

January 4, 2017

RE: 2016 Tax Exemption for Parents of Children with Disabilities

The Oregon tax code provides an additional tax exemption for parents of eligible children with disabilities in Oregon. The procedure for claiming an exemption for the 2016 tax year is explained in the Oregon Individual Income Tax Return and instruction booklets.

Who qualifies for the exemption?

A child qualifies if he or she meets **all** of the following criteria:

- Qualifies as a dependent of the parent(s) for tax year 2016;
- Is eligible for early intervention services (birth to age 3), early childhood special education services (ages 3 to 5) or receives special education as defined by the State Board of Education of the state where the child attends school;
- Is considered to have a disability as of December 31, 2016 under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and related Oregon laws.

What documentation must be submitted with the tax return to qualify for this exemption?

As the tax instruction booklet indicates, the child must have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), as well as a current eligibility statement as a student with a disability. If you do not have these documents contact your District for a copy of the IEP/IFSP cover sheet, and eligibility statement. Copies of the IEP/IFSP cover sheet and eligibility statement are not required to be submitted with the tax return. However, parents are advised to retain a copy with their 2016 tax records as the Oregon Department of Revenue may ask the parents to provide such documentation. If you have any Special Education related questions, please contact Jeremy Wells at the Oregon Department of Education, Office of Student Services, at 503-947-5782.

Oregon Department of Revenue Online Instructions and Forms

For further information and assistance in completing Oregon tax forms, consult a tax professional or contact the **Oregon Department of Revenue at 1-800-356-4222**. Oregon income tax forms/publications are available at the DOR website (www.oregon.gov/DOR).