



Human Resources Administration
Department of Social Services
Steven Banks, *Commissioner*

This Tax Season Don't Forget About the Earned Income Tax Credit

If you earned income in 2015, you might be eligible for free tax preparation services and valuable tax credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and NYC Child Care Tax Credit, which in many cases could mean you get money back from the government. The U.S. Government, New York State and New York City all have programs and tax breaks in place to help low-income working people make ends meet. Qualifying for these tax credits is based on your income and family size.

The Earned Income Tax Credit is available for federal, state and City taxes, and you can claim it even if your income is too low to owe taxes. Click [here](#) to find income guidelines for the EITC and NYC Child Care Tax Credit. If the amount of your tax credits is greater than the amount of taxes you owe, you'll get money back from the government.

If you make \$54,000 or less with children or \$30,000 or less with no children, you qualify to use one of the City's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites for free tax preparation services. VITA volunteers will be able to tell you if you qualify for credits like the EITC and NYC Child Care Tax Credit. Some VITA sites also offer drop-off service, or can offer assistance in filing your taxes online. For a map of NYC VITA sites in all five boroughs, click [here](#).

You may also be eligible to file your taxes online for free. If you earn \$31,000 or less, you can file with [TurboTax Freedom Edition](#). If you earn \$62,000 or less, you can file with [myfreetaxes.com](#).

NYC Financial Empowerment Centers offer free financial counseling, and can help you start a savings account with your tax refund, make a plan to tackle debt, improve your credit and much more. To find a Financial Empowerment Center near you, click [here](#).