

## Arizona Tax Credits - 2015

The State of Arizona offers multiple tax credits for **individual** taxpayers. The tax credits include credits for contributions to public schools, private school tuition organizations, certain charitable organization, foster care organizations, and to the Arizona Military Family Relief Fund.

*You may take advantage of all of these tax credit programs in the same year, although the current year tax credit is allowed only to the extent of your current year Arizona state income tax.*

Any unused credits may be carried forward for five years. In addition to receiving a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of your Arizona income tax for each of these payments, you may also be eligible to claim the contributions as itemized deductions on your Federal income tax return.

Please call us if you have questions about how you can maximize your state tax credits.

### Arizona Public School Tax Credits

- Credit of up to **\$200 for a single taxpayer and \$400 for married taxpayers filing jointly** for a direct donation or payment of fees to an Arizona (K-12) public school for the support of extracurricular activities such as participation on athletic teams, the band, club memberships, field trips, lab fees, etc. Please note that charter schools qualify for the public school tax credit. See <http://ade.az.gov/edd/>

### Arizona Private School Tuition Organization Tax Credits

The private school tuition organization tax credit and the “overflow” tax credit are available for contributions to a qualified school tuition organization that provides scholarships or grants to students attending qualified private schools.

See <https://www.azdor.gov/TaxCredits/SchoolTaxCreditsforIndividuals.aspx#private>

The 2015 limits are listed below:

- Original credit of up to **\$535 for a single taxpayer and \$1,070 for married taxpayers filing a jointly** for contributions to a school tuition organization that provides scholarships or grants to students attending private schools.
- Overflow credit of up to **\$532 for a single taxpayer and \$1,064 for married taxpayers filing jointly** for additional "overflow" contributions to a school tuition organization that provides scholarships or grants to certain qualifying students attending private schools. To qualify for this additional tax credit, the Arizona taxpayer must first donate the maximum to the original school tuition organization tax credit

## **Qualified Charity Tax Credit (Formerly Working Poor) Tax Credit**

A credit of up to **\$200 for singles and \$400 for joint returns** is also allowed for certain contributions (made by cash or check) to qualified charities. A complete list is available at <https://www.azdor.gov/TaxCredits/QualifyingCharitableOrganizations.aspx>

## **Qualified Foster Care Charity Tax Credit**

If you make a contribution to a qualified foster care charitable organization, but not to a Qualified Charity described above, you can claim credit **up to \$400 for singles and \$800 for joint returns. However**, if you make a maximum cash contribution to a Qualified Charity and a Qualified Foster Care Charity, the **total maximum** credit allowed is **\$200 single or \$400 joint for each**.

<https://www.azdor.gov/Portals/0/RefundCredits/CertifiedFosterCareCharities2015.pdf>

## **Arizona Military Family Relief Fund**

A credit of up to **\$200 for singles and \$400 for joint returns** is also allowed for certain contributions made by cash or check to the Arizona Military Family Relief Fund. This fund is administered by the Arizona Department of Veteran's Services and helps service members and their families when a family member becomes a casualty of war. Arizona only allows \$1,000,000 of contributions to qualify for the tax credit. The tax credit will be allowed on a first come first served basis. See <https://dvs.az.gov/mfrf>

**Please note that all of these tax credits may be taken in the same year for a total of \$1,867 for singles and \$3,734 for joint returns.**

These tax credits are only available for the 2015 tax year if the contributions are made by December 31, 2015, except as noted below:

**Donations for the Private School Tuition Organization and the Public School tax credits can be paid as late as April 15, 2016 and still be claimed as a tax credit on your 2015 state income tax return.**

For each of the tax credits, you must obtain a receipt of the payment from the qualified organization. If you contribute to a qualified organization, please provide us with a copy of the receipt that you received from the organization and indicate on your income tax organizer that the contribution was to a qualified organization.