



## DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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### LAY PERSONNEL

February 23, 2026

To: Pastors, Agency Directors, Office Managers, and School Principals

FR: Anna Schiele

RE: **Reminder of Updated Notification Requirements Regarding Tax Credits**

California requires employers to notify employees of the possible eligibility for earned income tax credit (EITC). Employers were to provide employees with the attached handout along with the W-2 in January.

Employers are required to provide the same notice again to all employees in the month of March. Please provide the attached handout to your employees. You may provide a hard copy or an electronic copy to your staff.

Please feel free to contact the Lay Personnel Department with any questions or concerns at 916-733-0239.

January 2026

Dear Staff Members,

Per Senate Bill 131 we are required to inform you that you may be eligible for state and federal antipoverty tax credits. Below you will find the information that we are required to share with you.

**19854.**

*(a) The notice required under Section 19853 to be furnished to employees and public assistance program recipients regarding the availability of the federal and the California EITC shall state substantially as follows:*

*Based on your annual earning, you may be eligible for the following assistance:*

*Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program – VITA is a free basic income tax return preparation program, for federal and state personal income tax returns, managed by the Internal Revenue Service and operated by Internal Revenue Service partners and trained volunteers.*

*Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (federal EITC) – The federal EITC is a refundable credit for low-income working individuals and families. The federal EITC will not impact certain public assistance benefits. In addition, federal EITC payments are typically NOT used to determine eligibility for the following:*

*(A) Medicaid.*

*(B) Supplemental Security Income.*

*(C) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.*

*(D) Low-income housing.*

*(E) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families payments.*

*To receive the federal EITC, you must file a federal tax return and fill out the EITC form, which can be found in the Federal Income Tax Return Booklet. For additional information on your eligibility to receive the federal EITC and other federal antipoverty tax credits, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).*

*California Earned Income Tax Credit (California EITC) and Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC) – The California EITC and YCTC are refundable credits for low-income working individuals and families. The California EITC and YCTC are similar to the federal EITC and will not impact certain public assistance benefits.*

*Foster Youth Tax Credit (FYTC) – The FYTC is a refundable credit for former and current foster youth between 18 and 25 years of age who were in foster care while 13 years of age or older. The FYTC will not impact certain public assistance benefits.*

*To claim the California EITC, you must file a California Income Tax Return and fill out the California EITC form (Form FTB 3514) and attach it to your tax return. For additional information on the availability of the credit, including eligibility requirements, or form questions, visit [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov) and enter “CalEITC” in the search box.*

*You may also be eligible to have both your federal and state tax returns prepared and filed for free using VITA services. For additional information on the free tax filing service, and location and hours of operation, visit [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov) and enter “VITA” in the search box. Additionally, you may be eligible to e-file your California return directly with the Franchise Tax Board for free using CalFile. For additional information on CalFile, visit [www.ftb.ca.gov](http://www.ftb.ca.gov) and enter “CalFile” in the search box.*