Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program

Oil & Gas Production Tax Credits

Through the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program (Florida Statutes, Section 1002.395), dollar-for-dollar tax credits are provided to companies that redirect their oil and gas production tax to Step Up For Students, a state-approved Scholarship Funding Organization (SFO). Up to 50% of a corporation’s liability is eligible. The funds provide K-12 scholarships to disadvantaged children.

When companies invest in our program, they make a lasting impact on the lives of scholarship students and inspire a brighter future through personalized education.

STEP 1: RESERVE

Enrolling online is easy - visit https://taxapps.floridarevenue.com/sfo/AllocationApplication.aspx and complete the Florida Department of Revenue (DOR) online application. You may apply once for the entire state fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) or as many times as you like during that year for a maximum of 50% of your projected annual (July - June) oil and gas production tax. It’s important to remember that the approval process does not oblige you to remit the funds to the SFO – it is merely a way for the DOR to ensure that the annual maximum in tax credits is not oversubscribed.

STEP 2: REMIT

Once you have received your approval letter from the DOR, you can remit the lesser of 1) the amount approved or 2) up to 50% of each month’s tax directly to Step Up For Students. Payments can be made by check, wire or ACH transfer. Upon receipt of payment, Step Up will provide a Certificate of Contribution. Your final payment must be made no later than the last day of the state’s fiscal year – June 30.

STEP 3: REPORT

For Oil Production tax, SFO contributions should be reported on Line 28 (Credit for Contributions to Nonprofit Scholarship-Funding Organizations) of Form DR-145. For Gas and Sulfur Production tax, report contributions on Line 12a (Credit for Contributions to Nonprofit Scholarship-Funding Organizations) of Form DR-144. Please note that any state tax liability remaining after the credits are reserved should be paid as normal estimated tax payments to the Florida DOR. A copy of the Certificate of Contribution should also be attached to the return when it is filed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Transferring Credits: The tax credit can be transferred between members of an affiliated group of corporations, but not between tax types. Companies must notify the Florida DOR in writing of their intent to transfer credits. See Florida DOR TIP 14ADM-03 for additional information.

Credit Carry Forward: If a company determines it has insufficient tax liability to take the full credit (amount remitted is greater than 100% of net tax liability), companies may carry forward the unused credit. For tax credits earned in a taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2018, the carry-forward period is 10 years for contributions made on or after January 1, 2018. Contributions made in a taxable year prior to January 1, 2018, fall under the previous limit of five years.

Rescission: Sometimes it is necessary for a corporation to rescind all or part of their pledge(s). By completing a rescindment application, your company is releasing your reserved tax credits back into the program cap, allowing other companies to step in and fulfill that amount. There is no penalty for rescinding a pledge. To complete the rescindment application on the Florida DOR website, please go to https://taxapps.floridarevenue.com/sfo/RescindmentApplication.aspx.

Detailed instructions are available to guide you through enrollment and/or rescindment. Please contact Tim Bodamer at TBodamer@SUFS.org or (866) 344-9553 for more information.