

What is the Renters' Tax Credit?

- Based on income, the Renters' Tax Credit can provide you a credit for the portion of your rent that goes towards your landlord's property taxes.
- The credit can be as high as \$1,000 and is calculated by determining your income and rent, with a determination of the assumed portion of property tax that were paid through your rent.
- To determine income, the application requires income for all individuals living in the home. Income includes retirement benefits such as Social Security.
- A rental property can be an apartment in an individual home or building, co-op, condominium, mobile home, or house trailer.

Other requirements -

- You must be legally responsible for the rent
- It must be your primary residence where you live at least six months of the year
- Only rent paid in Maryland is eligible
- Rent paid to a public housing authority or tax-exempt organization isn't eligible for a credit.
- Household assets cannot exceed \$200,000
- If you are under the age of 60, you must have at least one dependent under the age of 18 living with you.

Timing -

- The application usually opens in early February
- The deadline to apply is October 1st
- You need to apply and qualify every year for the Renters' Tax Credit

Eligibility and required documents

To apply, you will need to gather some supporting information and documentation including -

- Social security number and birth date for you and your spouse or co-tenant, if any, and any other household members
- Income sources and annual amount for each household member
- Documentation of all identified income sources
- The income list is extensive and includes wages, social security, unemployment insurance, workers compensation, alimony, public assistance grants, veterans benefits, expenses paid by others, and several others
- Your prior year's federal tax return (if you filed)

NOTE - Do not send originals of any of your documents. If you are applying for the first time, you will need to submit a copy of your lease or other proof of paid rent.

This is not legal advice. To get free legal help visit:

WWW.MVLSLAW.ORG/APPLY

Or call intake between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Monday through Thursday at 1(800) 510-0050 or (410) 547-6537

Eligibility and required documents

- To determine your eligibility, you can find the income and rent chart at <https://dat.maryland.gov/realproperty/Pages/Renters'-Tax-Credits.aspx>. There are two charts, one for individuals 60 and older or 100% disabled, and a second chart for individuals under 60. On the chart, you identify the total household income and then see what rent amount is listed. If you paid over that amount, then you are likely eligible for a credit.
- If your application is approved, you will receive a check from the State of Maryland. Review time is generally 90 days.

REMINDER – YOU MUST APPLY AND REQUALIFY EVERY YEAR!

To apply online, you can visit <https://onestop.md.gov/tags/5d28c76eb7039400faf44adb>, and select “Renters’ Property Tax Credit Application Form RTC” or you can download a paper application at https://dat.maryland.gov/realproperty/Documents/2023RTC_Application.pdf.

For more information, you can email sdattax@maryland.gov or call [410-767-5915](tel:410-767-5915).

Paper applications can be mailed to –

State Department of Assessments & Taxation
Renters' Tax Credit Program
P.O. Box 49006
Baltimore, MD 21297

Beginning in June 2023, Maryland renters who are at least 70 years old and eligible for the Renters Tax credits but didn't receive the credits, can request the credit for the three previous years.