



## Need Help Preparing your Taxes?

**VITA Partners (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) can help. Partners in Albuquerque are:**

Neighborhood VITA Coalition of New Mexico  
 Contact: Petra Sanchez  
 (505) 255-8594 or (505) 681-6801  
 Site: Barelas Community Center

Tax Help New Mexico  
 Contact: J. Spence  
 (505) 224-4829  
 Or visit: [www.cnm.edu/taxhelp](http://www.cnm.edu/taxhelp) for a list of sites

AARP  
 Contact: Walt Whitman (505) 292-0163  
<http://www.cabq.gov/seniors/services/IncomeTaxPreparation>  
 for sites

Internal Revenue Service  
 1-800-TAX-1040  
 Or visit: [www.irs.gov/eitc](http://www.irs.gov/eitc)



**Martin J. Chávez**  
**Mayor**

## The Tax Break for Hard Working People

## the EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT



**Don't miss out! Extra dollars could be yours.**

# What is the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)?



It's a federal income tax credit for people who work, but don't earn much money. If you qualify, it

could be worth up to \$4,800 this year. So you could pay less federal tax or even get a refund. But it's not just about the money, it's about the difference it can make in your life.

## What is Earned Income?

It is income you get from employment or self-employment. Here are some examples. Earned income includes:

- Taxable wages, salaries & tips
- Net earnings from self employment
- Gross income received as a statutory employee.

### Earned Income does not include:

- Nontaxable employee benefits such as education assistance
- Pension, alimony, child support, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

## Am I eligible for the EITC in Tax Year 2008?

- You must have earned income from employment or self-employment.
- Your earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must be less than:
  - \* \$12,880 (\$15,880 if married filing jointly) with no qualifying children.
  - \* \$33,995 (\$36,995 if married filing jointly) with one qualifying child.
  - \* \$38,646 (\$41,646 if married filing jointly) with more than one qualifying child.
- Your investment income (such as interest) must be \$2,950 or less.
- Your filing status cannot be married filing separately.
- You must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien all year, or a nonresident alien married to a U.S. citizen or resident alien and filing a joint return.
- You must have a valid Social Security Number (SSN).
- You cannot be a qualifying child of another person.
- If you do not have a qualifying child, you must:
  - \* be age 25 but under 65 at the end of the year
  - \* live in the U.S. for more than half the year and not qualify as a dependent of another person



## How Do I Figure My EITC?

If you qualify to claim it, you can figure the credit yourself or have the IRS figure the amount for you. Either way, you can use Publication 596, Earned Income Credit for requirements, worksheets and examples on how to do it.

## New Mexico Working Family Tax Credit (WTFC)

The New Mexico Working Families Tax Credit (WTFC) refunds 10 percent of the EITC amount on the state tax return form. For example, a family receiving a credit of \$4,536 for the EITC would receive an additional \$453 from the state WTFC.

**Find out if you qualify.**

Call 1-800-829-3676 for free IRS Publication 596 or visit the IRS website at: [www.irs.gov/eitc](http://www.irs.gov/eitc)