

Claim Your 2021 State and Federal Credits



IT'S YOUR MONEY

YOU EARNED IT!

THE STATE AND FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDITS (EITCs) are special tax breaks for people who work full- or part-time. This means extra cash in your pocket. If you have income from work, you can file your returns and claim your EITC refunds, even if you don't owe any income tax. You can also file amended federal returns for the previous three years and amended state returns for the previous four years, if you did not claim your EITC or Child Tax Credit (CTC) in prior years. There is no late filing penalty if you do not owe any taxes in the prior years.

CALIFORNIA EITC (CalEITC) requires filing your state tax return (form 540 2EZ or 540) and form FTB 3514. CalEITC is available for working individuals at least 18 years of age or older; there is no age requirement for qualifying children of working individuals. Tax filers must be living in California for at least six months of the current tax year.

2021 CalEITC Income Limits

Number of Qualifying Children	State EITC Income Limits	State EITC Maximum Credits
None	\$30,000	\$255
1	\$30,000	\$1,698
2	\$30,000	\$2,809
3 or more	\$30,000	\$3,160

FEDERAL EITC requires filing your federal tax return (form 1040EZ, 1040, or 1040A) and the Schedule Earned Income Credit Form 1040. For the 2021 tax year only, filers must be at least 19 years old, but under 65 years old at the end of the tax year to qualify. The age limit does not apply if you have a qualifying child.

2021 Federal EITC Income Limits

Number of Qualifying Children	Single, Head of Household or Widowed	Married Filing Jointly	Federal EITC Maximum Credits
None	\$21,430	\$27,380	\$1,502
1	\$42,158	\$48,108	\$3,618
2	\$47,915	\$53,865	\$5,980
3 or more	\$51,464	\$57,414	\$6,728

GET FREE TAX HELP

- CalFile for filing state taxes online at Franchise Tax Board: (800) 852-5711
www.ftb.ca.gov/file/ways-to-file/online/calfile/index.asp
- EITC calculator and free tax return preparation locations: www.ftb.ca.gov/caleitc
- EITC Assistant through the Internal Revenue Service: www.irs.gov/
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) locations: www.irs.gov/vita
- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Tax Aide Program: <https://taxaideqa.aarp.org/hc/en-us>
- File your federal and state tax returns for free online: www.MyFreeTaxes.org

Child Tax Credit and Young Child Tax Credit

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, advanced half of the federal Child Tax Credit for the 2021 tax year. The federal Child Tax Credit is \$3,600 per qualifying child under the age of 6 and \$3,000 for each child age 6 to 17. Families must have at least one child under the age of 17 at the end of the tax year and must file a federal tax return. Eligible families received \$300 per month for each child under the age of 6 and \$250 per month for each child age 6 to 17, starting July 2021 thru December 2021. For more information visit GetCTC: <https://www.getctc.org/en>

The California Young Child Tax Credit is up to \$1,000 per family. Families must have at least one child under 6 years old at the end of the tax year, qualify for CalEITC, and must file a California state tax return.

Starting with the 2020 tax year, CalEITC eligibility can be claimed by taxpayers who have either a Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. The EITC refunds are not counted as income when your CalWORKs, CalFresh or Medi-Cal benefits are calculated. Ask your eligibility worker for more details.