

Opportunity Zone Job Tax Credits

Applicable for Initial Job Threshold met in tax years beginning prior to January 1, 2009

- Part of the Georgia Job Tax Credit Program under O.C.G.A. 48-7-40.1(c)(4)
- Business can be any business of any nature; not bound by “business enterprise” definition
- Business must create at least two (2) net new jobs within a tax year and the new jobs must be full-time, permanent jobs of at least 35 hours per week (Note: The two jobs may not be filled by a married couple)
- New jobs must be offered health insurance upon employment; the employer does not have to pay for such insurance, just offer it
- The average wage of the new jobs created must pay above the average wage of the county with the lowest average wage in the state – as of July 2009 this is Glascock County at \$415 per week or \$21,580 per year, per DOL (Georgia Employment & Wages – 2008 Averages)
- Jobs threshold must be created in Year 1, then maintained in Year 2, before claiming the credit on the Year 2 tax return – for example, eligible new jobs created in 2008 and maintained in 2009 may be claimed for the first time on the 2009 tax return which will be filed in 2010
- Business must have an accepted *Opportunity Zone Certification* form to file for tax credit
- Credit is claimed by filing *Form IT-CA (2008)* with the Georgia Corporation Income Tax return, along with a copy of the accepted *Opportunity Zone Certification*
- Credit may be applied against 100% of any corporate income tax liability on the Georgia Income Tax Return (credit may not be applied to net worth tax liability)
- Excess credit may be applied against withholding

Withholding Tax Credits

- Job Tax Credit claimed against withholding (WH) limited to \$3,500 per eligible job
- Credit must be first applied to any corporate income tax liability prior to claiming WH
- Carry forward credits may not be applied to withholding
- Credit is applied to future withholding tax returns
- No refund paid on withholding credits

Claiming Withholding Credit

- Business must file *Form IT-WH* with the Department of Revenue (DOR) at least 30 days prior to the filing of the original tax return in which the credit will be filed and claimed
- Business files Georgia corporation income tax return, along with *Form IT-CA (2008)*, by the due date, or extended due date
- DOR has 90 days to review once the return is filed
- Business will receive notification from DOR of approved credit and when to claim against WH
- Business will then apply credit to WH returns until fully utilized
- Withholding credit has no affect on employees
- Flow-through entities may elect to claim a specific portion of the credit against the entity’s payroll withholding and flow the remaining credit through to shareholders, partners, or members. This is an annual election dependent upon the filing of *Form IT-WH*.

Form IT-CA (2008) and *Form IT-WH* may be obtained from the Department of Revenue web site at: <https://etax.dor.ga.gov/inctax/taxcredits.aspx>