

2015-2016 Iowa Property Tax Credit Claim

Who is Eligible?

- Iowa Residents
- Total household income less than \$22,011

And one of the following applies:

- 65 years of age or older by December 31, 2014.
- Totally disabled and 18 years of age or older by December 31, 2014.

Note: A claim for property tax credit may be filed on behalf of a deceased person by the person's spouse, attorney, guardian, or administrator. To be eligible the deceased person must have been an Iowa resident at the time of death.

If two or more persons occupying a home qualify for a credit, each person may file a claim based on each person's income and each person's share of property tax due. Married couples are considered one household and may file only one claim and must combine their incomes.

Mobile/Manufactured/Modular Homes:

A claim for property tax credit may be filed if your mobile, manufactured, or modular home was assessed as real estate. If your mobile, manufactured, or modular home was not assessed as real estate, you may claim a credit on the property taxes due on the land where the home is located, if you own the land.

If your home is subject to the annual tax based on square footage, you may be eligible for a reduced square footage tax. Your county treasurer has the details on the Mobile/Manufactured/Modular Home Reduced Tax Rate Program.

Due Date:

This claim must be filed with your county treasurer on or before June 1, 2015. The treasurer may extend the filing deadline to September 30, 2015, The Director of Revenue may extend the filing deadline through December 31, 2016, for good cause.

Assistance:

Location of your county treasurer can be found at www.iowatreasurers.org or www.iowataxandtags.gov/.

For information about your Social Security benefits go to the Social Security Administration website (www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount/).

Instructions:

Line 3b: "Totally disabled" means the inability to engage in any substantial gainful employment by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or is reasonably expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. Current proof of disability must be included with your claim. This must be:

- A current statement from the Veteran's Administration that in 2014 you were receiving a disability benefit due to 100% disability, or
- A copy of the current Social Security Administration document stating the date the disability began, or
- A written statement from your doctor noting the beginning date of disability and whether the disability is permanent or temporary.

Claims without proper documentation will be denied. Proof of disability is not required if you were 65 years of age or older.

Line 4: Mark "Yes" if you are a resident of a nursing home or care facility. If not, mark "No." If you are living in a nursing home or care facility, you are eligible for the property tax credit on your homestead if it is not being rented to someone else. If it is being rented, you are not eligible to file a property tax credit claim, but you may be able to file a rent reimbursement claim based upon the rent payment you made to the nursing home.

Line 6: Mark "Yes" if part of your home was rented or used for business purposes during 2014. If not, mark "No." If you marked "Yes," you are entitled to a credit of property tax due on only that portion of the home utilized as the dwelling place by you and your spouse.

If you answered "yes", on line 6 calculate the percentage of property tax that is allowable for a credit by determining the square footage of the home, utilized as the personal dwelling, in proportion to the square footage of the entire home. Enter this percentage in the space provided below line 6.

Example: Personal square footage used = 750, total square footage = 1,000. The percentage = 75%.

Household Income:

Household income includes your income and your spouse's income, if living together, and monetary contributions received from any other person living with you. If you and your spouse do not live together, you may file separate claims.

If you received a property tax credit in 2014, do not report this as income.

Income reported for purpose of this application may be different than that reported on an income tax return.

Line 8: Wages, salaries, unemployment compensation, tips, etc. - Enter the total wages, salaries, unemployment compensation, tips, bonuses, and commissions received.

Line 9: In-kind assistance - Enter any portion of your housing expenses, including utilities that were paid for you. Do not enter Federal Energy Assistance.

Line 10: Title 19 benefits - Enter your Title 19 benefits received for housing only. Do not include medical benefits. If you live in a nursing home or care facility, contact the administrator for the amount to enter, or

- enter 20% of your benefits if you lived in a nursing home, or
- 40% if you lived in a care facility.

Line 11: Social Security income - Enter the total Social Security benefits received, even if not reportable for income tax purposes. Include any Medicare premiums withheld.

Line 12: Disability income - Enter the total received for disability or injury compensation, even if not reportable for income tax purposes.

Line 13: All pensions and annuities - Enter the total received from pensions and annuities. Include retirement pay for military service, even if not reportable for income tax purposes.

Line 14: Interest and dividend income - Enter taxable interest income, plus all interest income from federal, state, and municipal securities.

Enter taxable dividends and distributions received. Include cash dividends and dividends paid in the form of merchandise or other property and report at fair market value.

Line 15: Profit from business and/or farming and capital gain - Enter profit from business and/or farming, and any gain received from the sale or exchange of capital assets. Capital losses are limited to the same amount that you are allowed to report for income tax purposes. Any

loss must be offset against gain, and a net loss must be reported as zero.

Line 16: Actual money received - Enter money received from others. Do not include goods and services received.

Line 17: Other income - Enter total income received from the following sources:

- a. Child support and alimony payments.
- b. Welfare payments. Report FIP, children's SSI, and all other welfare program cash payments. Do not include foster grandparents' stipends or non-cash government assistance (food, clothing, food stamps, medical supplies, etc.)
- c. Insurance income not reported elsewhere.
- d. Gambling, and all other income not reported elsewhere.

Treasurer's Instructions:

Line C: Follow the steps below.

1. Obtain the taxable value of the land in the homestead for January 1, 2014, from the city or county assessor's office.
2. Divide line B by line A.
3. Multiply result from step 2 by number in step 1.
4. Enter the result in step 3 on Line C.

Line D: Obtain the taxable value of the homestead buildings for January 1, 2014, from the city or county assessor's office. Multiply this number by the percentage provided by the claimant on Line 6 of the form. Enter the result on Line D.

Line J: If line 5b was answered yes enter the prorated gross property tax on line J or, if applicable, the prorated property tax base on line L.

Example: There are three owners of a home, but only two reside there. The gross property taxes equal \$1,800. The prorated amount to be entered on line J is \$1,200, because \$1,800 divided by 3 = \$600. Each person may file a claim using their share of the property taxes. Prorate the Homestead Credit proportionately.

Line L: This percentage is to be used in computing the amount to enter on line J or, if applicable, the prorated property tax base on line L. This computation will adjust the taxes on the land in the homestead in the same proportion.