IOWA RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT FAQ LIST

Can I have a paper copy or PDF version of the application?

The Iowa Economic Development Authority requires all program applications to be submitted and managed through the online portal only.

Do we need to apply for certification by the September 30, 2026 deadline if we are not filing the Research & Development Tax Credit Application until 2028?

If an entity intends to claim qualified Research & Development completed during their 2026 tax year at any point, they will need to complete the application for Certification as a Qualified Business by September 30, 2026. Submissions received after that date would not be eligible for tax year 2026 and would instead be eligible beginning tax year 2027.

Is the credit issued on a first come first serve basis? Or is there proration based upon application and total amount requested by taxpayers?

No, this is not issued on a first come first served basis. The Research & Development Tax Credit is calculated 'Pro-Rata'. Once all applications of qualified businesses are received, they will be calculated together, not to exceed $40 million with a 3.5% cap per entity as outlined per Iowa code Chapter 15, Part 35.

Do you have an example of the expected certification required by the CPA?

The CPA verification is a part of the Research & Development Tax Credit Application and not a part of the certification process. When the Research & Development Tax Credit Application launches, the CPA verification form can be accessed through the application.

The application is asking for a copy of the most recent filed federal/state tax forms but the most recent copy we have available is 2024. Is that acceptable?

We need a copy of most recent tax forms filed and accepted, if the most recent copy filed with the IRS or Iowa Department of Revenue is 2024, those are the forms you would submit.

The applying entity is a public company, how does that impact my ability to complete the application for certification in regards to due diligence?

For large publicly traded companies IEDA recognizes that conducting due diligence on the broader corporate enterprise is not the intended purpose of these application requirements. As such, IEDA's request for company-specific information can be limited to the applicant entity itself where appropriate and reasonable.

IEDA also understands that public companies cannot provide material business information that differs from, expands upon, or precedes information disclosed through SEC filings and other public disclosures. Therefore, in responding to application questions, public companies may reference or include relevant excerpts from publicly available SEC filings, such as Forms 10-K and 10-Q, for the broader corporate entity.

Where possible, applicants should provide information specific to the Iowa project, facility, or applicant entity; however, IEDA will accept information derived from SEC filings when that is the most appropriate source of publicly disclosed company information.

Where is the Iowa Research & Development Tax Credit found in Iowa Code and Iowa Administrative Code?

Iowa Code – Chapter 15, Sub Chapter II, Part 35

Iowa Administrative Code – Chapter 82

JG08242026