## P+P TAX TIP: MINNESOTA NEWBORN CREDIT

## **Overview**

Minnesota has special rules for the state Child and Dependent Care Credit that allow taxpayers to claim the credit for babies born in the tax year even if the taxpayer did not pay for child care expenses. This newborn credit is calculated based on the taxpayer's income and \$3,000 of expenses for one child or \$6,000 of expenses for two children born in the tax year. The taxpayer (or spouse) must have some earned income to qualify. In tax years prior to 2023, taxpayers must have been filing jointly to claim this credit using the special rules for newborns.

To claim the credit for newborns, extra TaxSlayer data entry is needed!

## **TaxSlayer data entry**

When the taxpayer has child care expenses, the details for the Minnesota Child and Dependent Care Credit will automatically transfer from data entry in the Federal section of TaxSlayer. However, to claim the newborn credit when the taxpayer did not have actual expenses, special data entry is needed in the State section. Follow these steps and use screenshots and notes below as guidance.

- 1. Navigate to the State section.
- 2. Click on the Credits section.
- 3. Click on the Child and Dependent Care Credit section.
- 4. Select Yes to the question about a child born in the tax year.
- 5. Click on the worksheet for a child born in the tax year.
- 6. Calculate and enter the Earned Income amount for the taxpayer (and spouse if filing jointly).
  - To calculate Earned Income, add together total wages (Form W2, box 1) and netself employment income.
- 7. Click Continue several times and then click Exit Minnesota Return. The credit will calculate automatically on Schedule M1CD based on the earned income entries and the taxpayer's total income.



