

Tax Information Publication

TIP

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New Worlds Reading Initiative Tax Credit and Strong Families Tax Credit

Florida's New Worlds Reading Initiative was established in 2021 under the Florida Department of Education to improve literacy skills and promote a love of reading by providing high-quality, free books to students in kindergarten through fifth grade who are reading below grade level.

Florida's Strong Families Tax Credit was established in 2021 under the Florida Department of Children and Families to provide services to prevent child abuse, engage absent fathers in being more active in their children's lives, provide books to eligible children, and to assist families of children with chronic illness.

Under these programs, taxpayers can make private monetary contributions to the administrator of the New Worlds Reading Initiative or the eligible charitable organization(s) of the Strong Families Tax Credit and receive a dollar-for-dollar credit against the following Florida taxes:

- Corporate income tax
- Excise tax on liquor, wine, and malt beverages
- Gas and oil production tax (up to 50 percent of the tax due on each return)
- Insurance premium tax
- Use tax due under a direct pay permit

The administrator of the New Worlds Reading Initiative is designated by the Florida Department of Education and identified on their website at www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/sfo/.

The eligible charitable organization(s) are designated by the Florida Department of Children and Families and identified on their website at www.myflfamilies.com/general-information/strong-family-tax-credit/.

Taxpayers who wish to participate in either of these programs must apply to the Florida Department of Revenue (Department) to receive a tax credit allocation. The fastest and easiest way to apply for a tax credit allocation is by visiting the Department's multi-tax credit webpage at floridarevenue.com/taxes/multitaxcredits. Here you can select the multi-tax credit program you wish to participate in, review information about each of the two credits and how they apply against the taxes listed above. You can also visit the online application, which allows you to:

- Create a secure, online account
- Complete and submit your application and receive a confirmation number with the date and time
 of submission
- View the status of your application(s) from your account dashboard
- Complete and submit tax credit applications for multiple taxes

Taxpayers required to file and pay electronically must apply online. Taxpayers not obligated to file and pay electronically may apply by submitting the paper New Worlds Reading Initiative – Application for Tax Credit Allocation for Contributions to the Administrator (Form DR-336000) or Strong Families Tax Credit – Application for Tax Credit Allocation for Contributions to Eligible Charitable Organizations (Form DR-226000).

The Department will send notification of approval or denial of your request for an allocation of credit. Approval of a credit allocation does not authorize the credit to be claimed, as you will need to make your contribution and receive a certificate of contribution from the administrator or eligible charitable organization. For excise taxes on liquor, wine, and malt beverages, the Department must receive approval for credit allocations from the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

You may apply to the Department to rescind all or part of a previously approved allocation of credit. Rescinding a tax credit allows credit allocations that you will not use to be made available to other taxpayers wishing to apply for an allocation of credit under that program.

Each credit program has a transfer provision. You may apply to the Department to transfer all or part of the credit to members of your affiliated group. The Department will send notification of approval or denial. The approval letter will include instructions on how the transferee may claim the tax credit on a tax return.

If the full amount of the tax credit earned in a given year cannot be fully used, the unused tax credit can be carried forward for up to 10 years.

For more information about these credits and how they apply to each of the taxes, visit the Department's website at floridarevenue.com/taxes/multitaxcredits.

References for New Worlds Reading Initiative: Sections 211.0252, 212.1833, 220.02, 220.13, 220.1876, 561.1212, 624.51056, and 1003.485, Florida Statutes; Emergency Rules 12ER21-19 and 12ER21-20, Florida Administrative Code.

References for Strong Families Tax Credit: Sections 211.0253, 212.1834, 220.02, 220.13, 220.1877, 402.62, 561.1213, and 624.51057, Florida Statutes; Emergency Rules 12ER21-17 and 12ER21-18, Florida Administrative Code.

For More Information

This document is intended to alert you to the requirements contained in Florida laws and administrative rules. It does not by its own effect create rights or require compliance.

For forms and other information, visit the Department's website at <u>floridarevenue.com</u> or call Taxpayer Services at 850-488-6800, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

For a detailed written response to your questions, write the Florida Department of Revenue, Taxpayer Services MS 3-2000, 5050 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0112.

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