

## Exemptions and Credits

Iowa law provides for a number of credits and exemptions. It is the property owner's responsibility to apply for these as provided by law. It is also the property owner's responsibility to report to the Assessor when they are no longer eligible for any credit or exemption they have applied for. Following is a list of several credits and exemptions available in Iowa.

### Homestead Tax Credit

To qualify for the credit, the property owner must be a resident of Iowa and occupy the property on July 1 and for at least six months of every year. New applications for homestead tax credit are to be filed with the Assessor on or before July 1 of the year the credit is first claimed. Once a person qualifies, the credit continues until the property is sold or until the owner no longer qualifies. This credit is calculated by multiplying \$4,850 by the appropriate levy rate. (Refer to Code of Iowa, Chapter 425)

### Elderly & Disabled Tax Credit

To qualify for this credit, the property owner must first qualify for a Homestead Credit. The property owner must also be either: a) 65 years or older, or b) totally disabled and 18 years old or older. Current proof of disability must be included with your credit claim. Another eligibility requirement is the total household income was less than \$22,360 in 2015. The income requirements are subject to change every year. Applications and requirements are available in the Treasurer's Office. Applications are to be filed with the Treasurer on or before June 1. The credit has to be applied for every year. (Refer to Code of Iowa, Chapter 425)

### Military Tax Exemption

To qualify for the exemption, the property owner must be a resident of Iowa, must have been on active duty for other than training during a war or conflict, and have been honorably discharged. New applications must be made with the Assessor on or before July 1 of the year the exemption is first claimed. As with the Homestead Tax Credit, the exemption remains in effect until the property owner is no longer eligible. This exemption reduces the taxable value by \$2,778 for WWI veterans and \$1,852 for veterans serving during designated periods after that time. (Refer to Code of Iowa Chapter 426) NOTE: Reservists, National Guard, and others may qualify under certain circumstances.

### Disabled Veteran's Homestead Tax Credit

To qualify for the credit, the property owner must be a resident of Iowa and occupy the property on July 1 and for at least six months of every year. The property owner must also be one of the following: a) veteran with a service connected disability rating of 100% from the VA, b) former National Guard member who meets service requirements and has service connected disability rating of 100% from VA, c) veteran with a service connected disability rating less than 100% but with an unemployable rating of 100% by the VA, or d) surviving spouse who is receiving DIC. New applications for disabled veteran's homestead tax credit are to be filed with the Assessor on or before July 1 of the year the credit is first claimed. Once a person qualifies, the credit continues until the property is sold or until the owner no longer qualifies. The amount of credit is for the entire amount of tax levied on the homestead property. It is limited to a half an acre in towns and 40 acres in rural areas. It is for the homestead property only. (Refer to Code of Iowa, Chapter 425.15.)

### Business Property Tax Credit

To qualify for this credit, the property must be classified and taxed as commercial, industrial, or railway property. A property owner may claim and receive one credit for each eligible parcel unless the parcel is a part of a property unit. A property unit would receive one credit with the credit amount being allocated among all parcels of the property unit. A property unit is defined as contiguous parcels all which are located in the same county, with the same classification, owned by the same person, and operated for a common use and purpose. Applications are filed with the Assessor's office not later than July 1 for the current assessment year. Once a property qualifies, the credit continues until the property is sold, ownership changes in some manner, or the property no longer qualifies. The new owner shall refile if they wish to receive the credit. If a property that qualifies is split, the new owner would have to refile. The original owner retaining a portion of the split property would also have to refile to receive the credit. (Refer to Code of Iowa, Chapter 426C)

### Family Farm Tax Credit

This is a tax credit on agricultural tracts of land 10 acres or more that are farmed by the owner or immediate family members (this includes brothers/sisters, sons/daughters, grandchildren, great grandchildren, uncles/aunts, nephews/nieces.) There is a signup period for this credit until November 1st of each year. Applications are taken in the Assessor's office. (Refer to Code of Iowa, Chapter 425A)

### Other Exemptions and Credits

Exemption	File by	Filing Requirement	Time Period	Contact for Eligibility	Code Section
Barn & One-Room School House	February 1	One-Time	Permanent	Assessor	427.1 (31) 427.1 (32)
Cattle Facilities	February 1	One-Time	5 Years	Assessor	427B.7
Exempt Property - Religious, Literary, Charitable	February 1	One-Time	As Long as Eligible	Assessor	427.1 (14)
Forest Reservation	February 1	One-Time	Permanent	Assessor	427C.3

Fruit Tree	February 1	One-Time	8 Years	Assessor	427C.3
Geothermal heating & cooling	February 1	One Time	10 years	Assessor	427.1(38)
Historic Property	February 1	One-Time	4 / 4 Years	State Historical Society or Assessor	427.16
Impoundment Structure	February 1	Annual	1 Year	Assessor	427.1 (20)
Indian Housing Authority	February 1	One-Time	As long as eligible	Assessor	427.1 (33)
Industrial Property Tax	February 1	One-Time	5 Years	Assessor	427B.4
Low Rent Housing	February 1	One-Time	Duration of Original Mortgage	Assessor	427.1 (14)
Methane Gas Conversion Property	February 1	One-Time	10 years	Assessor	427.1 (29)
Mobile Home Park Shelter	February 1	One-Time	Permanent	Assessor	427.1 (30)
Natural Conservation or Wildlife Areas	February 1	Annual	1 Year	NRCS	427.1 (22)
Native Prairie	February 1	Annual	1Year	DNR/Assessor	427.1 (23)
Pollution Control	February 1	One-Time	Permanent	Assessor	427.1 (19)
Recycling	February 1	One-Time	Permanent	Assessor	427.1 (19)
Solar Energy	February 1	One-Time	5 years	Assessor	441.21(8b)
Speculative Shell Building	February 1	One-Time	By Ordinance	City Clerk/ Assessor	427.1 (27)
Urban Revitalization	February 1	One-Time	By Ordinance	City Clerk	404.4
Wetlands 427.1	February 1	Annual	1 Year	DNR/Assessor	427.1 (23)
Wildlife Habitat	February 1	One-Time	Permanent	DNR/Assessor	427.1 (24)
Wind Energy	February 1	One-time	5 years	Assessor	441.21(8b)