



Money Talks!

Have you heard?

**You May Qualify For As Much As \$857
– Or More If You Have Children – in Tax Refunds!**

Were you recently released from prison?

If you worked in 2010 and earned less than about \$13,400,

File a Tax Return to Claim the Benefits You Earned
Earned Income Credit and Making Work Pay Credit

These tax credits can help boost your income while you establish long-term employment and financial stability.

You could qualify! Get FREE tax help.

- Workers raising children for most of 2010 may qualify for a larger refund.
- Call the IRS help line at **1-800-829-1040** to learn more.

For more information:

The Earned Income Credit: Get Cash Back from the IRS – Even if You Don't Owe Taxes!

- If you earned income in 2010, you may qualify. Earnings while in prison do not count. Earnings from work in 2010 prior to or after incarceration count as earned income.
- Even if you don't owe income tax you can claim the EIC.

What if I Have a Child?

- A qualifying child to claim the EIC includes: sons, daughters, grandchildren, adopted children and foster children. Also, brothers, sisters, and step siblings – as well as descendants of these relatives – can be claimed.
- If a qualifying child lived with you for more than half the year (time spent in prison does not count), you may be able to claim the child for the EIC and the Child Tax Credit. (If married, you can file a joint return with your spouse to claim the EIC.)
- **For the EIC**, the child must be under 19 in 2010. (Full-time students can be under 24; children who are permanently and totally disabled can be any age.)
- **For the Child Tax Credit**, the child must be under 17 in 2010.

If You Did Not Have Children Living With You for More than Half of 2010:

- You may claim the EIC if you were between ages 25 and 64 in 2010.

How Much Can I Earn? How Large a Tax Credit Can I Get?

For the EIC, if you have:	Earned income less than:	Claim an EIC up to:
No qualifying children	\$13,460	\$457
1 qualifying child	\$35,535	\$3,050
2 qualifying children	\$40,363	\$5,036
3 or more qualifying children	\$43,352	\$5,666
For the CTC, if you have:	Earned more than:	Claim a CTC up to:
1 or more children	\$3,000	\$1,000 per child

*EIC income limits for married workers are \$5,010 higher!
Married workers MUST file a joint tax return to claim the EIC.*

What if I'm Not a U.S. Citizen?

Immigrants who work and meet other guidelines may qualify.

- **For the EIC:** worker, spouse and any child claimed needs a valid Social Security Number.
- **For the CTC:** either a Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) is needed.

File a Federal Tax Return to Get the EIC and CTC: Get Free Help!!!

- VITA — Volunteer Income Tax Assistance — helps people fill out tax returns for free.
- Trained community groups operate VITA. **For a site near you, call 1-800-926-9887.**

Can I Get These Tax Credits and Not Lose Other Public Benefits?

Federal tax refunds, including the EIC and CTC, won't count as income for any benefits program funded even partially by federal dollars. This applies to Medicaid, food stamps (now called SNAP), and SSI. Refunds that are saved do not count against resource limits for 12 months after the refund is received.

Also—Make Sure You Get Your “Making Work Pay Credit” — an extra \$400!

Many workers got the Making Work Pay Credit in 2010 in their paychecks. If you didn't have income tax withheld from your paycheck, you can claim this credit on your tax return.