# Work Opportunity Credit

OMB No. 1545-0219

19

Attachment

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Name(s) shown on return

► Attach to your return.

Sequence No. 77 Identifying number

Part I	Current Year Credit	(Members of a	controlled gro	up, see instructions.)

				-	 
1	Enter the total qua percentage shown who began work for				
а	After September 30	1a			
b	After September 30 at least 120 hours l	1b			
С	After September 30 at least 400 hours .	1c			
2	Current year credit. salaries and wages	2			
3	Work opportunity credits from	If you are a— a Shareholder	Then enter total of current year work opportunity credit(s) from—   Schedule K-1 (Form 1120S), lines 12d, 12e, or 13.   Schedule K-1 (Form 1065), lines 12c, 12d, or 13.   Schedule K-1 (Form 1041), line 14	3	
4		c Beneticiary Schedule K-1 (Form 1041), line 14			
4	trusts, cooperative instructions.)	4			

### Part II Tax Liability Limit (See Who Must File Form 3800 to find out if you complete Part II or file Form 3800.)

5	Regular tax before credits:		
•	Individuals. Enter amount from Form 1040, line 39		
•	Corporations. Enter amount from Form 1120, Schedule J, line 3 (or Form 1120-A, Part I, line 1) .	5	
•	Other filers. Enter regular tax before credits from your return		
6a	Credit for child and dependent care expenses (Form 2441, line 9) 6a		
b	Credit for the elderly or the disabled (Schedule R (Form 1040), line 20) . 6b		
с	Mortgage interest credit (Form 8396, line 11)		
d	Adoption credit (Form 8839, line 10)		
е	District of Columbia first-time homebuyer credit (Form 8859) 6e		
f	Foreign tax credit (Form 1116, line 32, or Form 1118, Sch. B, line 12) . 6f		
g	Possessions tax credit (Form 5735)		
h	Credit for fuel from a nonconventional source		
i	Qualified electric vehicle credit (Form 8834, line 19)		
j	Add lines 6a through 6i	6j	
7	Net regular tax. Subtract line 6j from line 5	7	
8	Alternative minimum tax:		
•	Individuals. Enter amount from Form 6251, line 28		
•	Corporations. Enter amount from Form 4626, line 15	8	
•	Estates and trusts. Enter amount from Form 1041, Schedule I, line 42		
9	Net income tax. Add lines 7 and 8	9	
10	Tentative minimum tax (see instructions):		
•	Individuals. Enter amount from Form 6251, line 26		
•	Corporations. Enter amount from Form 4626, line 13		
•	Estates and trusts. Enter amount from Form 1041,		
	Schedule I, line 38		
11	If line 7 is more than \$25,000, enter 25% (.25) of the excess (see		
	instructions)		
12	Enter the greater of line 10 or line 11	12	
13	Subtract line 12 from line 9. If zero or less, enter -0	13	
14	Work opportunity credit allowed for current year. Enter the smaller of line 4 or line 13 here and		
	on Form 1040, line 44; Form 1120, Schedule J, line 4d; Form 1120-A, Part I, line 2a; Form 1041,		
	Schedule G, line 2c; or the applicable line of your return	14	

## **General Instructions**

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **Changes To Note**

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 (the Act) extended the work opportunity credit for 9 months to cover individuals who begin work for the employer before July 1, 1998. The Act also made the following changes effective for individuals who begin work for the employer after September 30, 1997:

• Made the credit a two-tiered credit based on the number of hours the individual is employed. The number-of-daysemployed requirement has been eliminated. For details, see **qualified wages** in the instructions for lines 1a through 1c below.

• Added a new targeted group (qualified supplemental security income (SSI) recipients).

• Changed the requirements for two targeted groups (qualified AFDC or successor program recipients and qualified veterans).

• Beginning January 1, 1998, parts of Washington, DC, are treated as an empowerment zone. Individuals residing in those areas may qualify as members of the high-risk youth and qualified summer youth employee targeted groups.

For more details on the targeted groups, see the instructions for **Form 8850**, Pre-Screening Notice and Certification Request for the Work Opportunity and Welfare-to-Work Credits.

#### **Purpose of Form**

Use Form 5884 if you had targeted group employees and claim the work opportunity credit for wages you paid or incurred to them during the tax year.

You can claim or elect not to claim the work opportunity credit any time within 3 years from the due date of your return on either your original return or on an amended return.

#### How To Claim the Credit

To claim the work opportunity credit, the employer must request and be issued a certification for each employee from the state employment security agency (SESA). The certification proves that the employee is a member of a targeted group. The employer must receive the certification by the day the individual begins work, or must complete Form 8850 by the day the employer offers the individual a job.

If the employer completes Form 8850, it must be signed by the individual and the employer and submitted to the SESA by the 21st day after the individual begins work. If the SESA denies a certification request, it will provide a written explanation of the reason for denial. If a certification is revoked because it was based on false information provided by the worker, wages paid after the date the notice of revocation is received by the employer do not qualify for the credit.

An employee is a member of a targeted group if he or she is a:

• Qualified recipient of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) or successor program.

- Qualified veteran.
- Qualified ex-felon.
- High-risk youth.
- Vocational rehabilitation referral.
- Qualified summer youth employee.
- Qualified food stamp recipient.

• Qualified SSI recipient (for individuals who begin work after September 30, 1997).

See Form 8850 and section 51(d) for details and restrictions.

### **Specific Instructions**

**Note:** If you only have a credit allocated to you from a flow-through entity, skip lines 1 and 2 and go to line 3.

Lines 1a through 1c. Enter on the applicable line (1a, 1b, or 1c) the total qualified first-year wages paid to employees certified as members of a targeted group, based on when the employee began work and the number of hours that employee worked for you. Multiply the wages you enter on each line by the percentage shown on that line.

Qualified first-year wages are qualified wages for work performed during the 1-year period beginning on the date the individual begins work for you. The following rules apply in determining **qualified wages**:

• Only the first \$6,000 of wages paid or incurred during the tax year for each employee are taken into account.

• Wages qualifying for the credit generally have the same meaning as wages subject to the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA). For agricultural employees, if the work performed by any employee during more than half of any pay period qualifies under FUTA as agricultural labor, the first \$6,000 of that employee's wages subject to social security and Medicare taxes are taken into account. For a special rule that applies to railroad employees, see section 51(h)(1)(B).

• More than half the wages received from you must be for working in your trade or business.

• You may not claim a credit on wages that were paid to any employee during any period for which you received payment for the employee from a federally funded on-the-job training program.

• Any work supplementation payments you received under the Social Security Act reduce the amount of wages qualifying for the credit.

• The employee cannot be your relative or dependent. See section 51(i) for other restrictions.

• The employee cannot be your rehired employee if he or she was not a targeted group member when employed earlier.

• For individuals who began work after September 30, 1996, and before October 1, 1997, the employee must have worked for you for at least 180 days or completed at least 400 hours of service (20 days or 120 hours for a qualified summer youth employee).

• For individuals who began work after September 30, 1997, and before July 1, 1998, the employee must have worked for you for at least 120 hours. For employees who have worked at least 120 hours but fewer than 400 hours, the credit rate is 25 percent. For employees who have worked at least 400 hours, the credit rate is 40 percent.

• The wages cannot be for services of replacement workers during a strike or lockout.

• For each qualified summer youth employee, wages are limited to those paid or incurred for any 90-day period between May 1 and September 15 and may not exceed \$3,000. You cannot claim a credit for an employee who was your employee in a prior period.

• You cannot include wages paid or incurred to a high-risk or qualified summer youth employee for services performed while the employee lived outside an empowerment zone or enterprise community. • You cannot claim the work opportunity credit with respect to the wages of any employee that you use to figure the welfare-to-work credit.

**Special instructions for controlled group members.** The group member proportionately contributing the most first-year wages figures the group credit in Part I and skips Part II. See sections 52(a) and 1563. On separate Forms 5884, that member and every other member of the group should skip lines 1a through 1c and enter its share of the group credit on line 2. Each member then completes lines 3, 4, and 5 through 14 (or Form 3800, if required) on its separate form. Each member must attach to its Form 5884 a schedule showing how the group credit was divided among all the members. The members share the credit in the same proportion that they contributed qualifying wages.

Line 2. In general, you must reduce your deduction for salaries and wages by the amount on line 2. This is required even if you cannot take the full credit this year and must carry part of it back or forward. The exceptions to this rule are:

• You capitalized any salaries and wages on which you figured the credit. In this case, reduce your depreciable basis by the amount of the credit on those salaries and wages.

• You used the full absorption method of inventory costing that required you to reduce your basis in inventory for the credit.

If either of the above exceptions applies, attach a statement explaining why the line 2 amount differs from the amount by which you reduced your deduction.

Line 3. Enter the amount of credit that was allocated to you as a shareholder, partner, beneficiary, or patron of a cooperative.

Line 4. If you have a credit from a passive activity, stop here and go to Form 3800.

*S corporations and partnerships.* Prorate the credit on line 4 among the shareholders or partners. Attach Form 5884 to the return and on Schedule K-1 show the credit for each shareholder or partner.

**Estates and trusts.** The credit on line 4 is allocated between the estate or trust and the beneficiaries in proportion to the income allocable to each. On the dotted line next to line 4, the estate or trust should enter its part of the total credit. Label it "1041 PORTION" and use this amount in Part II (or Form 3800, if required) to figure the credit to claim on Form 1041.

*Cooperatives.* Most tax-exempt organizations cannot take the credit; but a cooperative described in section 1381(a) takes the credit to the extent it has tax liability. Any excess is shared among its patrons.

*Regulated investment companies and real estate investment trusts.* Reduce the allowable credit to the company's or trust's ratable share of the credit. For details, see Regulations section 1.52-3(b).

#### Who Must File Form 3800

If for this year you have more than one of the credits included in the general business credit listed below, have a carryback or carryforward of any of the credits, or have a credit from a passive activity, you must complete **Form 3800**, General Business Credit, instead of completing Part II of Form 5884 to figure the tax liability limitation.

(\*)

- Investment (Form 3468),
- Work opportunity (Form 5884),
- Welfare-to-work (Form 8861),
- Alcohol used as fuel (Form 6478),
- Research (Form 6765),
- Low-income housing (Form 8586),
- Enhanced oil recovery (Form 8830),
- Disabled access (Form 8826),
- Renewable electricity production (Form 8835),
- Indian employment (Form 8845),

• Employer social security and Medicare taxes paid on certain employee tips (Form 8846),

Orphan drug (Form 8820),

 Contributions to selected community development corporations (Form 8847), and

Trans-Alaska pipeline liability fund.

The empowerment zone employment credit (Form 8844), while a component of the general business credit, is figured separately on Form 8844 and is never carried to Form 3800.

Line 10. Enter the tentative minimum tax (TMT) that was figured on the appropriate alternative minimum tax (AMT) form or schedule. Although you may not owe AMT, you must still compute the TMT to figure your credit.

Line 11. See section 38(c)(3) for special rules that apply to married couples filing separate returns, controlled corporate groups, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, and estates and trusts.

Line 14. If you cannot use part of the credit because of the tax liability limit (line 13 is smaller than line 4), carry it back 3 years, then forward 15 years. See the separate Instructions for Form 3800 for details.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.** We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is:

Recordkeeping					5 h	ır., 59 min	•
Learning about the law or the form						. 47 min	
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS.						. 56 min	

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for the tax return with which this form is filed.