

# WORK supports

## Work Supports that Work for You

Getting started in an entry-level job can be tough, but we make sure that you have the key supports that will allow you to improve upon your wages and gain greater independence.

Work support benefits give you extra help to make ends meet and stretch your dollars from your new job. These Work Supports include food stamps, public health insurance, the Earned Income Tax Credit, energy assistance and more.

**FIND OUT IF YOU QUALIFY AT [WWW.NYC.GOV/ACCESSNYC](http://WWW.NYC.GOV/ACCESSNYC)**

## You May be Eligible for These Work Supports

### FREE OR LOW COST PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE

Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus are public health insurance programs for New Yorkers whose income is too high to qualify for Medicaid. Other public health programs are the Family Planning Benefit Program, the Prenatal Care Assistance Program, the Women, Infants and Children Program and the Medicaid Buy-in Program for Working People with Disabilities.

### FOOD STAMPS AND NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS

Food allowance is based on household income and living expenses and is available on a monthly benefit card. The application process has been greatly simplified for working adults. Emergency food pantries and community kitchens can also help supplement your food budget.

### EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)

EITC is a tax refund available to help working people. If you qualify, you will receive a tax refund which, if it's more than you owe in taxes, will go directly to you. You must be employed and you must file an income tax return, even if you don't owe taxes. New York also has a special Earned Income Tax Credit for Noncustodial Parents, called the NCP EITC. To qualify for the NCP EITC, you must be a parent without custody of your child.

### CHILD CARE

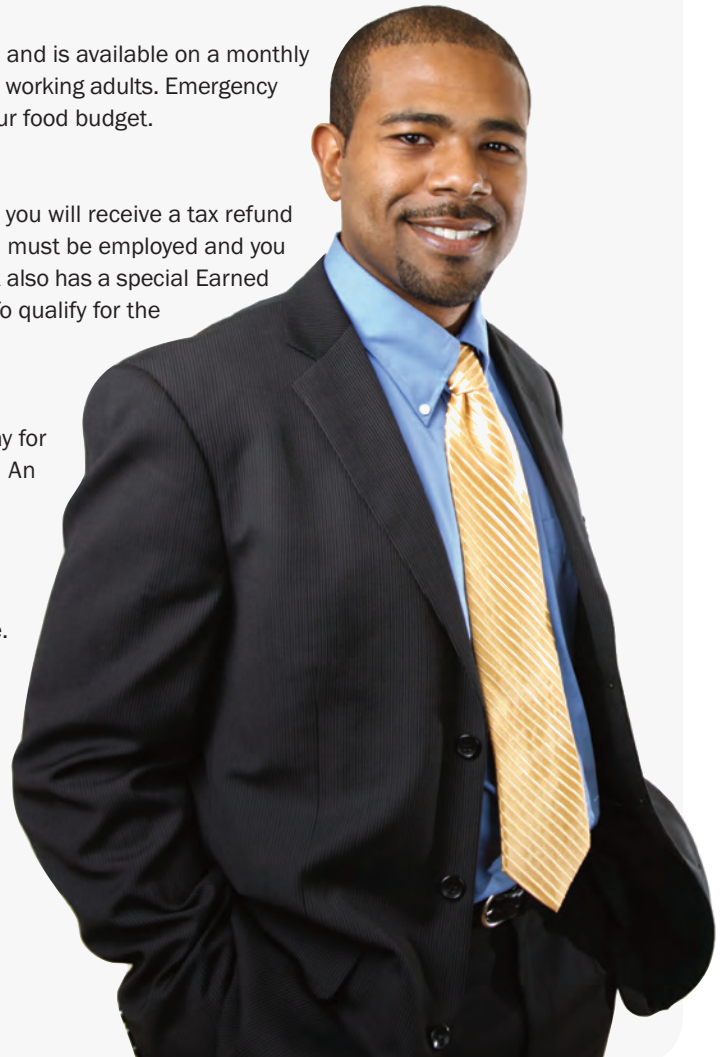
Federal, State and local tax credits are available to help families pay for child care expenses and for the care of a disabled dependent. An educational tax credit for tuition expenses is available as well.

### TRANSITIONAL CHILDCARE

Parents leaving temporary cash assistance for employment with children in daycare may qualify for transitional subsidized childcare.

### CHILD SUPPORT

The financial contribution of both parents is critical in helping families rise out of poverty. New programs have been developed offering a range of services and a support network to help underemployed noncustodial parents become financially and emotionally responsible parents to their children.



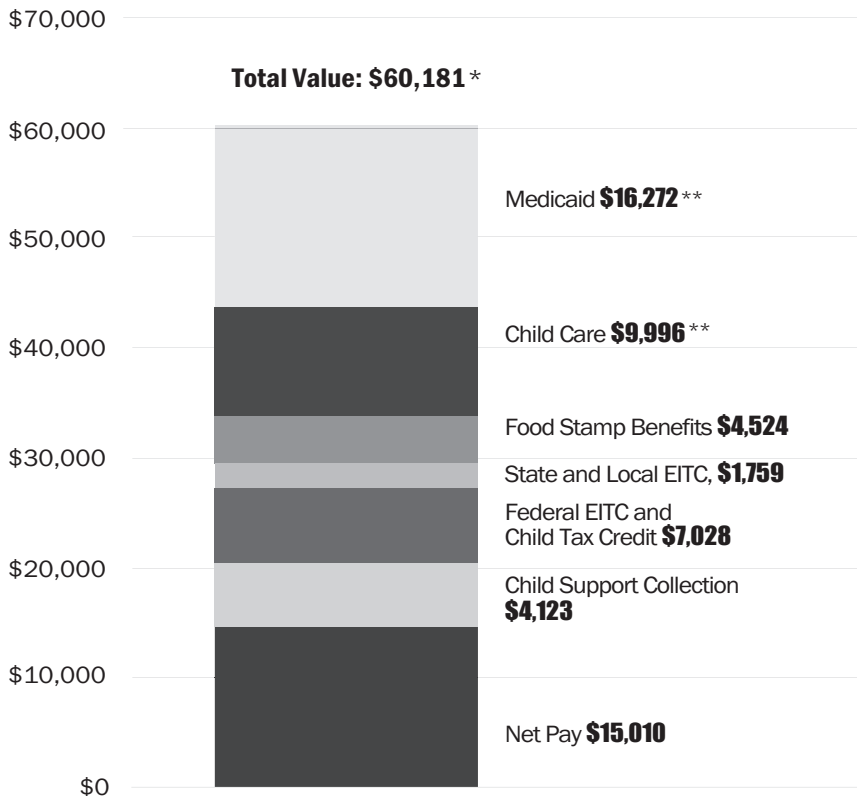
## This example shows how a combination of supports can raise you and your family out of poverty.

Corrine is a single mother with two children, Michael, age 4, and Angela, age 7. She received training while on cash assistance and was hired as a customer service representative at an entry level salary of \$9.00 per hour. Her net earnings at this time are \$15,010 after taxes. These still fall below the family poverty level of \$18,310.

However, a network of supports has been created to raise the standard of living for low-income working families. By applying for the incentives and benefits for which her family is eligible, Corinne raises the value of her earnings from \$15,010 to \$60,181.



A household with 2 children where the parent makes \$9 per hour for 35 hrs per week, can increase the value of a year's salary.



\* The numbers used in this chart are based on the above example of \$9 per hour at 35 hours per week, and the eligibility requirement for each support available. Your income's total value will vary depending on your eligibility and earnings.

\*\* Medicaid and Child Care amounts are not cash payments but represent the value of the benefit a client may be eligible for.

## For Assistance With Other Services Call 311 Or Visit [nyc.gov/HRA](http://nyc.gov/HRA)

### ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps eligible households with grants to pay heating costs.

NYC's Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) provides a variety of programs and services designed to help low- and middle-income apartment seekers and homebuyers find affordable housing in the five boroughs. HPD maintains a list of City-sponsored affordable homes that is available online as well as through the Affordable Housing Hotline, and administers the Mitchell-Lama Program which provides affordable housing for qualifying low- and moderate-income residents. HPD also has a loan program, offers down payment assistance, and has information about housing lotteries for homebuyers and renters. More information is available at [NYC.gov/hpd](http://NYC.gov/hpd) or 311.

### AVAILABLE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

For participants enrolled in an HRA employment program and who are successful in gaining employment, qualifying candidates can receive monthly Metro cards for up to six months, post-placement retention services, business attire, and monetary incentives to assist them in their transition to work.