

## F.Y.I.: EARNED INCOME CREDIT

The Earned Income Credit (EIC) is a special tax credit for people who work. If you qualify, the amount of the credit is subtracted from the taxes you owe! If you don't owe any taxes, the government pays all of the credit to you!

You can qualify for the EIC if you work full-time or part-time. You must also be a U.S. citizen, a lawful permanent resident OR have permission to work from Immigration. The amount of the credit you receive depends on how many children you have, how old you are, and how much you earn. However, you may qualify for the credit even if you are not married or if you have no children.



**The children you claim must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and have a valid social security card.** Your child must be your son, daughter, adopted child, grandchild, stepchild, or a foster child placed in your home by an authorized placement agency. The children you claim must have lived with you in the U.S. for more than half of the tax year. **Also, your child must be under age 19 at the end of the tax year (there are some exceptions to this age requirement).**

To claim the credit, you must file an income tax return, even if you owe no taxes. The EIC credit will **NOT** affect your immigration status or any application you have pending with Immigration. It will also **NOT** affect your eligibility for food stamps, Medicaid, unemployment, or other government benefits.