

## Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (471 word count)

Customize and post the following article on your websites and/or use in other communication vehicles to alert your readers about important tax credits which they may qualify.

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### It's not too late to file your 2011 tax return

Believe it or not, your kids don't always have to separate you from your money. Sometimes they can actually help you keep some. If you haven't filed your 2011 tax return yet, you have five good reasons to file today.

#### Adoption Credit

You may be able to take a tax credit for qualifying expenses paid to adopt an eligible child. In general, the credit is based on the reasonable and necessary expenses related to a legal adoption, including adoption fees, court costs, attorney's fees and travel expenses. For tax year 2011, the [adoption credit](#), at up to \$13,360 per child, is the largest refundable tax credit available to individual taxpayers.

If you can claim the adoption credit, you must file a paper tax return and Form 8839, *Qualified Adoption Expenses*, with [required adoption-related documents](#). Because of this requirement, anyone claiming the adoption credit must file a paper return and must attach all required documentation.

#### Child Tax Credit

You may be able to take this credit for each of your children under age 17. The [Child Tax Credit](#) may be worth as much as \$1,000 per qualifying child depending on your income. If you can't claim the full amount of the Child Tax Credit, you may be eligible for the Additional Child Tax Credit.

More information can be found in the IRS [Publication 972](#), Child Tax Credit.

#### Child and Dependent Care Credit

You may be able to claim the [Child and Dependent Care Credit](#) if you pay someone to care for your children, age 13 or younger, so you can work or look for work.

IRS [Publication 503](#), Child and Dependent Care Expenses, has more information.

#### Earned Income Tax Credit

The [EITC](#) is a tax benefit for people who work and have earned income from wages, self-employment or farming. EITC reduces the amount of tax owed and may also give a refund. To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return — even if you don't owe any tax or aren't required to file, you must file to claim the credit.

You can find out if you are eligible for EITC by answering questions and providing basic income information. The EITC Assistant estimates the amount of your EITC and is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

#### Education Credit

[Education tax credits](#) can help offset the costs of higher education by letting people claim qualifying education-related expenses. The American Opportunity Tax Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit can be subtracted in full from federal income tax, not just deducted from taxable income. A portion of the American Opportunity Tax Credit is refundable if no other outstanding debt exists.

[Publication 970](#), Tax Benefits for Education, and [Form 8863](#), Education Credits (Hope and Lifetime Learning Credits), has more information.

For information about these credits and much, much more, visit the [IRS YouTube Channel](#).