

You Can Claim Valuable Tax Credits - Worth More Than Ever This Year!

You've been working hard – get the tax credits you deserve. More families than ever are eligible for child care tax credits this year. To get these credits, you must file a tax return.

This year many workers will qualify for the Earned Income Credit (EIC) for the first time because their income declined or they became unemployed; tax refunds through the EIC and Child Tax Credit can help low and moderate income families cover day-to-day expenses such as utilities, rent and child care. Families with three or more children also get an extra boost with a larger EIC this year.

When you file your taxes for 2010, you may be eligible for federal and state tax credits worth thousands of dollars, including:

- **Earned Income Tax Credit**, which helps provide a wage supplement for low and moderate-income families (those earning less than \$48,362 annually). This credit is worth up to **\$5,666**, and is refundable.
- **Child Tax Credit**, designed to help families offset some of the costs of raising children. This credit is worth up to **\$1,000** per child. Families who owe little or no income tax can receive some or all of this credit as a refund if they earned at least \$3,000 in 2010.
- **Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit**, designed to offset some of the child or dependent care costs that families incur in order to work. This credit is worth up to **\$2,100**, though the amount that can be claimed is limited by a family's actual federal income tax liability.
- **Making Work Pay Credit**, designed to increase families' take-home pay. This refundable credit is worth up to **\$800** for couples. Many workers received their Making Work Pay Credit as an increase in their take-home pay.

In addition, Oregon also offers:

- **Oregon Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit**, worth up to **\$1,800**;
- **Oregon Working Family Child Care Tax Credit**, a refundable credit worth up to 40% of qualifying child care expenses; and
- **Oregon Earned Income Tax Credit**, also refundable and worth up to **\$340**.

Even if you don't owe income taxes, you may be eligible for a refund check simply by claiming these credits on your federal and Oregon tax returns!

Each tax filing season, the Oregon Child Care Resource & Referral Network and the National Women's Law Center conduct a tax credit outreach campaign to help inform working families in Oregon about these credits and about free tax preparation services in their communities.

For more information about the tax credits and the volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) sites, click here <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=234172,00.html>, Other tax assistance locations include AARP, click here

(<http://www.aarp.org/applications/VMISLocator/searchTaxAideLocations.action>) and CASH Oregon, click here (<http://www.cashoregon.org/taxprep/sites.htm>).