



Claim for Solar Energy System Equipment Credit

Complete Schedule A and Schedule B. Attach this form to Form IT-201 or Form IT-203.

Name(s) as shown on return	▼ Your social security number
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Schedule A — Computation of solar energy system equipment credit

A Date equipment placed in service (mm-dd-yyyy)	B Qualified solar energy system equipment expenditures (see instructions)	C Multiply column B by 25% (.25)

- 1 Enter the lesser of column C or \$5,000 (If more than one member of your principal residence is filing Form IT-255, see instructions.) **1.** .
- 2 Enter the carryover credit from last year's Form IT-255, line 8 **2.** .
- 3 Solar energy system equipment credit (add lines 1 and 2)..... **3.** .

Schedule B — Application of credit and computation of carryover

- 4 Tax due before credits (see instructions) **4.** .
- 5 Other credits that you applied before this credit (see instructions) **5.** .
- 6 Subtract line 5 from line 4 **6.** .
- 7 Enter the lesser of line 3 (or your portion of line 3) or line 6 (see instructions) **7.** .
- 8 Subtract line 7 from line 3 (or your portion of line 3; see instructions) **8.** .
- 9 Amount, if any, included on line 8 that expired this tax year (see instructions) **9.** .
- 10 Amount of credit available for carryover to next year (subtract line 9 from line 8) **10.** .

Instructions

New for 2010

Temporary deferral of certain tax credits

For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2010, and before January 1, 2013, if the total amount of certain credits that you may use to reduce your tax or have refunded to you is greater than \$2 million, the excess over \$2 million must be deferred to, and used or refunded in, tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2013. For more information about the credit deferral, see Form IT-500, *Income Tax Credit Deferral*.

If you are subject to the credit deferral, you must complete all credit forms without regard to the deferral. However, the credit amount that is transferred to your tax return to be applied against your tax due or to be refunded to you may be reduced. Follow the instructions for Form IT-500 to determine the amounts to enter on your tax return.



General information

Tax Law section 606(g-1) allows a credit for the purchase and installation of an eligible solar energy system. Subject to certain limits, the credit is 25% of the qualified solar energy system equipment expenditures for the purchase and installation of a system that uses solar radiation to produce energy for heating, cooling, hot water, or electricity for residential use. The equipment must be installed and used at the taxpayer's principal residence in New York State and must be placed in service on or after January 1, 2006.

If the solar energy system equipment produces electricity, you must enter into a net energy metering contract with your electric corporation or comply with the electric corporation's net energy metering schedule before you can qualify for the credit. The completed solar energy system equipment must also be connected to the electric corporation's transmission and distribution facility. Other conditions and limitations set by the electric company may also apply. You should contact your electric company for more information before you purchase your equipment.

If your credit is greater than the amount of tax you owe, the balance will **not** be refunded to you. However, any credit amount in excess of the tax due can be carried over for a maximum of up to five years.

Definitions

Solar energy system equipment means an arrangement or combination of components utilizing solar radiation, which, when installed in a residence, produces energy designed to provide heating, cooling, hot water, or electricity. The arrangement or components do not include equipment connected to solar energy system equipment that is a component of part or parts of a nonsolar energy system or which uses any sort of recreational facility or equipment as a storage medium. Solar energy system equipment that generates electricity for use in a residence must conform to the applicable requirements in Public Service Law section 66-j (for example, the rated capacity of the system cannot exceed 10 kilowatts (10,000 watts)). However, if the solar energy system is purchased and installed by a condominium management association or a cooperative housing corporation, the rated capacity of the system cannot exceed fifty kilowatts (50,000 watts).

Qualified solar energy system equipment expenditures mean expenditures for the purchase of solar energy system equipment that is installed and used at residential property located in New York State that is your principal residence at the time the solar energy system equipment is placed in service.

Qualified expenditures include expenditures for materials, labor costs properly allocated to on-site preparation, assembly and original installation, architectural and engineering services, and designs and plans directly related to the construction or installation of the solar energy system equipment.

Expenditures made with nontaxable federal, state, and local grants and any interest or finance charges do not qualify as solar energy system equipment expenditures.

In the case of tenant-shareholders in a cooperative housing corporation or condominium owners, a percentage of the qualified expenditures for qualified solar energy system equipment purchased and installed by the cooperative housing corporation or the condominium management association will be attributed to each unit within the building. This information should be provided to you by the cooperative housing corporation or condominium management association.

Principal residence means the home where you and your family live most of the time. A summer or vacation home does not qualify. Your principal residence can be a house, whether owned or rented, a mobile home, cooperative apartment, or condominium. If you move from one principal residence to another principal residence in New York State, a separate credit is allowed for each principal residence. You must have incurred the costs at the time the residence is your principal residence, and you must file separate Forms IT-255 to compute your allowable credit for each principal residence.

Line instructions

See the instructions for your tax return for the *Privacy notification* or if you need help contacting the Tax Department.

Schedule A — Computation of solar energy system equipment credit

Column B — If you are a tenant-shareholder in a cooperative housing corporation or condominium owner, enter your share of the qualified expenses incurred by the cooperative housing corporation or condominium management association. This information should be provided to you by the cooperative housing corporation or condominium management association.

Line 1 — If you occupied a principal residence with another taxpayer or taxpayers, the amount of credit allowable to each taxpayer is prorated according to the percentage of the total eligible expenditures contributed by each taxpayer. However, a husband and wife filing a joint return do not prorate the credit.

Enter the total credit on line 1 and see the instructions for line 7.

Schedule B — Application of credit and computation of carryover

Line 4

Form IT-201 filers: Enter the tax from Form IT-201, line 39, plus any amount from Form IT-201-ATT, line 21.

Form IT-203 filers: Enter the tax from Form IT-203, line 46, plus any amount from Form IT-203-ATT, line 20.

Line 5 — If you are applying any credits against the tax before this credit, enter those amounts here.

When applying credits, follow the order of credits under Tax Law section 606(yy):

- First apply any credits that cannot be carried over or refunded.
- Next apply any credits that can be carried over for a limited duration.
- Then apply any credits that can be carried over for an unlimited duration.
- Apply refundable credits last.

Line 7 — If your total credits from all sources are **\$2 million or less**, enter the amount from line 7 on Form IT-201-ATT, line 5, or Form IT-203-ATT, line 6.

If your total credits from all sources are **more than \$2 million**, you may be subject to a credit deferral. See Form IT-500, *Income Tax Credit Deferral*, to determine the proper amount of line 7 to enter on your 2010 tax return.

Special rule if you occupied your principal residence with another taxpayer or taxpayers. Use only your share of the line 3 amount when comparing line 3 to line 6. Also attach a statement showing the name of each taxpayer occupying the residence and claiming the credit, and the total expenditures contributed by each.

Example: *You and your father occupy the same residence. You each pay one-half of the cost of the solar energy system equipment. You must claim one-half of the total credit on your New York State return and your father would claim the other half of the credit on his New York State return. You must each file Form IT-255 showing the computation of the total credit and attach the statement described above.*

Line 8 — If you occupied your principal residence with another taxpayer or taxpayers, subtract line 7 from your share of the line 3 amount.

Line 9 — Enter the amount of credit, if any, included on line 8 that was first claimed for tax year 2005.

Please file this original scannable credit form with the Tax Department.

