



# Education Credits Online Resource Guide



## What is AOTC?

The [American Opportunity Tax Credit](#) is a refundable tax credit for college education expenses paid by the student, parent(s) or any other person providing payment on behalf of the student. The AOTC applies to the first four years of college education and the student must attend at least half-time. AOTC provides up to \$2,500 in tax credits on the first \$4,000 of qualifying educational expenses including course materials and tuition. Up to 40 percent of the credit is refundable. This means \$1000 of it can generate a refund to you or reduce your overall tax liability. There are income restrictions when claiming AOTC.

## What is LLC?

The [Lifetime Learning Credit](#) is a non-refundable tax credit. This credit provides up to \$2,000 in tax credits per tax return on the first \$10,000 of college tuition expenses. You can claim qualifying expenses for any level of college or education courses to advance or improve job skills. With the Lifetime Learning Credit there is no minimum enrollment requirement or limit on the number of years you can claim the credit.

Still not sure which credit is most beneficial for you to claim?

Check out the [Comparison Chart](#) between AOTC and Lifetime Learning Credit. This side-by-side comparison may help you determine which credit works best for you and your family.

### Tuition and Fees Deduction

You may be able to deduct qualified education expenses paid during the year for you, your spouse or your dependent. The tuition and fees deduction can reduce the amount of your taxable income up to \$4,000. You claim this deduction on [Form 8917](#), *Tuition and Fees Deduction*.

## On-line Products to Share

Interactive Tool	Publications & Forms	More Resources
<a href="#">Am I eligible to claim an Education Credit?</a>  Find out if you, your child or spouse are eligible to claim an Education Credit.	<a href="#">Publication 970</a> <i>Tax Benefits for Education</i> (English & Spanish)  <a href="#">Publication 4772</a> <i>American Opportunity Tax Credit Flyer</i> ( <a href="#">Chinese</a> , <a href="#">Korean</a> , <a href="#">Spanish</a> , <a href="#">Russian</a> & <a href="#">Vietnamese</a> )  <a href="#">Publication 4772A</a> <i>American Opportunity Tax Credit Poster</i> <a href="#">Publication 4982</a> <i>Tuition Statements Flyer</i>  <a href="#">Form 8863</a> , <i>Education Credits (American Opportunity and Lifetime Learning Credits)</i>  <a href="#">Form1098-T</a> <i>Tuition Statement</i>  <a href="#">Form 1098-E</a> <i>Student Loan Interest Statement</i>  <a href="#">Inst 1098-E and 1098-T</a> <i>Instructions for Forms 1098-E and 1098-T, Student Loan Interest Statement and Tuition Statement</i>	<a href="#">Publication 929</a> , <i>Tax Rules for Children and Dependents</i>  <a href="#">Publication 519</a> , <i>The U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens</i> , will help to determine an individual’s status as well as gives information needed to file a tax return.  <a href="#">Tax Benefits for Education: Information Center</a>  Department of Education website at: <a href="#">www.ed.gov</a>

## Learn More About AOTC and LLC

No matter which credit you take, AOTC and LLC are both valuable credits that can help pay the high cost of education. Click below to use any of our social media products or visit the Education Credits page at [www.irs.gov](#) to find out more about AOTC, LLC and other tax related education benefits.



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