

Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (448 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.

Your kids might be able to earn you some credit — at least with your taxes

Believe it or not, your kids don't always have to separate you from your money. Sometimes they can actually help you keep some — especially at tax time. Before you file your tax return, read below and find out if you qualify for one or more of these tax credits.

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. The [adoption credit](#), at up to \$ 13,360 per child, is the largest refundable tax credit available to individual taxpayers.

If you claim the adoption credit, you must file a paper tax return 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 upon 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.

You can find out more by reading [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.

Read [Publication 503](#), Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for 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 you owe and may also give you a refund. To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if you do not owe any tax or are not required to file.

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 you claim qualifying education-related expenses. The American Opportunity Tax Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit can be subtracted in full from your federal income tax, not just deducted from your taxable income.

Check out [Publication 970](#), Tax Benefits for Education, and [Form 8863](#), Education Credits (Hope and Lifetime Learning Credits), to learn more.

For information about these credits and much, much more, visit www.irs.gov.

NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are links to more tax filing season information.

[IRS.gov](#)

You Tube videos

[EITC](#) - If you work but don't make a lot of money, see if you are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)).

Educational Credits - parents paying for college or college-related expenses for their children may be able to benefit from these expenses at tax time. This video provides more information on the American Opportunity Credit and tax relief related to computer expenses ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)).

Educational Credits - students paying for college or college-related computer expenses will want to watch this video to find out how those expenses can actually benefit you at tax time.

[Summer Day Camp Credit](#) - Find out how you can get tax credit for sending your kids to summer day camp.

- [1040 Central](#) – check out direct links to the latest tax information
- [El IRS en Español](#) – a source of tax information for Spanish-speaking taxpayers