

Iowa Tuition & Textbook Credit (K-12)

Don't Miss this Tax Credit for Eligible K-12 Education Expenses!

The Iowa Income Tax Return includes a credit for eligible education expenses for dependent K-12 students. Many Iowans can reduce their income tax bills by keeping records of qualifying expenses.

Key Facts to Know:

- **On May 20, 2021, Governor Reynolds signed into law HF 847, expanding the Tuition and Textbook Credit.**
- **The maximum allowable expense per child is \$2,000.**
- **The Credit is 25% of eligible expenses, so the maximum credit per child is \$500.**
- **Homeschooling families now qualify for this credit.**

Expense	Eligible Expenditures	Ineligible Expenditures
Tuition	Tuition for any K-12 school that is accredited	Any amount for food, lodging, or clothing or amounts paid relating to the teaching of religious tenets, doctrines or worship; amounts for private instruction or tutoring not paid to a school
Textbooks and Publications	Textbooks and other instructional materials used in teaching subjects legally and commonly taught in Iowa's public elementary and secondary schools, including those needed for extracurricular activities (including fees for required textbooks and supplies); computers, if required	Yearbooks or annuals; textbook fines
Required Materials and Supplies Other Than Textbooks	Face masks or coverings, pocket folders, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, tissue, antibacterial products, backpacks, rulers, calculators, flash drives and other items on a required supply list issued by the dependent's school	Items on a supply list that are optional
Clothing	Rental or purchase of "non-street" costumes for a play or special clothing for a concert not suitable for everyday wear; rental of prom dresses and tuxedos NOTE: While not defined as clothing, protective face coverings (face masks) qualify as required materials and supplies other than textbooks.	Clothes which can be used for street wear, such as T-shirts for extracurricular events; clothing for a play or concert that is suitable for everyday wear; purchase of prom dresses and tuxedos
Driver's Education	Only if paid to the K-12 school or parent-taught driver education	Paid to other than a K-12 school

Dues, Fees and Admissions	Annual school fees; fees or dues paid for extracurricular activities ; booster club dues (for dependent only); fees for athletics; activity ticket or admission for K-12 school athletic, academic, music, or dramatic events and awards banquets or buffets; fees for a physical education event such as roller skating; advanced placement fees if paid to high school; fees for homecoming, winter formal, prom, or similar events; fees required to park at the school and paid to the school	Sports-related socials; special education programs like career conferences; special testing like SAT, PSAT, ACT and Iowa talent search tests; fees paid to K-12 schools for college credit or special programs at colleges and universities; advanced placement fees if paid to a college or a university
Materials for Extracurricular Activities	Materials for extracurricular activities, such as sporting events, speech activities, musical or dramatic events, awards banquets, homecoming, prom, and other school-related social events	Class rings
Music	Rental of musical instruments for school or band; music / instrument lessons at a school; sheet music used in a school; music books and materials used in school bands or orchestras for maintenance of instruments, including reeds, strings, picks, grease, and other consumables	Purchase of musical instruments (including rent-to-own contracts); music lessons outside of school; sheet music for private use
Religion	-----	Amounts paid are not allowed if they relate to teaching of religious tenets, doctrines, or worship
Shoes	Football, soccer, and golf shoes; other shoes with cleats or spikes not suitable for street wear for teams associated with the school	Basketball shoes and other shoes suitable for everyday wear
Supplies for Industrial Arts, Home Economics or Equivalent Classes	Cost of required basic materials for classes such as shop class, mechanics class, agricultural class, home economics class, or equivalent classes	Optional expenditures or materials used for personal projects of the dependents or for family benefit
Travel	Fees for transportation to and from school if paid to the school; fees for field trips if the trip is during school hours	Travel expenses for overnight trips which involve payment for meals and lodging
Uniforms	School-associated band and athletic uniforms	-----