

## 5 tax-filing tips – PARENTS

*2018 tax year (Individual filing due Tue Apr 30, 2019)*

Being a parent brings great joy and great responsibility, but raising children can put a financial strain on you and the whole family. CRA uses the information in the tax system to determine eligibility for a variety of family-related financial supports. So, tax-filing is not just about paying-up, but also about lining-up that public assistance.



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### 1. Canada child benefit (CCB)

The CCB is a tax-free monthly benefit. From *July-2018-to-June-2019*, the maximum is \$541 for children under 6, and \$457 for children from 6 to 17. These figures are reduced when 2017 adjusted family net income (AFNI) is over \$30,450. For *July-2019-to-June-2020*, the maximums will respectively be \$553 and \$467, reduced at 2018 AFNI of \$31,120.

### 2. Child disability benefit (CDB)

The CDB is paid to families eligible for the CCB, so long as the child qualifies for the disability tax credit. It is a tax-free monthly benefit of up to \$231 for the *July-2018-to-June-2019* program year, reduced at AFNI of \$65,975. For *July-2019-to-June-2020*, the maximum will be \$236, reduced at 2018 AFNI of \$67,426.

### 3. Working income tax benefit (WITB)

The WITB is a refundable tax credit (meaning it is paid to you even if you don't owe taxes) designed to encourage low-income workers to enter and remain in the workforce. Payments vary based on family net income and number of eligible dependants in the family.

### 4. Child care expenses

You may deduct child care expense incurred to allow you to earn income, carry on a business, go to school or conduct research. Generally, these expenses must be claimed by the lower income spouse. Tuition/education, leisure and recreation costs do not qualify.

### 5. Adoption expenses

You can claim a credit for many of the costs related to adopting a child, including adoption agency fees, court/administrative costs, and travel. The eligible time period can range from the ministry application date through to when the child begins living with you.

For more, click here or search "[Overview of child and family benefits](#)" on [canada.ca](#).

**For more tax tips, speak to a Meridian Wealth professional or search at [meridiancu.ca-good-sense](#):**

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|--|---|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-time filers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouses       | <input type="checkbox"/> Students  | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeowners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors/retirees  | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability needs   | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-employed | <input type="checkbox"/> Investors | <input type="checkbox"/> Estates    |