

Get Up To A \$1,500 Energy Tax Credit For New Heating/Air Conditioning, Windows, Etc.

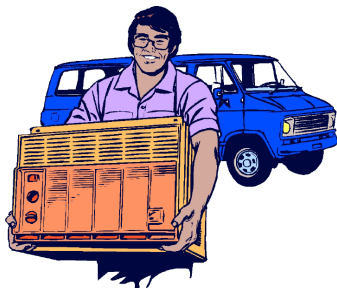
A Tax Guide for 2010 Flood Victims
Issue 6

Federal disaster area counties: Benton, Cannon, Carroll, Cheatham, Chester, Clay, Crockett, Davidson, Decatur, Dyer, DeKalb, Dickson, Fayette, Gibson, Giles, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Hickman, Houston, Jackson, Humphreys, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Lewis, Macon, Madison, Marshall, Maury, McNairy, Montgomery, Obion, Perry, Putnam, Robertson, Rutherford, Shelby, Smith, Stewart, Sumner, Tipton, Trousdale, Wayne, Williamson and Wilson.

Special tax rules apply to everyone living in these 46 counties. This part may help you even if you didn't have flood damage. Don't live in one of these counties? Then talk to a tax expert or go to the IRS web site at www.irs.gov.

Energy Tax Credits

Are you putting in new heating/air conditioners (HVAC), windows or insulation? If they save energy, you can get a tax credit. You don't have to have flood damage to get the credit.



How much tax credit can I get?

You can claim 30% of what the items costs. The most you can claim is \$1,500.

Does it matter what kind I buy?

Yes. Only certain items can get the energy tax credit. Ask the seller for the papers. There may be a **Manufacturer's Certification Statement** that shows it can get the credit. Get it where you buy the items. Or get it from the person who installs the item. Want to know more about what items get the tax credit? Go to www.energystar.gov.

Important! You must have proof

You need proof the things you bought meet the energy tax rules.

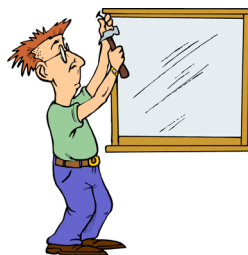
- Keep all your receipts.
- Leave the labels on windows and heating/air conditioners that show the energy rating.
- Keep all labels from the National Fenestration Rating Council.

Use Form 5695 to Claim the Energy Tax Credit

The energy tax credit up to a maximum of \$1,500 should be claimed on Form 5695, Residential Energy Tax Credit. It is with this paper. Or get it at the IRS web site (www.irs.gov).

What year can you claim the tax credit?

You must claim it the year you put in (install) the items. Was it in 2010? Then claim it on your 2010 tax return.



Was it in 2009? Then claim it on your 2009 tax return. Already filed your 2009 tax return but didn't claim the energy tax credit? You can file a changed (amended) 2009 tax return. Use IRS form 1040X.

Legal Aid Society

of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberland

1-800-238-1443 It's a free call.

On the internet at www.las.org

NOTE: Robert B. Nadler, a lawyer with Legal Aid Society, wrote this information. It cannot take the place of advice from a lawyer. Each case is different and needs individual legal advice.