



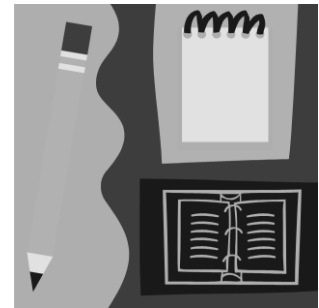
Back to School Tax Reminder: Minnesota Education Credit and Subtraction

Save Your School Supply Receipts for Your State Tax Return!

You might be able to claim a state tax **credit** or **subtraction** for costs that have to do with your child's education. This covers children in kindergarten through high school.

The Credit

Your credit is limited to 75 percent of your qualifying expenses that you paid during the year for your qualifying child's K–12 education, up to the maximum amounts. The remaining 25 percent of qualifying expenses cannot be used to claim the subtraction. The maximum credit you may claim is based on your household income and the number of qualifying children you have in grades K–12.



Check the chart [Household Income for the K-12 Education Credit](#) on the Minnesota Department of Revenue site <http://www.revenue.state.mn.us>. "Income" includes all nontaxable income, like cash public assistance and relief.

The Subtraction

Income doesn't matter for the subtraction. The subtraction is limited to \$1,625 for each qualifying child in grades K-6 and \$2,500 for each qualifying child in grades 7-12.

For children in 6th and 7th grades, use the limit for the child's grade level at the end of the tax year. For children who started college during the tax year, use the 12th grade limit. But you can only subtract qualifying education expenses from high school.

What do I need to claim the credit or subtraction?

To claim the credit or subtraction save all the receipts when you buy your children's school supplies, including pencils, pens, crayons, notebooks, calculators, etc.

You can also claim expenses for things like:

- Tutors
- Academic textbooks
- Fees paid to others for transportation
- Music lessons
- After school academic programs
- Academic summer camps

You can also claim the cost of computer hardware and educational software up to \$200.

Forms

To claim the credit, fill out Schedule M1ED with your Minnesota State Tax Form. To take the subtraction when your household income is over the maximum for the credit, use the worksheets in the Schedule M1ED Instructions. **Remember** you MUST keep the receipts from your purchases to claim the credit or subtraction. You cannot use the same expenses to claim both the credit and the subtraction. If you are married and filing a separate return, you do NOT get the credit.

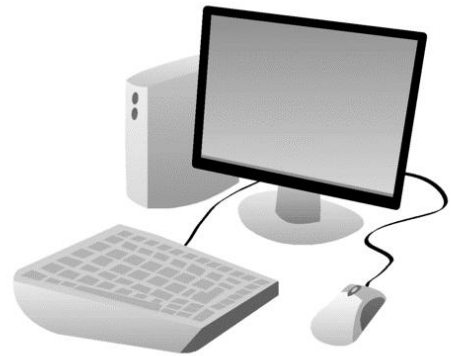
More Information

For more information and a more detailed list of what expenses can be claimed go to the Minnesota Department of Revenue Website <http://www.revenue.state.mn.us> and enter the search term "Education Credit and Subtraction."

Get Help

To make sure you get the refund you should, visit a **free** tax preparation site. To find a free site call (651) 297-3724 or (800) 543-7709.

Visit www.irs.gov/vita to learn more about Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE).



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