



NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Social Services

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Full and Part-Time Workers Can Qualify for Special Tax Credit

Sacramento –Tax season is here again and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) wants to encourage all low and moderate-income workers to file for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit, known as EITC. The EITC is a refundable tax credit designed to allow qualified workers the ability to keep more of their earnings through increased tax refunds.

The EITC is one of the federal government’s largest resources to assist working low and moderate-income Americans. The EITC provides over \$7 billion annually to approximately 3.2 million California residents for their basic needs and these dollars also benefit the State’s economy.

For a variety of reasons, however, every year hundreds of thousands of eligible Californians do not claim EITC refunds. If this tax credit was claimed, families would be better able to support themselves, and jobs and paychecks would be created. “It is important that we reach out to as many qualified taxpayers as we can,” said CDSS Director Will Lightbourne, adding, “This tax break can add up to thousands of new dollars in taxpayer pockets and more importantly; will not count as income for CalWORKs cash aid or CalFresh recipients.”

Qualified taxpayers who earned less than \$52,427 (joint tax filing) or \$46,997 (single tax filer) can receive up to \$6,143 in tax breaks for households with three or more children in the home. Taxpayers who earned less than \$20,020 (joint) or \$14,590 (single) and have no children in the home can receive up to a \$496 tax credit.

CDSS is working with all county welfare departments and a multitude of other safety net providers and coordinators to provide awareness and outreach so EITC can be claimed by those families who qualify.

For more information and to see if you qualify, please visit www.EITC.ca.gov. It is your money—claim it and save it!

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