

2003 EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

To claim the EITC tax payers must meet the following rules

- must have earned income
- must have a valid Social Security Number
- investment income is limited to \$2600.00
- filing status cannot be “married filing separate”
- generally must be a U. S citizen or a resident alien all year
- cannot be a qualified child of another person
- cannot file form 2555 or 2555-EZ (related to foreign earned income)

You need to have worked and have earned income less than

- \$11,230.00 (\$12,330.00 if married filing jointly) if there is no qualifying child
- \$29,666.00 (\$30,666.00 if married filing jointly) if there is one qualifying child
- \$33,692.00 (\$34,692.00 if married filing jointly) if there is more than one qualifying child

Qualified child criteria

- the child must meet the relationship, age and residency test

Common errors to avoid

- tax payers claim a child who is not a qualifying child
- married tax payers who should file as married filing separately instead file single or head of household
- income reporting errors
- tax payers or qualifying children with incorrect Social Security Numbers.

For more information on EITC, visit www.irs.gov/eitc