

[REDACTED]

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

RULE NO.: RULE TITLE:
12ER21-19 The New Worlds Reading Initiative;
Participation; Allocation; Carryforward;
Transfer; Rescindment.

SPECIFIC REASONS FOR FINDING AN IMMEDIATE DANGER TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY OR WELFARE: Section 12 of Chapter 2021-193, Laws of Florida, authorizes the Department of Revenue to promulgate emergency rules to implement the provisions of the New Worlds Reading Initiative, which provides that a taxpayer may receive a credit against certain taxes for making an eligible contribution to the administrator of the initiative designated by the Department of Education. The promulgation of this emergency rule ensures that the public is notified in the most expedient and appropriate manner regarding the requirements for earning a tax credit allocation, as well as the means by which a tax credit or tax credit allocation may be carried forward, transferred, or rescinded.

REASON FOR CONCLUDING THAT THE PROCEDURE IS FAIR UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES: The Legislature expressly authorized the promulgation of emergency rules to administer the provisions related to the New Worlds Reading Initiative created by Chapter 2021-193, Laws of Florida. Additionally, emergency rules are the most expedient and appropriate means of notifying taxpayers of the provisions of Sections 211.0252, 212.1833, 220.1876, 561.1212, 624.51056, and 1003.485, F.S. (Sections 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Chapter 2021-193, L.O.F. respectively).

SUMMARY: The rule describes the taxpayers eligible to participate in the program, the application process to receive an allocation of credit, the notifications issued by the Department of Revenue related to the program, how the credit may be taken against certain taxes, how a credit may be carried forward or transferred, and how a credit allocation may be rescinded.

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE EMERGENCY RULE IS: Danielle Boudreaux, Technical Assistance and Dispute Resolution, telephone (850)717-7082, email RuleComments@floridarevenue.com.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE EMERGENCY RULE IS:

12ER21-19 The New Worlds Reading Initiative; Participation; Allocation; Carryforward; Transfer; Rescindment.

(1) Definitions. For purpose of this rule, the following terms mean:

(a) "Administrator" means a state university registered with the Department of Education under Section 1002.395(15)(i), F.S., and designated to administer the New Worlds Reading Initiative.

(b) "Affiliated group of corporations" is given the same meaning as the definition provided in Section 220.03(1)(b), F.S.

(c) "Contribution" or "eligible contribution" means a monetary contribution from a taxpayer to the administrator.

(d) "Credit allocation" means an allocation to a taxpayer of an annual tax credit cap authorized under the New Worlds Reading Initiative.

(e) "Department" means the Florida Department of Revenue.

(f) "Division" means the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

(g) "State fiscal year" means the annual period beginning July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

(h) "Tax credit cap" means the maximum annual tax credit amount that the Department is authorized by Section 1003.485, F.S., to allocate.

(2) Taxpayers eligible to participate in the program. Taxpayers who pay any of the following taxes may apply to the Department for a credit allocation:

(a) For the taxes administered by the Department:

1. Florida corporate income tax imposed under Chapter 220, F.S.

2. Florida insurance premium tax imposed under Section 624.509, F.S.

3. Florida state sales and use tax self-accrued and paid directly to the Department in accordance with a valid Sales and Use Tax Direct Pay Permit, issued by the Department, as provided in Section 212.183, F.S., and Rule 12A-1.0911, F.A.C.

4. Florida oil production tax imposed under Section 211.02, F.S., or Florida gas production tax imposed under Section 211.025, F.S.

(b) For excise taxes administered by the Division:

1. Excise tax on liquor beverages imposed under Section 565.12, F.S.;

2. Excise tax on wine beverages imposed under Section 564.06, F.S., except excise taxes imposed on wine produced by manufacturers in Florida from products grown in Florida; or,

3. Excise tax on malt beverages imposed under Section 563.05, F.S.

(3) Applications for credit allocations.

(a) To apply for an allocation of the available program credits, taxpayers must submit The New Worlds Reading Initiative – Application for Tax Credit Allocation for Contributions to the Administrator (Form DR-336000, incorporated by reference in Rule 12ER21-20, F.A.C.) to the Department.

1. Taxpayers required to file returns and remit payments by electronic means pursuant to Section 213.755, F.S., and Rule Chapter 12-24, F.A.C., must apply online using the Department’s website. When the application is completed and submitted online, a confirmation number will be provided with the date and time of submission.

2. The fastest and easiest way to apply for an allocation is online at floridarevenue.com/taxes/multitaxcredits. Taxpayers who are not required to file returns and remit payments by electronic means pursuant to Section 213.755, F.S., and Rule Chapter 12-24, F.A.C., may also apply by submitting a paper application with the Department.

(b) A separate application to receive a credit allocation is required for:

1. Each administrator the taxpayer intends to support; and,
2. Each beverage license issued by the Division for which a separate return to report and pay the excise taxes on liquor, wine, and malt beverages is filed with the Division.
3. Each tax credit cap year.

(c) Taxpayers are eligible to apply during the following periods to receive a credit allocation from each annual tax credit cap for the following taxes as follows:

1. Corporate Income Tax – A taxpayer may make an application for a credit allocation on the first business day of January of each calendar year for its tax year that begins during that calendar year. The application must be submitted before the date the taxpayer is required to file its corporate income/franchise tax return for that tax year pursuant to Section 220.222, F.S., including a valid extended due date.

a. Example: A calendar year taxpayer may apply for a credit allocation for the 2022-2023 state fiscal year credit beginning on January 3, 2022. The application must be submitted before May 1, 2023; however, if the due date of the taxpayer’s corporate income/franchise tax return is validly extended, the application may be submitted before November 1, 2023.

b. Example: A taxpayer with a tax year beginning December 1, 2022, and ending November 30, 2023, may apply for a credit allocation for the 2022-2023 state fiscal year credit beginning on January 3, 2022. The application must be submitted before April 1, 2024; however, if the due date of the taxpayer’s corporate income/franchise tax return is validly

extended, the application may be submitted before October 1, 2024.

2. Insurance Premium Tax – A taxpayer may make an application for a credit allocation on the first business day of January of each calendar year and before the due date of the insurance premium taxes and fees return, which is March 1 following the taxable year. Example: For the 2022-2023 state fiscal year tax credit cap, a taxpayer may submit an application for a credit allocation beginning on January 3, 2022. The application must be made on or before February 28, 2023.

3. Sales and Use Tax – Tax on Oil and Gas Production – Excise Taxes on Liquor, Wine, and Malt Beverages – A taxpayer may make an application for a credit allocation on the first business day of January of the calendar year preceding the state fiscal year beginning on July 1 of the calendar year. The application must be made by June 30 of the state fiscal year for which the taxpayer is applying. For example, for a credit allocation for the 2022-2023 state fiscal year, taxpayers may apply for a credit allocation beginning on January 3, 2022. The application must be made on or before June 30, 2023.

(d) The Department will accept applications until either the tax credit cap is reached or until the end of the state fiscal year for sales and use tax, the tax on oil and gas production, and the excise taxes on liquor, wine, and malt beverages; until on or before the day the taxpayer’s insurance premium tax return is due; or until the day before the due date of the taxpayer’s corporate income/franchise tax return for corporate income tax, whichever occurs first.

(4) Notification.

(a) The Department will approve credit allocations on a first-come, first-served basis. Following receipt of an application, the Department will send written correspondence regarding the amount of the credit allocation for each tax applied for, or the reason the credit allocation could not be approved. For excise tax on liquor, wine, and malt beverages, the Division must approve the credit allocation before the Department will issue such correspondence.

(b) When the Department is not able to approve an application, a letter explaining the reason for the denial will be mailed to the taxpayer. The taxpayer may protest the denial pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. The Department will reserve the denied amount of the allocation for the taxpayer during the protest period.

(c) When approved, the Department’s approval letter will specify the period in which the contribution to the designated administrator must be made. Contributions must be made during the period specified in the approval letter. The administrator receiving a contribution will issue the taxpayer a certificate of contribution signed by an authorized representative of the administrator containing:

1. Contributor’s name;

- 2. Contributor’s federal identification number;
- 3. Contributor’s license number issued by the Division, if applicable;
- 4. Amount of contribution;
- 5. Date of contribution; and,
- 6. Name of the administrator.

(d) The amount of tax credit claimed on a tax return is limited to the amount of contribution contained in the certificate of contribution issued by the administrator. The taxpayer must make the contribution before the credit is claimed on a tax return.

(e) No tax credit will be allowed when a taxpayer:

- 1. Fails to make the designated contribution;
- 2. Fails to make a contribution before claiming the tax credit on a tax return;
- 3. Claims the credit against tax due prior to the date the contribution is made; or
- 4. Makes the contribution outside the period specified in the Department’s approval letter.

(5) Tax Credits.

(a)1. Corporate Income Tax – A tax credit of 100 percent of the contribution against any corporate income tax due for the tax year is allowed. The amount of the tax credit for a tax year:

- a. Is taken in the order of the credits provided against the corporate income tax in Section 220.02(8), F.S.
- b. Must be reduced by the difference in federal corporate income tax due computed with the credit and without the credit.
- c. Must be added back to taxable income in determining Florida corporate income tax due. If the amount of a credit taken under Section 220.1876, F.S., is added to federal taxable income on the Florida corporate income/franchise tax return in a previous tax year and is taken as a deduction for federal tax purposes in the current tax year, the amount of the federal deduction is not required to be added to federal taxable income on the Florida corporate income/franchise tax return in the current year. This provision ensures that the amount of the credit taken under Section 220.1876, F.S., is added to federal taxable income in the applicable tax year and does not result in a duplicate addition in a subsequent tax year.

d. Is revoked and rescinded when a taxpayer applies for a credit allocation after timely requesting an extension of time in which to file its Florida corporate income/franchise tax return and fails to remit sufficient tentative tax, such that its extension is not valid under Sections 220.222 and 220.32, F.S.

2. Taxpayers must attach a copy of the certificate of contribution from the administrator to the Florida corporate income/franchise tax return on which the credit allocation, or a portion of the credit allocation, is taken as a tax credit.

(b)1. Insurance Premium Tax – A tax credit of 100 percent of the contribution against any insurance premium tax due under Section 624.509(1), F.S., for the tax year is allowed. The

amount of the tax credit for a tax year is limited to the insurance premium tax due after deducting:

- a. Assessments made pursuant to Section 440.51, F.S. (workers’ compensation administrative assessments);
- b. Credits for taxes paid under Sections 175.101 and 185.08, F.S. (firefighters’ and police officers’ pension trust funds); and,
- c. Credits for income taxes paid under Chapter 220, F.S., and the salary credit allowed under section 624.509(5), F.S., as these are limited by section 624.509(6), F.S. (the 65 percent limitation).

2. The tax credit allowed against insurance premium tax due is taken directly after the salary tax credit under Section 624.509(5), F.S.

3. Taxpayers must attach a copy of the certificate of contribution from the administrator to the tax return on which the credit allocation, or a portion of the credit allocation, is taken as a tax credit.

(c)1. Sales and Use Tax – A tax credit of 100 percent of the contribution is allowed against any state sales and use tax due self-accrued and paid directly to the Department in accordance with a valid Sales and Use Tax Direct Pay Permit issued by the Department.

2.a. Taxpayers must submit a copy of the certificate of contribution from the administrator to:
Florida Department of Revenue
Revenue Accounting
P.O. Box 6609
Tallahassee, FL 32314-6609

b. Following receipt of the copy of the certificate, the Department will send written instructions on how to claim the credit allocation as a tax credit on a sales and use tax return remitted to the Department by electronic means.

(d)1. Tax on Oil and Gas Production – A tax credit of 100 percent of the contribution is allowed against any tax due on oil or gas production in Florida imposed under Sections 211.02 and 211.025, F.S.

2. The tax credit may not exceed 50 percent of the tax due on the return on which the tax credit is taken. If a taxpayer has earned tax credits under Section 1002.395, F.S. (Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program), Section 402.62, F.S. (Strong Families Tax Credit), and Section 1003.485, F.S. (The New Worlds Reading Initiative), the credit under Section 1002.395, F.S., will be applied first; the credit under Section 402.62, F.S., will be applied second; and the credit under Section 1003.485, L.O.F., will be applied third, as applicable, until the 50 percent limit is reached.

3. Taxpayers must attach a copy of the certificate of contribution from the administrator to the tax return on which the credit allocation, or a portion of the credit allocation, is taken as a tax credit.

(e)1. Excise Tax on Liquor, Wine, and Malt Beverages – A tax credit of 100 percent of the contribution is allowed against the following taxes administered by the Division.

a. Excise tax on liquor beverages imposed under Section 565.12, F.S.;

b. Excise tax on wine beverages imposed under Section 564.06, F.S., except excise taxes imposed on wine produced by manufacturers in Florida from products grown in Florida; or

c. Excise tax on malt beverages imposed under Section 563.05, F.S.

2. The tax credit taken on a return filed with the Division is limited to 90 percent of the tax due on the return. Taxpayers must attach a copy of the certificate of contribution from the administrator to the tax return on which the credit allocation, or a portion of the credit allocation, is taken as a tax credit.

(f) Contributions to the administrator are not payments of estimated tax or installment payments of tax. However, credits earned for contributions to the administrator for corporate income tax or insurance premium tax will be taken into account when determining the estimated payment amounts required to meet the prior year exceptions for each tax. Cross reference: Rules 12C-1.034 and 12B-8.001, F.A.C.

(6) Carryforward of unused credits.

(a) When a taxpayer is unable to use a tax credit during the period specified by the Department in the approval letter, because the taxpayer's liability is insufficient, the taxpayer may carry forward the unused tax credit amount for a period not to exceed ten years.

(b) Examples.

1. Corporate Income Tax Example – A calendar year taxpayer applied for and was approved for a credit allocation against corporate income tax for the tax year ending December 31, 2022. Any unused carryforward from its tax year ending December 31, 2022, expires on the due date pursuant to Section 220.222, F.S., for the Florida corporate income/franchise tax return for the taxable year ending December 31, 2032.

2. Insurance Premium Tax Example – A taxpayer applied for and was approved for a credit allocation against insurance premium tax due for calendar year 2022. Any unused carryforward from its tax year ending December 31, 2022, expires on December 31, 2032.

3. Sales and Use Tax Example – A taxpayer who holds a Sales and Use Tax Direct Pay Permit applied for and was approved for a credit allocation against sales and use tax due to the Department for the state fiscal year 2022-2023. The taxpayer paid the contribution to the administrator on July 13, 2022, and submitted a copy of the certificate of contribution received from the administrator to the Department. The taxpayer's state tax liability in accordance with the Permit was insufficient to use the entire credit allocation on sales and use tax returns filed with the Department on or before June 30,

2023. Any unused carryforward from the 2022-2023 state fiscal year expires June 30, 2033.

4. Tax on Oil and Gas Production – The same application periods and credit carryforward periods that apply to a sales and use tax credit allocation apply to a credit allocation against the tax on oil and gas production.

5. Excise Taxes on Liquor, Wine, and Malt Beverages Example – A taxpayer who holds a liquor license issued by the Division applied for and was approved for a credit allocation against the liquor excise tax for returns due during the state fiscal year 2022-2023. The taxpayer's liability was insufficient to use the entire credit allocation during that state fiscal year. Any unused carryforward from the 2022-2023 state fiscal year expires June 30, 2033.

(7) Transfers of unused tax credits.

(a) A taxpayer may not convey, assign, or transfer a credit allocation or tax credit to another entity unless all of the assets of the taxpayer are conveyed, assigned, or transferred in the same transaction. However, the following credit allocations or tax credits may be transferred between members of the same affiliated group of corporations:

1. A tax credit allocation for which a contribution has not been made to the administrator by the transferring member. The receiving member must make a contribution to the administrator during the same period that the transferring member was required to make the contribution. In addition, the contribution must be made before the receiving member may claim the tax credit.

2. A tax credit allocation for which a contribution has been made to the administrator by the transferring member, but the tax credit has not been claimed on a tax return.

3. A carryforward tax credit amount that has not been claimed on a tax return.

(b) A transferred credit allocation or tax credit may only be used against the same tax as the original credit allocation or tax credit approved by the Department.

(c) A transferred tax credit may only be taken by the receiving member of the affiliated group during the same period that the transferring member was approved to take the credit.

(d) A transferred carryforward amount may only be taken as a tax credit during the same time period as the transferring member was authorized to take the carryforward tax credit amount.

(e)1. A taxpayer must notify the Department of its intent to transfer a credit allocation or tax credit to another member of its affiliated group by submitting The New Worlds Reading Initiative – Notice of Intent to Transfer a Tax Credit (Form DR-336200, incorporated by reference in Rule 12ER21-20, F.A.C.). A separate notice must be submitted for each member of an affiliated group of corporations receiving a transfer.

2. Taxpayers must submit an application for transfer of any unused credit allocation or tax credit to:

Florida Department of Revenue
Revenue Accounting
P.O. Box 6609
Tallahassee, FL 32314-6609

(f) The Department must approve the application for transfer of the unused credit allocation or tax credit before the receiving member may claim the tax credit on a tax return. For excise tax on liquor, wine, and malt beverages, the Division must also approve the transfer before the receiving member may claim the tax credit on a tax return.

(g) Following receipt of an application, the Department will send written correspondence approving the transfer or providing the reason the transfer could not be approved. The taxpayer may protest the denial pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S.

(h) If the transfer is approved, a copy of the approval letter will be sent to both the transferring member and the receiving member. The approval letter will include instructions on how the receiving member may claim the tax credit on a tax return.

(8) Rescindment of unused tax credits.

(a) The rescindment provision allows credit allocations that will not be used by the taxpayer to be reallocated to other taxpayers who may use the credit allocation. Taxpayers must apply online using the Department’s website at www.floridarevenue.com or submit The New Worlds Reading Initiative – Application for Rescindment of Previous Allocation of Tax Credit (Form DR-336100, incorporated by reference in Rule 12ER21-20, F.A.C.) to the Department to rescind all or a portion of an unused credit allocation. See paragraph (3)(a) for submitting the application to the Department.

(b) An application for rescindment of the unused credit allocation by the Department will not be approved when:

1. The amount of credit allocation requested to be rescinded has been claimed as a credit on a previously filed return; or

2. The allocation year is closed for all taxpayers. The allocation period for a calendar year is closed for all taxes and all taxpayers on October 1 of the third year following the January 1 opening of the allocation period, regardless of whether the annual tax credit cap has been reached. For example, the allocation period beginning January 1, 2022, for the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, closes for all taxpayers on October 1, 2024.

(c) Following receipt of an application, the Department will send written correspondence regarding the amount of the rescindment, or the reason rescindment could not be approved. For excise tax on liquor, wine, and malt beverages, the Division must approve the rescindment before the Department will issue

such correspondence. The taxpayer may protest the denial pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S.

(d) When the approval of a rescindment allows the tax credit cap for a state fiscal year to be reopened and available for allocation, the Department will notify the administrator that the tax credit cap is available for allocation.

Rulemaking Authority Section 12 of Chapter 2021-193, L.O.F. Law Implemented 211.0252, 212.1833, 220.1876, 561.1212, 624.51056, 1003.485 FS. History–New 10-1-21.

THIS RULE TAKES EFFECT UPON BEING FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE UNLESS A LATER TIME AND DATE IS SPECIFIED IN THE RULE.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/2021

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