



FINANCIAL NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2024

Take the Pledge at www.LASaves.org

File Your Income Taxes for Free

File with confidence at a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site and keep more of your money.

- IRS-certified volunteers provide free, basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals.
- Persons with disabilities, the elderly, and limited English-speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their tax returns are encouraged to participate.
- If you make less than \$64,000 annually, you may qualify for cash back through the Federal EITC; also, if you make less than \$30,950 annually, you may qualify for even more money on your refund through the Cal EITC. You must file to claim these credits!



Find a VITA site near you at:

<https://www.freetaxprepla.org/>
<https://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep/>
1-800-906-9887

- Federal Earned Income Tax Credit is considered the nation's largest anti-poverty program! The EITC is worth up to \$7,830.
- The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) helps low- to moderate-income workers and families get a tax break. If you qualify, you can use the credit to reduce the taxes you owe – and maybe increase your refund.
- The California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) supports low-income, working Californians. You may be eligible for up to \$3,529 cash back or a reduction of the tax you owe.

The only way to get the EITC is to FILE YOUR TAXES!



Have you heard? California has a Young Child Tax Credit.

Working parents become eligible with their first dollar of earned income.

Make sure to find out if you qualify, and file for FREE: <https://caleitc4me.org/>

GET BANKED



 No check-cashing fees

FDIC

[FDIC.GOV/GETBANKED](https://www.fdic.gov/getbanked)



Fastest way to get your refund is with a bank account!

- The fastest way to get your tax refund is to have it electronically deposited for free into your bank account with a direct deposit. You can even split your refund through a direct deposit to your checking account and your savings account!

- Many FDIC-insured banks offer accounts with free and low cost monthly maintenance fees when you have direct deposit or maintain a minimum balance. They may also offer free access to in-network automated teller machines (ATMs). And, your deposits are insured up to \$250,000. Here are [top reasons to open a bank account](#):

- Resources for finding a low cost bank account: [This checklist](#) can help you compare bank products for the best type of account for your individual needs.

- Find A Bank - The FDIC's BankFind tool can help you locate an FDIC-insured bank in your area. In addition, the following organizations have compiled lists of banks that offer low-cost accounts and accounts that can be opened on-line:

- [Bank On Los Angeles County](#)
- [American Bankers Association](#)
- [Independent Community Bankers of America](#)

1. Your money is safe.
2. Your money is protected against error and fraud.
3. You get your money faster with no check-cashing fees.
4. You can make on-line purchases with ease and peace of mind.
5. You have access to other products from the bank.
6. You can transfer money to family and friends with ease.
7. You have proof of payment.
8. You can keep an eye on how much money you have.
9. You can set useful alerts.
10. You can pay your bills from wherever you are.



When your money is in an FDIC-insured bank, it is protected to at least \$250,000 if the bank fails.

[#IsYourMoneyInsured](#)



How Money Smart Are You? - Learn about everyday financial topics

Find new self-paced on-line games and resources about everyday financial topics at:

[PlayMoneySmart.fdic.gov](https://www.playmoneysmart.fdic.gov)





Wanting to shape your child’s financial development even if you are not an expert on financial concepts? [Money Smart Parent/Caregiver Guides](#) offer practical activities and conversation-starters on common financial topics. The Guide provides topics from Kindergarten to 12th grade.

Save Your Tax Refund in a Safe and Secure Bank Account!

A checking account can help you manage your money and save for the future! The BankOn Los Angeles County coalition is managed by the



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CONSUMER & BUSINESS AFFAIRS
CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

County of Los Angeles Department of Consumer and Business Affairs’ Center for Financial Empowerment. They work with community organizations, County departments, and financial institutions to increase access to mainstream bank accounts. This helps you avoid expensive alternative financial services and puts you on a path to increased savings and financial empowerment! BankOn National Account Standards promote access to low-cost bank accounts with robust features and consumer protections including no overdraft fees, online bill pay functionality, and banking alerts to help you manage your money. Find out more at: <https://dcba.lacounty.gov/bankon/>



APRIL 8 - APRIL 12, 2024

americasavesweek.org

SAVING FOR WHAT MATTERS MOST

SAVE THE DATE

AmericaSavesWeek is a week to pause and do a financial check in with yourself!

Join us for #ASW2024, April 8 – 12 for tips, information, resources, and events promoting financial wellness.

Pledge to Save at www.LASaves.org and follow the national movement #ASW2024



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CONSUMER & BUSINESS AFFAIRS
CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Los Angeles Saves
 @LosAngelesSaves
 @LosAngelesSaves

LACountyDCBA
 @LACountyDCBA

Los Angeles Public Library
 @lapubliclibrary
 @lapl.org

Money Matters at the Los Angeles Public Library!



No matter what your financial goals are – whether it’s making a major purchase, getting out of debt or simply saving more – the library and the Alliance for Economic Inclusion can give you the proven tips and strategies that will help you reach them during America Saves Week.

Library	Date	Time	Phone
Central Library	Monday, April 8	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	(213) 228-7000
Baldwin Hills Branch	Monday, April 8	2-4 p.m.	(323) 733-1196
Vermont Square Branch	Tuesday, April 9	2-4 p.m.	(323) 290-7405
Echo Park Branch	Wednesday, April 10	2-4 p.m.	(213) 250-7808
Mark Twain Branch	Wednesday, April 10	2-4 p.m.	(323) 755-4088
Arroyo Seco Branch	Wednesday, April 10	3-5 p.m.	(323) 255-0537
Exposition Park Branch	Wednesday, April 10	3-5 p.m.	(323) 290-3113
Westchester Branch	Wednesday, April 10	3-5 p.m.	(310) 348-1096
Hyde Park Branch	Thursday, April 11	3-5 p.m.	(323) 750-7241
Pio Pico-Koreatown Branch	Thursday, April 11	3-5 p.m.	(213) 368-7647

If you cannot attend any of these in-person programs, or just want to learn more about the importance of saving money for goals, large purchases, and unexpected expenses, join the library and the Los Angeles Alliance for Economic Inclusion for an online discussion about how to develop a saving plan and prioritize spending when money is short.

Tuesday, April 23 • 12-1 p.m. Streaming Live at youtube.com/@lapubliclibrary



These programs are held in partnership with the Alliance for Economic Inclusion.

For **ADA accommodations**, please call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event.

¡Money Matters en la Biblioteca Pública de Los Ángeles!



No importa el objetivo que elijas, ya sea comprar un automóvil, comprar una casa o salir de tus deudas, aprende sobre estrategias de ahorro y obtén consejos simples sobre las mejores formas de ahorrar durante la semana del ahorro. **Estos programas serán en inglés, pero podremos asistirle si tiene preguntas en español.

Library	Date	Time	Phone
Central Library	Lunes 8 de abril	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	(213) 228-7000
Biblioteca Baldwin Hills	Lunes 8 de abril	2-4 p.m.	(323) 733-1196
Biblioteca Vermont Square	Martes 9 de abril	2-4 p.m.	(323) 290-7405
Biblioteca Echo Park	Miércoles 10 de abril	2-4 p.m.	(213) 250-7808
Biblioteca Mark Twain	Miércoles 10 de abril	2-4 p.m.	(323) 755-4088
Biblioteca Arroyo Seco	Miércoles 10 de abril	3-5 p.m.	(323) 255-0537
Biblioteca Exposition Park	Miércoles 10 de abril	3-5 p.m.	(323) 290-3113
Biblioteca Westchester	Miércoles 10 de abril	3-5 p.m.	(310) 348-1096
Biblioteca Hyde Park	Jueves 11 de abril	3-5 p.m.	(323) 750-7241
Biblioteca Pio Pico-Koreatown	Jueves 11 de abril	3-5 p.m.	(213) 368-7647

Si no puedes asistir a ninguno de estos programas en persona, o simplemente quieres aprender más sobre la importancia de ahorrar dinero para tus metas, compras grandes, y gastos inesperados, únete a la biblioteca y a Los Angeles Alliance for Economic Inclusion (alianza de inclusión económica) a para un programa en línea de estrategias de ahorros y consejos sobre las mejores maneras de ahorrar.

Martes 23 de abril • 12-1 p.m. Transmisión el vivo en [youtube.com/@lapubliclibrary](https://www.youtube.com/@lapubliclibrary)



****Este programa se llevará a cabo en inglés.**

These programs are held in partnership with the Alliance for Economic Inclusion.

Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento.