

LONG VERSION

Get a Bigger Refund at Tax Time!

The Earned Income Tax Credit & free tax help is available for Colorado working families

Families in Colorado that earned less than about \$53,000 in 2015 could be eligible for up to \$6,200 or more in tax refunds from the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other tax benefits. Plus, for the first time in 15 years, eligible Colorado families can claim the state EITC, which could be worth up to \$620. In addition, these families can save money by filing their taxes for free at one of [Tax Help Colorado's 26 free tax sites](#).

Because of the EITC, hard-working Coloradans like Alejandro, who lives in West Denver and supports his family of four by working as a roofer, is able to get ahead. "Getting the EITC means that we don't have to worry as much about our bills come tax time." He says that the majority of last year's refund was saved and stretched throughout the entire year for rent, car payments, and other basic utilities. This year, he plans to do the exact same thing with his refund.

According to The Piton Foundation, which sponsors a statewide public information campaign about tax credits for working families, more than 354,000 families in Colorado received \$772 million in tax refunds last year thanks to the Earned Income Tax Credit. But, unfortunately, many eligible families did not receive these much-needed refunds because they weren't aware of them, didn't know they were eligible or didn't know how to apply.

Don't miss out this year! Families with incomes of less than \$53,000 are eligible for free tax preparation services through Tax Help Colorado. At community colleges across the state, IRS-trained students will prepare and e-file tax returns for thousands of families this tax season at no cost.

When filing taxes, be sure to ask if you qualify for...

- **The Earned Income Tax Credit:** A federal tax benefit that boosts the incomes of families with children that earned less than \$53,000 in 2015. Working people without children who have incomes below about \$14,800 are also eligible for a very small EITC.
- **The state Earned Income Tax Credit:** The state of Colorado will now match 10% of your federal EITC this year through the state EITC. For example, if you claimed \$5,000 in federal EITC refunds, you will receive \$500 from the state EITC.
- **Child Tax Credit:** A tax benefit that also helps working families with children is worth up to \$1,000 per child.
- **Education and Retirement tax credits:** Special tax credits which are available for those who are saving for retirement or paying for college.
- **Minimum essential coverage:** Qualifying health coverage through Connect for Health Colorado, Medicaid or your employer. If you did not have health coverage, ask to see if you qualify for an exemption to paying the penalty.

Learn more about your tax credit eligibility, and find the location of a free tax site near you, by dialing 2-1-1 (it's a free call!), going to www.piton.org/eitc, finding us on [Facebook](#) or following us on [Twitter](#).

SHORT VERSION

Get a Bigger Refund at Tax Time!

The Earned Income Tax Credit & free tax help is available for Colorado working families

Families in Colorado that earned less than about \$53,000 in 2015 could be eligible for up to \$6,200 or more in tax refunds from the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other tax benefits. Plus, up to \$620 from the new state EITC. In addition, these families can save money by filing their taxes for free at one of [Tax Help Colorado's 26 free tax sites](#).

When filing taxes, be sure to ask if you qualify for...

- The **Earned Income Tax Credit**: A federal tax benefit that boosts the incomes of families with children that earned less than \$53,000 in 2015. Working people without children who have incomes below about \$14,800 are also eligible for a very small EITC.
- **The state Earned Income Tax Credit**: The state of Colorado will now match 10% of your federal EITC this year through the state EITC. For example, if you claimed \$5,000 in federal EITC refunds, you will receive \$500 from the state EITC.
- **Child Tax Credit**: A tax benefit that also helps working families with children is worth up to \$1,000 per child.
- **Education and Retirement tax credits**: Special tax credits which are available for those who are saving for retirement or paying for college.
- **Minimum essential coverage**: Qualifying health coverage through Connect for Health Colorado, Medicaid or your employer. If you did not have health coverage, ask to see if you qualify for an exemption to paying the penalty.

Learn more about your tax credit eligibility, and find the location of a free tax site near you, by dialing 2-1-1 (it's a free call!), going to www.piton.org/eitc, finding us on [Facebook](#) or following us on [Twitter](#).

Additional website copy:

1. The **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** is a federal tax benefit that boosts the incomes of families with children that earn lower or moderate wages. Learn about this tax credit and see if you could qualify for the federal and state EITC: <http://www.piton.org/eitc>
2. Families in Colorado that earned less than about \$53,000 in 2015 could be eligible for up to \$6,200 or more in tax refunds from the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and other tax benefits. Plus, up to an additional \$620 from the new state EITC. In addition, these families can save money by filing their taxes for free at one of [Tax Help Colorado's 26 free tax sites](#).
3. Learn about tax credits that benefit working families, how to report health insurance on your taxes, and information on free tax preparation for families making less than about \$53,000: <http://www.piton.org/eitc>