

The Earned Income Tax Credit can put money in your pocket

Did you know you might qualify to get up to \$5,600 back from the Internal Revenue Service? The agency estimates that one in four eligible taxpayers misses out on the Earned Income Tax Credit – EITC – simply because they don't claim it on their tax returns.

EITC eligibility is based on several factors, including the source and amount of your income – or your combined income if married – and whether you have qualifying children. If you had less than \$48,000 in income from wages, self-employment or farming during 2009, you may qualify.

Use the IRS's interactive online EITC Assistant at www.irs.gov to determine your eligibility and the amount of your credit. You must file a tax return, even if you aren't otherwise required to do so, and claim the EITC to get it.

No-cost help is available through volunteer income tax assistance sites or IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers that

will prepare your return at no charge. To locate a volunteer site, call the IRS at 800-906-9887. Of course, you also can ask your tax preparer for assistance.

For information on Iowa's Earned Income Tax Credit, visit the Web site of the Iowa Department of Revenue at www.iowa.gov/tax. ⚡

