

ENERGY TAX CREDIT INFORMATION

On February 17, 2009 President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009. This bill modified tax credits for windows, doors and skylights established in the Energy Policy of 2005. This covers improvements made to your principal residence. This credit does not apply to new construction homes.

The following guidance is not intended as legal advice and you should consult your tax professional with specific questions.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is the amount I can claim on my taxes for the purchase of new windows and doors?

The tax credit covers 30% of your purchase price for qualified windows and doors. The maximum allowed for COMBINED purchases per household, per year is \$1500.00 covering improvements made to your principal residence between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010. This amount DOES NOT include labor for installation.

What are the guidelines for qualifying?

Windows and doors must have SHGC (solar heat gain coefficient) of $<.30$ AND a U-Value of $<.30$. These ratings are listed on the NFRC (national fenestration rating council) label on windows and doors. NFRC is the only federally recognized organization for determining the energy performance of windows, doors and skylights. Most manufacturers' websites also have NFRC ratings listed. In addition, you should obtain a "Manufacturer's Certification Statement" with your purchase for use in filing your taxes.

Energy Star labels vs. Energy Tax Credit

From January 1-May 31, 2009 all ENERGY STAR qualified windows and doors qualify. From June 1, 2009-December 31, 2010 some ENERGY STAR rated products may not qualify for the tax credit. Energy Star ratings can change and are based on geographical zones. However, the SHGC $<.30$ and U-Value $<.30$ ratings remain the same to qualify for the tax credit.

What if the door I want does not qualify for the credit?

While most windows and patio doors meet the criteria based on glass upgrades, some exterior doors & frames do not. You should weigh the benefit of a 30% reduction in price against the modification of the design and features you want. For instance, the wood entry door you want would cost an additional \$700.00 for a qualified frame—only to save \$300.00 on your taxes.

Helpful Links:

NFRC: www.nfrc.org

Energy Star & Tax Credit: www.ENERGY STAR tax credit

[Http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?=-tax_credits.tx_index](http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?=-tax_credits.tx_index)