

THE TAX PICTURE

Getting The Income Tax Credit You've Earned

(NAPSA)—No one likes to miss out on a chance to collect money he or she has earned. However, many people who qualified for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) in 2014 did just that.

That's the word from experts who say to claim the EITC, taxpayers must be employed or self-employed and have a Social Security number. They will also have to meet specific income criteria tied to the number of children they have.

According to David Prokupek, CEO of Jackson Hewitt, "One in four people who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit should be getting up to \$6,143 in additional tax refunds, but they miss out because it's complicated to tell if you qualify."

Said Prokupek, "Jackson Hewitt is working hard to ensure that Americans get the biggest refund they deserve. Taxpayers can visit one of our 6,300 locations, with nearly 3,000 in Walmart stores, to have an expert Tax Pro determine their eligibility and estimated refund at no charge and no obligation."

One-third of the EITC-eligible population changes each year based on marital, parental and financial status, and many Americans may not know they qualify for this credit.

Fortunately, the IRS allows individuals to catch up, offering a three-year window for filing federal tax returns. Jackson Hewitt encourages clients to secure unclaimed EITC by filing past federal tax returns now and avoid losing any unclaimed funds from as far back as 2011.



Experts say many who would qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit don't pursue it because they find filing too complicated.

For example, a married couple filing jointly with three children and a combined earned income of \$23,000 could qualify for the maximum EITC of \$6,143. If the couple overlooked the EITC during the past three years, they could possibly claim thousands of dollars more for each year for a total refund approaching half their annual income.

"Our Tax Pros can also review prior-year returns prepared by you or another tax preparation company at no charge to make sure there aren't older EITC credits to claim. For some, it can amount to thousands of dollars," Prokupek said. He added that the company's Tax Pros are held to the highest standards in the industry.

To learn more or find out if you qualify for the credit, visit www.jacksonhewitt.com or call 1-800-234-1040.