

Sample article for organizations, employers and others to use to reach customers (462 word count)

Post the following article on your websites and/or use in other communication vehicles to tell your customers about the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Find out if you qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit

If you earned \$53,930 or less last year, you could receive a larger refund if you [qualify](#) for the [Earned Income Tax Credit](#) (EITC). If you have three or more qualifying children, you could get a maximum credit of up to \$6,318. Even if you don't have children, it could mean up to \$510 added to your tax refund.

Unlike most deductions and credits, the EITC is refundable. In other words, if you're eligible, you may get a refund from the IRS even if you don't owe tax. This year, more than 25 million eligible workers and families nationwide received about \$63 billion in EITC, with an average of more than \$2,470.

To find out if you're eligible, use the [EITC Assistant](#), an online tool available on IRS.gov. You don't need to guess about your eligibility — use the EITC Assistant to find out for sure. And, when checking your eligibility for EITC, don't overlook [other tax credits](#) for which you may qualify.

Some refunds held until mid-February

By law, if you claim either the EITC or [Additional Child Tax Credit](#) (ACTC), the IRS can't issue your [refund](#) before mid-February. The IRS must hold the entire refund — even the portion not associated with the EITC or ACTC.

The IRS expects the earliest EITC/ACTC related refunds to be available in bank accounts or debit cards starting February 27, 2018, if you chose direct deposit and there are no other issues with your tax return.

You can track the status of your refund with the "[Where's My Refund?](#)" tool available on IRS.gov or the [IRS2Go](#) mobile app.

Free Tax Preparation

[Free tax preparation](#) help will be available this filing season near you. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. Free tax preparation sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations across the country.

Date: December 12, 2017

NOTE TO EDITOR: Below are links to help taxpayers find the information they need about the Earned Income Tax Credit.

- [How do I claim EITC?](#)
- [Take Steps Now for Tax Filing Season](#)

On Twitter? Send these Tweets:

- #GetReady: Take steps now to ensure the smooth processing of your taxes in 2018. #IRS www.irs.gov/getready
- Single? No children? See if #EITC works for you <https://go.usa.gov/xRFGE>
- See if you qualify for earned income #tax credit. Use the #EITCAssistant. #IRS #EITC - <https://go.usa.gov/xRFGE>
- You work. Now put #EITC to work for you - <https://go.usa.gov/xRFGm>