

EITC and CTC Comparison Chart

EITC

CTC

Income

Income Limits and EITC Amount

Children	Single	Married	EITC up to:
None	\$15,570	\$21,370	\$529
1	\$41,094	\$46,884	\$3,526
2	\$46,703	\$52,493	\$5,828
3 or more	\$50,162	\$55,952	\$6,557

Must earn more than \$2,500
Credit up to \$2,000 per child
Investment income — no limits

Investment income — \$3,600

Sources of income

Wages, salary, tips, employer-based disability, self-employment earnings, military combat pay, union strike benefits

Taxpayer ID Number

Valid social security number that permits work in the U.S. for tax filer, spouse, and children

Valid social security number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for tax filer and spouse; children must have a SSN

Filing Status

Cannot be married filing separately

Any

Age Requirement

Must be between 25 and 64 years of age (workers without children)

Any

Child Qualifications (workers with children)

Relationship

- Son, daughter, grandchild, stepchild or adopted child
- Younger sibling, step-sibling, half-sibling, or their descendent
- Foster child placed with the worker by a government agency

Residency

Must live with the worker in the U.S. for more than half the year

Must live with the worker in the U.S. for more than half the year. Exception: A non-custodial parent who is permitted by a divorce or separation agreement to claim the child as a dependent.

Age of Child

Under 19, under 24 if a full-time student, or any age if totally and permanently disabled.

Under 17

Dependency

Not required (except for a claim by a married parent who separated from his or her spouse during the first half of the year)

Children claimed must be considered a dependent for tax filing purposes

Tax Forms

Form 1040
Schedule EIC (workers with children)

Form 1040
Schedule 8812 "Additional Child Tax Credit"