

Tax Credits, or Filling out forms and making money



COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO – MAY 2016

Rehabilitation Tax Credits



Federal Investment
Tax Credit

Established **1978**



State Tax Credit for Historic
Preservation

Established **1990**

Rehabilitation: What is it?

The process of making a property useful again, through repair, alterations, and/or additions while preserving those features which are significant to its historic, architectural, and cultural values.



Tax Credits

- A credit directly reduces the amount of tax owed to the government.
- \$1.00 of credit = \$1.00 in tax reduction.
- Credits equal 20% or 10% of the project cost.
- \$100,000 project would generate \$20,000 in tax credits.

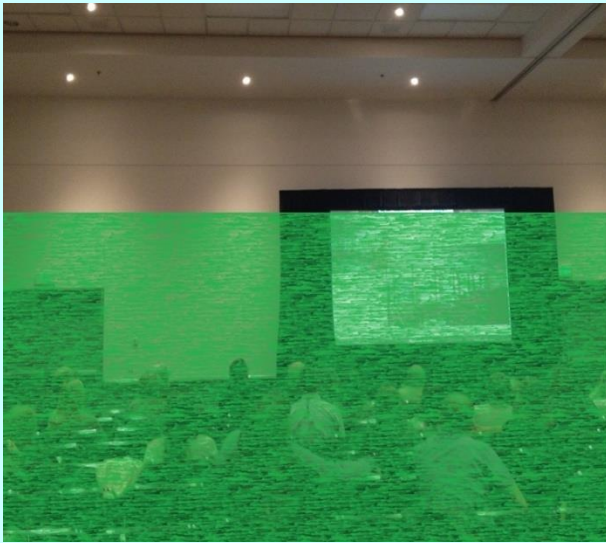


Tax Credits

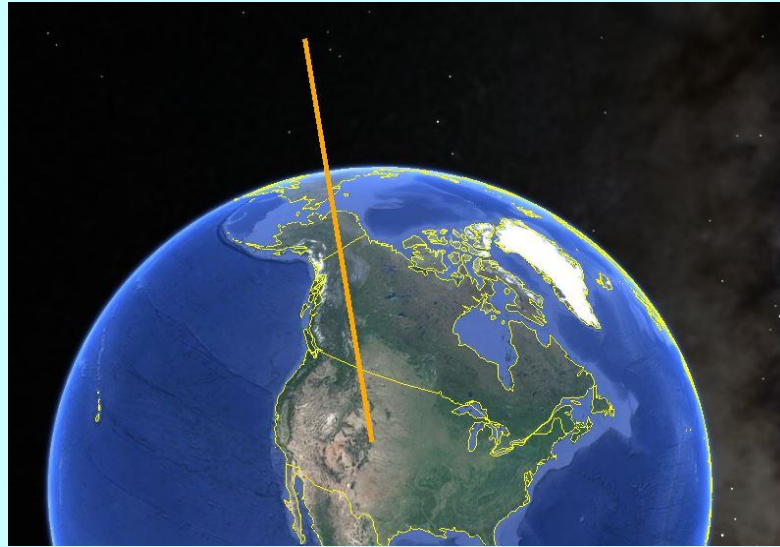
- Since 1990, Colorado has had nearly **200** completed federal tax credit projects and over **1000** completed state tax credit projects.
- More than **\$800 million** has been spent on tax credit projects since 1990, and applicants have saved more than **\$150 million**.



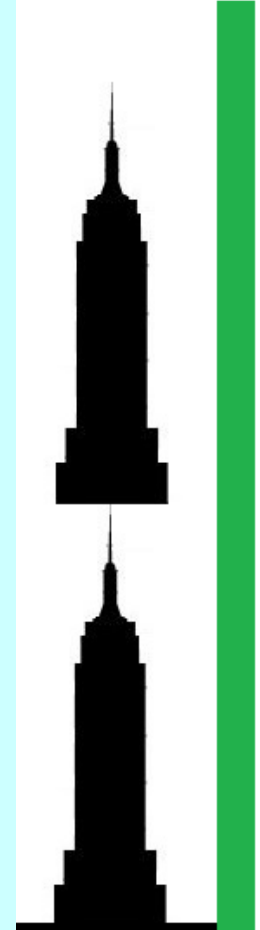
Tax Credits



A pile of \$1 bills
filling this room
12 feet deep



A stack of pennies
75,000 miles high

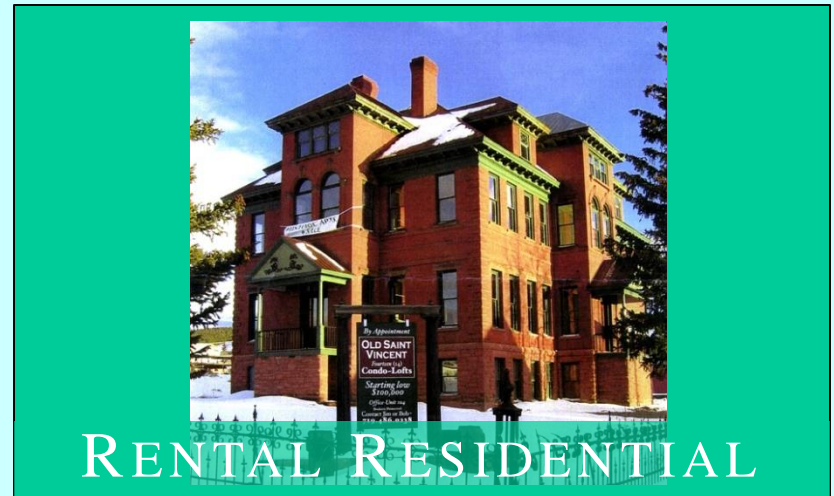
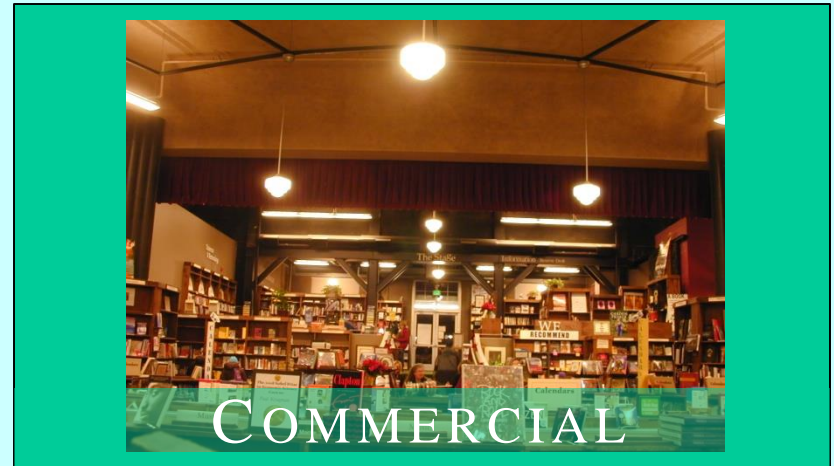


A stack of \$100 bills twice the height
of the **Empire State Building**

How much is
\$800 million?

Tax Credits - Federal

Applies to
income-producing
properties



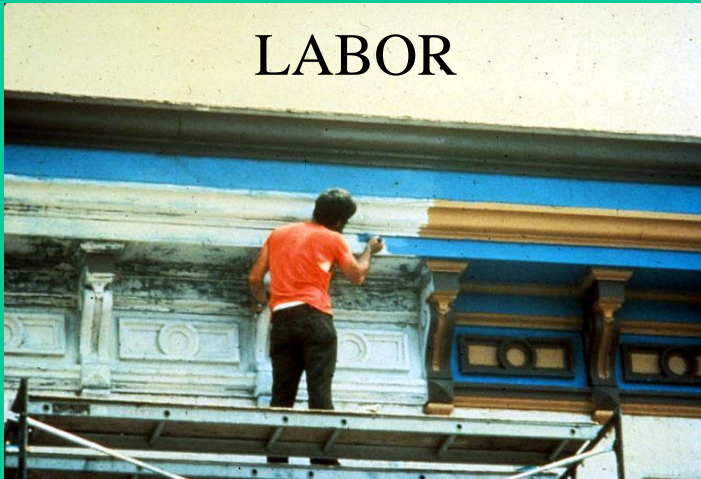
Tax Credits - Federal

MATERIALS



20% of costs
associated with
materials & labor

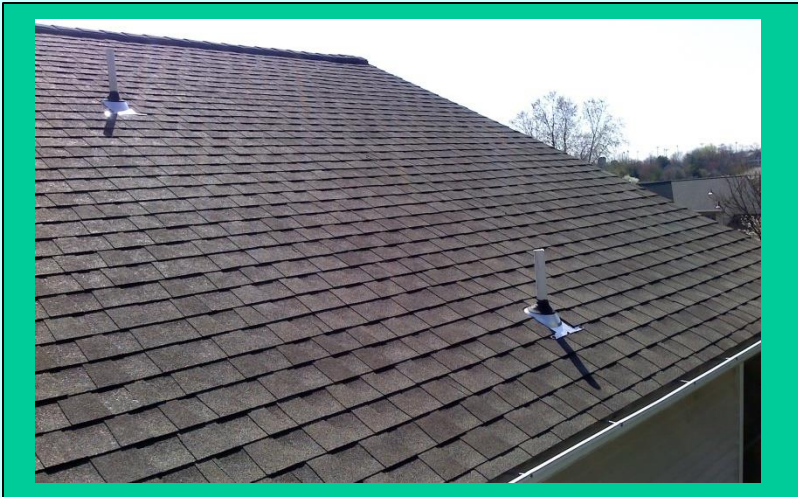
LABOR



MATERIALS



Tax Credits - Federal

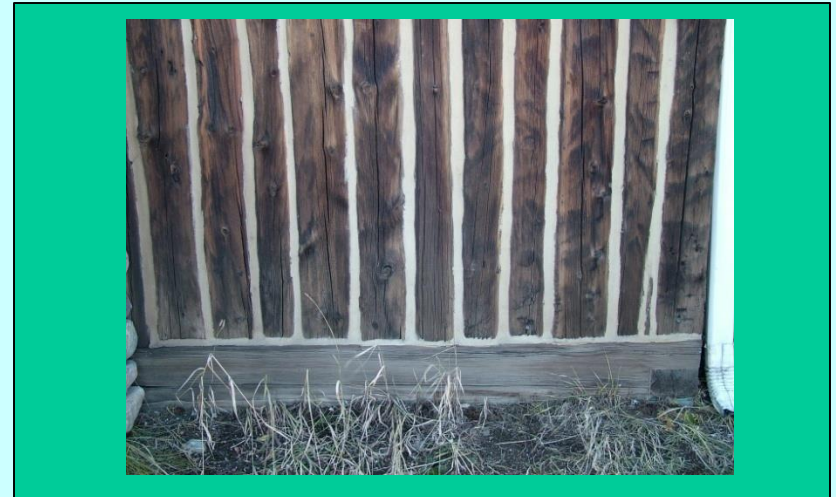


Not just restoring
also covers new
materials

Tax Credits - Federal



Projects must be completed within 24 months of starting work.



Tax Credits



Northern Hotel
Fort Collins

\$4.5 million in costs

\$**908K** in tax credits



Tax Credits – Current State

- More than 50 years old
- Designated:
 - National Register
 - State Register
 - Local Landmark
 - Contributes to a historic district



Tax Credits – Current State

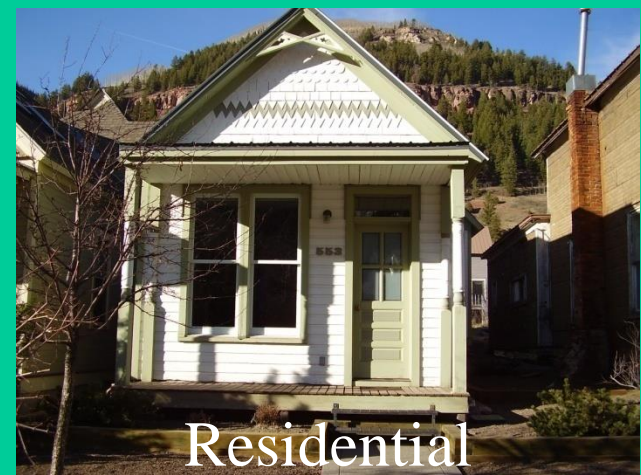
Applies to
ALL properties
(even residential)



Commercial



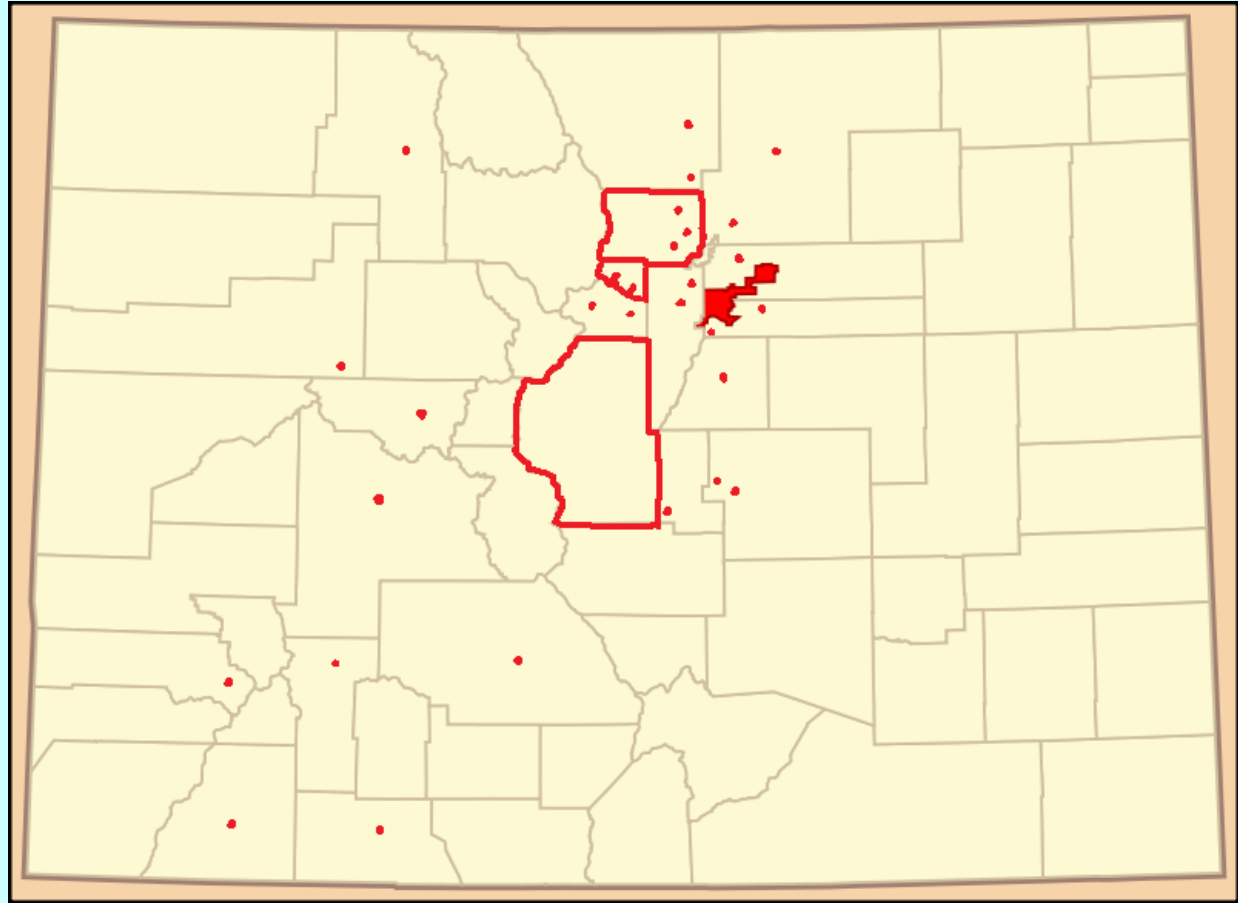
Industrial



Residential

Tax Credits – Current State

30 towns and
3 counties
review state
tax credit
applications



CLGs that review State Tax Credits
(as of February 2015)

The Standards

- Work must follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

The screenshot displays the official website for the National Park Service's standards for historic building rehabilitation. The header features the National Park Service logo and the title "STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION AND GUIDELINES FOR REHABILITATING HISTORIC BUILDINGS". The main content area is titled "standards for rehabilitation" in a large, bold, yellow font. To the right of this title is a small image of a building facade with the word "SPRA" visible. Below the title, a list of 10 guidelines is presented, detailing the requirements for historic building rehabilitation. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar titled "-GUIDELINES-" which lists various categories of guidelines, including "The Approach", "Exterior Materials", "Exterior Features", "Interior Features", "Site", "Setting", and "Special Requirements". At the bottom of the page, there is a navigation bar with links for "HISTORICAL OVERVIEW", "PRESERVING", "rehabilitating", "RESTORING", and "RECONSTRUCTING", as well as links for "main", "credits", and "email".

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION AND GUIDELINES FOR REHABILITATING HISTORIC BUILDINGS

standards for rehabilitation

34 SPRA

-GUIDELINES-

[The Approach](#)

Exterior Materials

[Masonry](#)

[Wood](#)

[Architectural Metals](#)

Exterior Features

[Roofs](#)

[Windows](#)

[Entrances + Porches](#)

[Storefronts](#)

Interior Features

[Structural System](#)

[Spaces/Features/Finishes](#)

[Mechanical Systems](#)

[Site](#)

[Setting](#)

Special Requirements

[Energy Efficiency](#)

[New Additions](#)

[Accessibility](#)

[Health + Safety](#)

[THE STANDARDS](#)

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in a such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Guidelines for Rehabilitation-->

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW - PRESERVING - **rehabilitating** - RESTORING - RECONSTRUCTING

[main](#) - [credits](#) - [email](#)

The Standards



- Work should protect and retain the things that make the building historic
- **Repair** if possible
- Replace in-kind
- Replace with similar
- Additions and changes should not alter building's character or integrity

The Standards

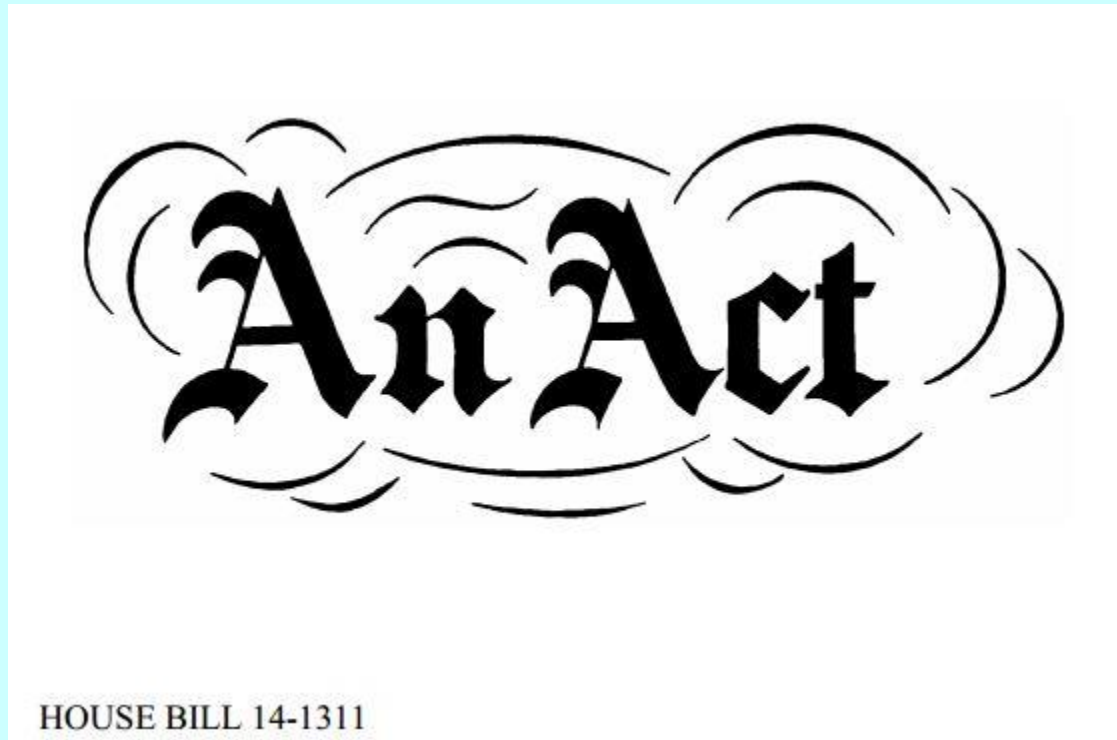


YES



NYET

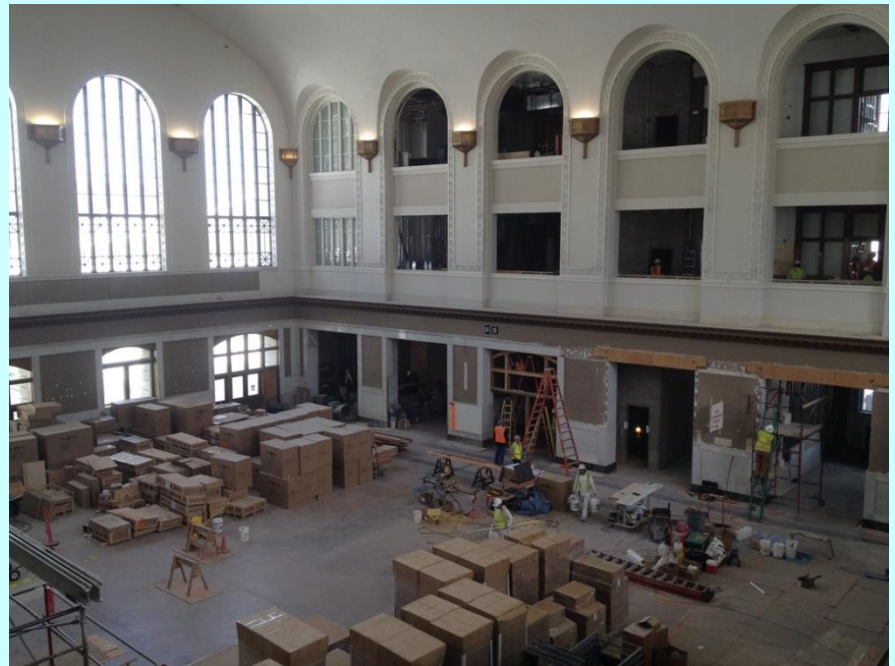
The NEW State Tax Credit



- House Bill 14-1311 is the Colorado Job Creation and Main Street Revitalization Act of 2014.
- Signed into law on May 14th, 2014.

The NEW State Tax Credit

- Continues the existing 20% tax credit for residential properties.
- Sets aside two pools of state money that owners of commercial properties can draw from.
- Raises the per-project cap on commercial from **\$50,000** to **\$1,000,000**.



The NEW State Tax Credit



OLD commercial credit:
maximum of \$50,000 per
project, regardless of
actual costs.



NEW commercial credit: sets aside two
pools of money for projects:
--\$2.5 million for big projects;
--\$2.5 million for small projects.

Rises to **\$5 million** each in 2017.

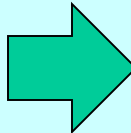
The NEW State Tax Credit

- Commercial credit increased to **25%** for projects under \$2 million.
- Commercial credit can be **sold or transferred** to other taxpayers.
- **Non-profit** owners can apply for credits and sell them to help finance a project.
- Tax credits are available **every year**, regardless of general fund growth.



The NEW State Tax Credit

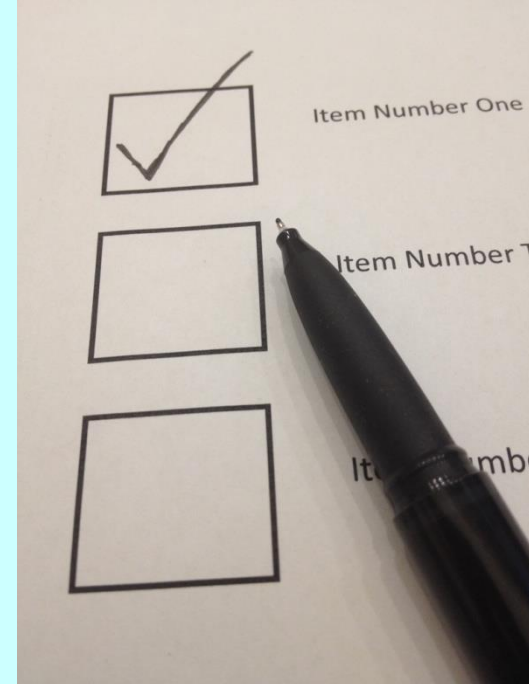
- Owners who live in areas that have been designated as a federal or state disaster area can claim **an additional 5% of credit** for up to 6 years after the declaration of disaster.



The New State Tax Credit

HOW IT WORKS:

- Visit the OEDIT tax credit website (to be developed) and register for the program.
- Submit the application and rehab plan.
- SHPO and OEDIT will review the project materials to see if they are complete.
- If complete, a tax credit is reserved.
- Reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis.



The New State Tax Credit

- SHPO conducts detailed review to determine if project meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
- 90-day review period + two 30-day review holds (for when more info is needed).
- Upon SHPO approval, tax credits are officially reserved.
- Work must begin **within 12 months**.
- Credits are claimed at end of project.



The New State Tax Credit

- The residential side of the New State Tax Credit is nearly identical to the old credit.
- Eliminates 5-year holding rule
- Can take every year regardless of state's finances
- Cap of \$50,000 per property, but **resets back to zero** after ten years or sale to new owner.

The New State Tax Credit

- Residential properties also benefit from the extra 5% credit for being in a disaster area.
- Reviews are still conducted by the SHPO or by local governments, same as now.

