



# Working Families Tax Credit Coalition Legislative Priorities 2023

Washington made history in 2021 when the legislature passed and funded the Working Families Tax Credit, a first-of-its-kind policy for the state that will put millions of dollars back into the pockets of families. Eligible households can receive up to \$1,200 per year starting February 2023. Importantly, this credit will be available for people who use an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), which includes undocumented workers and other taxpayers without a Social Security Number.

We know this is just the start of our mission to make sure every Washingtonian can put food on the table, pay for emergencies, and go to sleep with peace of mind.

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## In 2023, the Working Families Tax Credit Coalition is championing two bills to strengthen the program:

### 1) Ensure equitable access: An administrative and technical fix bill

Address administrative and technical issues identified through the implementation and rulemaking process, including:

- Ensure all filing statuses can access the credit by including Married Filing Separately tax filers, which will have a big impact for survivors of domestic violence
- Expand the time families have to claim their payments from one year to the IRS's standard of 3 years
- Ensure Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) filers can get their payment promptly, even if there are federal delays in processing their ITIN applications
- Create a biennial Legislative Reporting Requirement for the Dept. of Revenue

### 2) Expand the WFTC to all low-income, working seniors and young adults

From young college students to seniors still in the workforce, people with low incomes are all trying to make ends meet. However, the current age range for childless workers limits the lifesaving WFTC cash to those who are 25-65 years old. This expansion would:

- Expand the age range so that all filers 18 and older can access the WFTC
- Reach more young, working adults and seniors, increasing covered households by nearly 50%.
- Add 210,000 households. Currently, the WFTC is estimated to have 420,000+ households

The Working Families Tax Credit Coalition is made up of over 50 organizations statewide, spanning economic and racial justice groups, immigrant rights advocates, labor unions, direct service providers, domestic violence advocates, and more.

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