
- \$38,646 (\$41,646 if married filing jointly) with more than one qualifying child
- Special rules may apply for members of the U.S. Armed Forces and taxpayers in designated major disaster areas.

Do you have children? To be a qualifying child for the credit . . .

- The child must meet the relationship, age and residency tests described at www.irs.gov/eitc or in Publication 596, Earned Income Credit.

Did you double check your facts? Here are common errors to avoid . . .

- Claiming a child who is not a qualifying child
- Incorrectly filing as single or head of household when required to file as married
- Under or over reporting income
- Using incorrect Social Security numbers

Do you want help figuring out the EITC? Go online, call toll free, or come see us . . .

- Use the interactive [EITC Assistant](http://www.irs.gov/eitc) at www.irs.gov/eitc to show you if you qualify.
- Call the IRS toll free at [1-800-TAX-1040](tel:1-800-TAX-1040).
- Visit a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance site for free help and tax preparation, or see your tax preparer.

