

## Opportunity Knocks

For information on the Job Tax Credit and related tax forms, visit our website at:

<http://www.dca.ga.gov/economic/TaxCredits/programs/taxcredit.asp>

More forms available from DOR at:

<http://www.etax.dor.ga.gov/inctax/taxcredits.aspx>



To find out how to claim these credits, contact Dawn Sturbaum at DCA:

404-679-1585 or

[dawn.sturbaum@dca.ga.gov](mailto:dawn.sturbaum@dca.ga.gov)

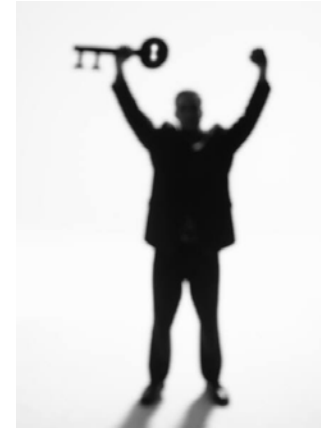


### Community Finance Division

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### Community Finance Division



*Opportunity  
Zone Tax  
Credits —  
Information for  
Businesses —  
2009 forward*

*Georgia Department  
of Community Affairs*

**Gretchen Corbin, Commissioner  
404-679-4940**

# What's the difference?

## Opportunity Zone versus Traditional Job Tax Credit

If you are making a location or expansion decision for your business, check out what locating in an Opportunity Zone can mean for you. By locating in a local redevelopment area designated as an Opportunity Zone (OZ), a business can take advantage of the state's highest Job Tax Credit (JTC).

Traditionally, job tax credits in Georgia are based on County Tier levels 1-4. Tier 1 counties are considered the most distressed in the State and receive the highest credit amount of \$3,500. Tier 2 credit is \$2,500, Tier 3 \$1,250 and Tier 4 \$750 per job.

By locating in an Opportunity Zone and creating 2 jobs, a business can maximize job tax credits to the State's highest benefits. The following example shows the difference between OZ benefits and Tier 2 benefits.

To claim OZ tax credits, your business must be within a State designated Opportunity Zone. Please contact your city or county to see if they have a designated Opportunity Zone, or encourage them to apply.

### Opportunity Zone Example

Job Creation = minimum of two (2) net new jobs (the persons in the two jobs may not be married to each other).

Tax Credit = \$3,500 per job, may be claimed up to five years as long as the jobs are maintained.

Claimed against 100 percent of the business's Georgia Income Tax liability, with excess credit claimed against withholding taxes.

	Jobs Created	Credit	Tax Liability	Withholding
Year 1	2	\$7,000	\$1,200	\$5,800
Year 2	3	\$10,500	\$1,000	\$9,500
Year 3	3	\$10,500	\$1,500	\$9,000
Year 4	4	\$14,000	\$1,700	\$12,300
Year 5	4	\$14,000	\$1,900	\$12,100
Year 6	5	\$7,000	\$2,100	\$4,900
Year 7	5	\$3,500	\$2,050	\$1,450
Year 8	6	\$3,500	\$1,800	\$1,700
Year 9	6	\$0		\$0
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$13,250</b>	<b>\$56,750</b>

***\$70,000 Job Tax Credit generated and \$70,000 Job Tax Credit utilized.***

The passage of H.B. 439 in the 2009 Legislative Session provides for the credit to be claimed in the year the job is created for initial job thresholds met in tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2009 as shown above.

The benefit of an Opportunity Zone in a Tier 1 county is that the business locating within an Opportunity Zone is not bound by the definition of "Business Enterprise" but may be any lawful business. Therefore, a retail business locating within a Opportunity Zone would be eligible for the Job Tax Credit even though it would not otherwise be entitled to the Job Tax Credit, in a Tier 1 county.

### Tier Two Example

Job Creation = minimum of ten (10) net new jobs within any business "which is engaged in manufacturing, warehousing and distribution, processing, telecommunications, broadcasting, tourism, and research and development industries."

Tax Credit = \$2,500 per job, may be claimed up to five years as long as the jobs are maintained.

Claimed against 100 percent of the business's Georgia Income Tax liability, with excess credit carried forward for 10 years from job creation year.

	Jobs Created	Credit	Tax liability	Carry Forward
Year 1	10	\$25,000	\$1,200	\$23,800
Year 2	11	\$27,500	\$1,000	\$50,300
Year 3	11	\$27,500	\$1,500	\$76,300
Year 4	12	\$30,000	\$1,700	\$104,600
Year 5	12	\$30,000	\$2,100	\$132,500
Year 6	13	\$5,000	\$2,050	\$135,450
Year 7	13	\$2,500	\$1,800	\$136,150
Year 8	14	\$2,500	\$1,750	\$136,900
Year 9	14	\$0	\$2,650	\$134,250
Year 10	14	\$0	\$2,300	\$125,000
Year 11	14	\$0	\$1,800	\$97,500
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$19,850</b>	

***\$150,000 Job Tax Credit generated; \$19,850 Job Tax Credit utilized; \$32,650 Job Tax Credit expired after Year 11; additional Job Tax Credit will expire over the next few years (\$20,000+ per year over the next three years)***

### BOTTOM LINE

**In 10 years, the Opportunity Zone business used \$70,000 in tax credit while the Tier 2 business used only \$19,850.**