



Food and
Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

DATE: February 24, 2022

SUBJECT: Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

TO: All SNAP State Agencies
All Regions

On August 10, 2021, I wrote to you about the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) which provides support for American families, State governments, and communities to rebuild lives and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. That letter specifically highlighted important opportunities to support low-income families by advising them of the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Thank you for your work so far.

As we enter tax filing season this year, I ask you to once again consider opportunities to promote the CTC, with the understanding that you will use non-SNAP funds for this work. Please encourage all SNAP applicants and recipients to file taxes. Even if a family did not earn enough to be required to file taxes, they are eligible for the CTC and potentially thousands of additional dollars in benefits. Filing taxes will mean many families who are eligible for CTC will also get thousands of dollars in additional tax relief through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

Many families received about half of their CTC in monthly payments in 2021. Families will get the rest of the CTC they are owed by filing taxes this year. Families who did not receive monthly CTC payments will receive the full credit amount when they file tax returns.

In addition, this year, for the first time, the EITC can be worth up to \$1,500 for some workers without kids at home — nearly triple the credit in 2020 because of changes made by the American Rescue Plan. Please refer your clients to new [ChildTaxCredit.Gov](https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/understanding-child-tax-credit) for information on how to get free assistance filing taxes.

Receiving the CTC and/or the EITC will have no impact on anyone's eligibility for, or lower the amount of, other Federal benefits.

Thank you for raising awareness of this ground breaking anti-poverty effort. Attached is a CTC tool kit with some materials to get you started. I look forward to continuing to work with you to spread the word about filing taxes and the assistance the CTC and EITC can provide to help low-income families. Please contact your regional office with any questions.

All SNAP State Agencies
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for Jessica Shahin
Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Attachment



Information on How to Receive the Child Tax Credit and/or Earned Income Tax Credit

As part of President Biden's American Rescue Plan, many parents and guardians are eligible for the Child Tax Credit and many people are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Everyone needs to file a tax return to get their full Child Tax Credit and/or Earned Income Tax Credit. Go to [ChildTaxCredit.Gov](https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/efilehelp/child-tax-credit) for information on how to get free assistance filing your taxes.

Key Facts About the Child Tax Credit:

- **Parents can receive \$3,000 or \$3,600** per child ages 0-17 depending on the child's age.
- **Income eligibility:** All eligible families can receive the full credit if they make less than \$150,000 for a married couple or \$112,500 for a single parent in 2021.
- **File your taxes to get your remaining credit or your full credit if you haven't gotten monthly payments:** Families, including those who received part of their Child Tax Credit as monthly payments last year, can get their remaining Child Tax Credit by filing a tax return this year. If you did not receive monthly Child Tax Credit payments, you will receive the full credit amount when you file your tax returns.
- **Non-taxable:** The Child Tax Credit, including the monthly payments received last year, is a tax cut. It is not income that will be taxed.
- **Does not affect other federal benefits:** Receiving the Child Tax Credit will have no impact on anyone's eligibility for, or lower the amount of, other federal benefits.
- **For parents and legal guardians:** Anyone, including grandparents, who are legal guardians may be eligible for the Child Tax Credit.

You can determine [if you are eligible here](#) or [find free resources to help you get](#) your Child Tax Credit.

Key Facts about the Earned Income Tax Credit:

- Filing taxes will mean many families who are eligible for the Child Tax Credit will also get thousands of dollars in additional tax relief through the Earned Income Tax Credit.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN? The EITC for workers without dependent children is now \$1,500

- **Previously excluded young and older workers are eligible:** The American Rescue Plan made young workers who aren't half-time students eligible for the EITC for the first time and extended the credit to workers 65 and older.
- **Income eligibility:** Among those without dependent children, single workers with incomes below \$21,430 and married couples with up to \$27,380 can claim the EITC.

Help spread the word by telling your friends, family, clients, colleagues, and neighbors to visit [ChildTaxCredit.gov](https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/efilehelp/child-tax-credit) to learn more on how to get the Child Tax Credit and/or Earned Income Tax Credit.

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Tax Credit Social Media Guidance

The Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit are large tax refund payments that people can receive when they file a tax return. The 2021 American Rescue Plan expanded who can receive these payments and increased the amount of money available to many families and individuals.

Most people need to file a tax return before April 18, 2022 to receive their full payment this year.

ChildTaxCredit.gov has easy to share information about how families and individuals can get the full payment they are owed this year.

How To Use This Toolkit:

You can insert the images below into newsletters, blogs, email blasts, and social media posts to help get the word out about these resources. We encourage all social media posts to these hashtags #GetYourTaxCredits #ChildTaxCredit #CTC #EITC. It is always helpful to include a link to ChildTaxCredit.gov when you can.

Key Messages To Share:

- The new Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit are bigger than ever.
- The Child Tax Credit was increased and expanded in 2021 by the American Rescue Plan, and most families are eligible to receive the credit for their children. For families with kids, the 2021 Child Tax Credit is \$3,000-\$3,600 per kid, based on their age.
- This year, for the first time, the Earned Income Tax Credit can be worth up to \$1,500 for some workers without kids at home — nearly triple the credit in 2020 because of changes made by the American Rescue Plan.
- Filing a tax return is the best way to receive the full Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit.
- Many families received about ½ of their CTC in monthly payments in 2021. Families will get the rest of the CTC they are owed by filing taxes this year. ChildTaxCredit.gov can help.
- Free tax help is available to file tax returns – go to ChildTaxCredit.gov to learn more.

Social Media Graphics

#GetYourTaxCredits

The new Child Tax Credit and other tax benefits are bigger than ever.

File a tax return to get money for **groceries, gas, childcare**, and more.



ChildTaxCredit.gov



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ChildTaxCredit.gov



#GetYourTaxCredits

To make sure you and your family get all the tax credits you are eligible to receive, file your taxes by **April 18, 2022**.

You could earn up to **\$3,600** in Child Tax Credits or **\$1,500** for some workers without kids from the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Learn more

ChildTaxCredit.gov



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Learn more

ChildTaxCredit.gov



The Child Tax Credit

\$ **\$3,000 to \$3,600 per child** for nearly all working families

🏠 **File your taxes by April 18, 2022** to get your CTC and other tax benefits

#GetYourTaxCredits and learn more at **ChildTaxCredit.gov**



Earned Income Tax Credit

The new Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is expanded to include more people, more families, and more money. It provides up to **\$1,500** for some workers without kids at home, nearly triple the amount of previous years.

Learn more

ChildTaxCredit.gov



Get Your Child Tax Credit & Earned Income Tax Credit

File Your Taxes



Thanks to President Biden's American Rescue Plan, there is **more money available** to families and/or people with low to moderate incomes. Filing your taxes is how you can claim benefits like the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Whether or not you received stimulus checks or monthly payments in 2021, additional money may be available to you. While individuals who won't owe taxes have longer to file, filing by **April 18, 2022** is how you may get your full benefits the soonest.

A Historic Increase



Families can enjoy an increased Child Tax Credit (\$3,000 or \$3,600, depending on a child/dependent's age), and more people with low incomes can receive a larger Earned Income Tax Credit.

These Tax Credits Are Not Income

Receiving these benefits will not impact eligibility for other federal benefits such as UI, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, SDI, TANF, WIC, Section 8 or Public Housing.



Not a Frequent Tax Filer?

Even if you didn't earn enough to be required to file taxes, you are eligible for the Child Tax Credit and potentially thousands of additional dollars in benefits. See what you can receive by filing a 2021 tax return!

Find out how to get assistance and file your taxes for free at

ChildTaxCredit.gov



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