

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8066--A

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 31, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. WRIGHT, BLAKE, DICKENS, SANTABARBARA, SAYEGH --  
Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. RAMOS -- read once and referred to the  
Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended,  
ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the tax law and the administrative code of the city of  
New York, in relation to advance payment of the earned income credit

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The tax law is amended by adding a new section 679 to read  
2 as follows:

3 § 679. Advance payment of earned income credit. (a) General rule.  
4 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the commissioner shall  
5 provide for the pre-payment of the earned income credit to qualifying  
6 employees.

7 (b) Earned income eligibility certificate. For purposes of this arti-  
8 cle, an earned income eligibility certificate is a statement furnished  
9 by an employee to the commissioner which:

10 (1) certifies that the employee will be eligible to receive an earned  
11 income credit or an enhanced earned income credit provided by subsection  
12 (d) or (d-1) of section six hundred six of this article for the taxable  
13 year,

14 (2) certifies that the employee has one or more qualifying children  
15 for such taxable year,

16 (3) certifies that the employee does not have an earned income eligi-  
17 bility certificate in effect for the calendar year with respect to the  
18 payment of wages by another employer, and

19 (4) states whether or not the employee's spouse has an earned income  
20 eligibility certificate in effect.

21 For purposes of this section, a certificate shall be treated as being  
22 in effect with respect to a spouse if such a certificate will be in

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 effect on the first status determination date following the date on  
2 which the employee furnishes the statement in question.

3 (c) Earned income advance amount. Four advanced payments shall be  
4 made to such qualifying employees. An estimated annual tax credit shall  
5 be determined by the commissioner in advance of the first payment, and  
6 shall be subject to adjustment due to changes in employment or family  
7 status over the course of the year. Prior to disbursement, the commis-  
8 sioner shall ensure that the qualifying employee's status has not  
9 changed. The first three advanced payments shall be made during the  
10 taxable year and shall be twenty percent of the anticipated credit. The  
11 fourth advanced payment shall be made after the tax year is over, and  
12 shall be adjusted to match the actual credit due. Such payments shall,  
13 to the extent practicable be made available via direct deposit and via  
14 electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card.

15 (d) Form and contents of certificate. Earned income eligibility  
16 certificates shall be in such form and contain such other information as  
17 the commissioner may by regulations prescribe.

18 (e) Notification. (1) The commissioner shall notify all taxpayers who  
19 have one or more qualifying children and who receive a refund of the  
20 credit under subsection (d) or (d-1) of section six hundred six of this  
21 article in writing of the availability of earned income advance amounts  
22 under this section. Such written or electronic notification shall  
23 include a clearly labeled section or withholding forms and a separate  
24 handout with information about the advanced payment of the earned income  
25 credit in the six most common languages spoken by individuals in this  
26 state.

27 (2) The commissioner shall provide information of the availability of  
28 earned income advance amounts under this section to tax preparers,  
29 accountants and organizations that assist individuals in tax prepara-  
30 tion. Such information shall be distributed to qualifying individuals.

31 (f) Coordination with advance payments of earned income credit.

32 (1) Recapture of excess advance payments. If any payment is made to  
33 the individual by the commissioner under this section during any calen-  
34 dar year, then the tax imposed by this chapter for the individual's last  
35 taxable year beginning in such calendar year shall be increased by the  
36 aggregate amount of such payments.

37 (2) Safe harbor against recapture of excess advance payments. If an  
38 individual establishes that they are requesting and receiving payments  
39 under this section in good-faith by establishing that they properly  
40 claimed payments under this section in the prior year and that they have  
41 not experienced a substantial change in circumstances such that they  
42 have a reasonable expectation of eligibility in the current year, then  
43 paragraph one of this subsection shall not apply.

44 (3) Reconciliation of payments advanced and credit allowed. Any  
45 increase in tax under this subsection shall not be treated as tax  
46 imposed by this chapter for purposes of determining the amount of any  
47 credit (other than the credit allowed by subsection (d) or (d-1) of  
48 section six hundred six of this article) allowable under this article.

49 § 2. The administrative code of the city of New York is amended by  
50 adding a new section 11-1763 to read as follows:

51 § 11-1763 Advance payment of earned income credit. (a) General rule.  
52 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the commissioner shall  
53 provide for the pre-payment of the earned income credit to qualifying  
54 employees.

1 (b) Earned income eligibility certificate. For purposes of this chap-  
2 ter, an earned income eligibility certificate is a statement furnished  
3 by an employee to the commissioner which:

4 (1) certifies that the employee will be eligible to receive an earned  
5 income credit or an enhanced earned income credit provided by subdivi-  
6 sion (d) or (d-1) of section 11-1706 of this chapter for the taxable  
7 year,

8 (2) certifies that the employee has one or more qualifying children  
9 for such taxable year,

10 (3) certifies that the employee does not have an earned income eligi-  
11 bility certificate in effect for the calendar year with respect to the  
12 payment of wages by another employer, and

13 (4) states whether or not the employee's spouse has an earned income  
14 eligibility certificate in effect.

15 For purposes of this section, a certificate shall be treated as being  
16 in effect with respect to a spouse if such a certificate will be in  
17 effect on the first status determination date following the date on  
18 which the employee furnishes the statement in question.

19 (c) Earned income advance amount. Four advanced payments shall be  
20 made to such qualifying employees. An estimated annual tax credit shall  
21 be determined by the commissioner in advance of the first payment, and  
22 shall be subject to adjustment due to changes in employment or family  
23 status over the course of the year. Prior to disbursement, the commis-  
24 sioner shall ensure that the qualifying employee's status has not  
25 changed. The first three advanced payments shall be made during the  
26 taxable year and shall be twenty percent of the anticipated credit. The  
27 fourth advanced payment shall be made after the tax year is over, and  
28 shall be adjusted to match the actual credit due. Such payments shall,  
29 to the extent practicable be made available via direct deposit and via  
30 electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card.

31 (d) Form and contents of certificate. Earned income eligibility  
32 certificates shall be in such form and contain such other information as  
33 the commissioner may by regulations prescribe.

34 (e) Notification. (1) The commissioner shall notify all taxpayers who  
35 have one or more qualifying children and who receive a refund of the  
36 credit under subdivision (d) of section 11-1706 of this chapter in writ-  
37 ing of the availability of earned income advance amounts under this  
38 section. Such written or electronic notification shall include a clearly  
39 labeled section or withholding forms and a separate handout with infor-  
40 mation about the advanced payment of the earned income credit in the six  
41 most common languages spoken by individuals in this state.

42 (2) The commissioner shall provide information of the availability of  
43 earned income advance amounts under this section to tax preparers,  
44 accountants and organizations that assist individuals in tax prepara-  
45 tion. Such information shall be distributed to qualifying individuals.

46 (f) Coordination with advance payments of earned income credit.

47 (1) Recapture of excess advance payments. If any payment is made to  
48 the individual by the commissioner under this section during any calen-  
49 dar year, then the tax imposed by this chapter for the individual's last  
50 taxable year beginning in such calendar year shall be increased by the  
51 aggregate amount of such payments.

52 (2) Safe harbor against recapture of excess advance payments. If an  
53 individual establishes that they are requesting and receiving payments  
54 under this section in good-faith by establishing that they properly  
55 claimed payments under this section in the prior year and that they have  
56 not experienced a substantial change in circumstances such that they

1 have a reasonable expectation of eligibility in the current year, then  
2 paragraph one of this subdivision shall not apply.

3 (3) Reconciliation of payments advanced and credit allowed. Any  
4 increase in tax under this subdivision shall not be treated as tax  
5 imposed by this chapter for purposes of determining the amount of any  
6 credit (other than the credit allowed by subdivision (d) of section  
7 11-1706 of this chapter) allowable under this chapter.

8 § 3. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall  
9 have become a law and shall apply to taxable years beginning January 1,  
10 2020. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of  
11 any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on  
12 its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before  
13 such effective date.