

How to apply for tax benefits and credits

Government Tax Benefits and Credits

There are a range of government benefits and tax credits offered in Canada depending on your needs, circumstances, and family size. It is important to complete your annual income tax return each year or you may risk losing certain benefits you may be entitled to. Additionally, many housing applications and income-based housing require a Notice of Assessment (NOA), which is sent to you when you complete your tax return.

What if I cannot afford to have my taxes done?

If you have low-income, there are services in Durham Region that provide simple income tax returns for free. These programs help people whose income is below \$30,000 per year, or \$40,000 per year if you are a couple (add \$2,500 of income per additional family member). Taxes from previous years are accepted as well. For Durham Region free income tax clinics, please go to Durham.ca and find the clinic closest to you.

Which benefits might I qualify for?

For a full list of tax benefits and credits available visit Canada Revenue Agency and search "Benefits Menu". Based on your income and family unit, you may be eligible for the Ontario Trillium benefit, which includes the Ontario Sales Tax Credit, Ontario Energy, and Property Tax Credit.

For families with children, use the [Child and Family Benefits Calculator](#) to find out which benefits you may be eligible for and how much you might receive.

