

State's new Child Tax Credit is a powerful tool to boost family incomes

Too many Minnesotans struggle to pay for basics, like diapers, food, school supplies, transportation, and other things needed to raise healthy, thriving children. Tax credits focused on families living paycheck to paycheck have long been used as a tool to boost family incomes.

In the 2023 tax bill, Minnesota policymakers included a powerful new state Child Tax Credit (CTC) as a proven way to strengthen the economic stability of families across the state. Minnesota's new CTC builds on the remarkable success of the expanded federal Child Tax Credit in reducing child poverty and material hardship among families. The expanded federal CTC's effectiveness came from its focus on those families who are most likely to be left out of our country's prosperity, including the lowest-income families, children of color, and children living in rural areas.

Beginning this year, Minnesotans may qualify for a Child Tax Credit of up to \$1,750 for each qualifying child in their family under the age of 18. The Child Tax Credit is refundable, meaning it will reduce the amount of income taxes paid, and many families will receive a tax refund.

Families, including those that file their taxes using Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs) may qualify for \$1,750 per eligible child if their income is up to \$35,000 for married couples and \$29,500 for other kinds of families. Families with incomes above those amounts may qualify for a Child Tax Credit less than \$1,750 per child, as long as their incomes are below certain limits. For example, married filers with two children may qualify for some level of Child Tax Credit if their incomes are below \$67,079.

Number of children	Married filing joint return	Other filers
1	\$52,495	\$46,995
2	\$67,079	\$61,579
3	\$81,662	\$76,162
4	\$96,245	\$90,745
5+	Add \$14,583 for each additional Qualifying Child	Add \$14,583 for each additional Qualifying Child

The promise of this nation-leading CTC lies in Minnesotans knowing about and how and where to file their Minnesota income taxes in order to claim it. We're joining outreach efforts of the Minnesota Department of Revenue and organizations across the state, including the Minnesota Budget Project, the Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota, and Prepare+Prosper, to ensure Minnesotans can learn about whether they are eligible for the new state Child Tax Credit. Visit ClaimYourMoneyMN.org to learn more.

Sources:

Minnesota Department of Revenue <u>outreach resources</u> Minnesota Department of Revenue <u>free tax preparation resources</u> Children's Defense Fund – Minnesota <u>Bridge to Benefits screening tool</u> Prepare+Prosper <u>tax filing resources</u> <u>ClaimYourMoneyMN.org website</u>