



Claim for Solar and Fuel Cell Electric Generating Equipment Credits

IT-255



Name(s) as shown on return	Your social security number

Attach this form to Form IT-201 or Form IT-203.

Complete Parts I and II, if applicable, and Part III.

Part I — Computation of solar electric generating equipment credit

If the rated capacity of the system exceeds 10 kilowatts (10,000 watts), stop; you do not qualify for this credit.

1	Enter your total expenditures for solar electric generating equipment	1.		
2	Enter the portion of the expenditures made from nontaxable federal, state, and local grants (see instructions)	2.		
3	Enter any interest and other finance charges included in line 1 (see instructions) ...	3.		
4	Add lines 2 and 3	4.		
5	Qualified solar electric generating equipment expenditures (subtract line 4 from line 1)	5.		
6	Enter in watts (maximum 10,000) the maximum rated capacity of the equipment (see instructions)	6.		
7	New York State expenditure cap rate (\$6.00 per watt)	7.		6 00
8	Multiply line 6 by line 7	8.		
9	Enter the amount from line 5 or line 8, whichever is less	9.		
10	Multiply line 9 by 25% (.25) (cannot exceed \$3,750). This is your current year credit for solar electric generating equipment. (If more than one member of your principal residence is filing Form IT-255, see instructions.)	10.		
11	Enter the available carryover of unused solar electric generating equipment credit from the preceding period (see instructions)	11.		
12	Add lines 10 and 11. This is your total current year solar electric generating equipment credit	12.		

Part II — Computation of fuel cell electric generating equipment credit

If the rated capacity of the system exceeds 25 kilowatts (25,000 watts), stop; you do not qualify for this credit.

13	Enter your total expenditures for fuel cell electric generating equipment	13.		
14	Enter the portion of the expenditures made from nontaxable federal, state, and local grants (see instructions)	14.		
15	Enter any interest and other finance charges included in line 13 (see instructions) ...	15.		
16	Add lines 14 and 15	16.		
17	Qualified fuel cell electric generating equipment expenditures (subtract line 16 from line 13)	17.		
18	Multiply line 17 by 20% (.20) (cannot exceed \$1,500). This is your current year credit for fuel cell electric generating equipment. (If more than one member of your principal residence is filing Form IT-255, see instructions.)	18.		

Part III — Combined solar and fuel cell electric generating equipment credit

19	Add the amounts from lines 12 and 18. This is your combined solar and fuel cell electric generating equipment credit	19.		.	
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Transfer the amount on line 19 above to Form IT-201-ATT, line 46, or Form IT-203-B, line 32. Attach Form IT-255 to your return.

Instructions

Part I — Solar electric generating equipment credit

General information

If the rated capacity of the system exceeds ten kilowatts (10,000 watts), stop; you do not qualify for the credit.

Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1998, Tax Law section 606(g-1) allows a credit for the purchase and installation of an eligible solar electric generating equipment system. The credit is 25% of the qualified solar electric generating equipment expenditures for the purchase and installation of a system that generates solar electric energy for residential use. The equipment must be installed and used at the taxpayer's principal residence in New York State and must be placed in service on or after January 1, 1998.

Before you can qualify for the credit, you must enter into a net energy metering contract with your electric corporation or comply with the electric corporation's net energy metering schedule. The completed solar electric generating equipment system must also be connected to the electric corporation's transmission and distribution facility. Other conditions and limitations set by the electric company may also apply. You should contact your electric company for more information before you purchase your equipment.

If your credit is greater than the amount of tax you owe, the balance will **not** be refunded to you. However, any credit amount in excess of the tax due for 2003 can be carried over for a maximum of up to five years.

Definitions

Solar electric generating equipment means a manufactured photovoltaic system with a rated capacity of not more than 10 kilowatts (10,000 watts) which, when installed at a residence, uses solar energy to generate electricity for use in the residence. It must be operated in accordance with applicable government and industry standards, and must also be operated in conjunction with an electric corporation's transmission and distribution facilities.

Qualified solar electric generating equipment expenditures means expenditures, limited to the expenditure cap, for the purchase of solar electric generating equipment which is installed and used at residential property located in New York State that is your principal residence at the time the solar electric generating equipment is placed in service.

Qualified expenditures include expenditures for materials, labor costs properly allocated to on-site preparation, assembly and original installation, architectural and engineering services, and designs and plans directly related to the construction or installation of the solar electric generating equipment.

Expenditures made with nontaxable federal, state, and local grants, and any interest or finance charges, do not qualify as solar electric generating equipment expenditures.

Expenditure cap means six dollars multiplied by the number of watts (not to exceed 10,000 watts) included in the rated capacity of the solar electric generating equipment.

Principal residence means the home where you and your family live most of the time. A summer or vacation home does not qualify. Your principal residence can be a house, whether owned or rented, a mobile home, cooperative apartment, or condominium. If you move from one principal residence to another principal residence in New York State, a separate credit is allowed for each principal residence. You must file separate Forms IT-255 to compute your allowable credit for each principal residence.

Line instructions

Line 2 – If any of the expenditures on line 1 were paid for with a nontaxable federal, state, or local grant, enter the amount of the grant on line 2. Do not include any grant that you were required to include in your federal adjusted gross income in the year received.

Line 3 – If line 1 includes any interest or other finance charges, include that amount on line 3. Do not include any finance or interest charge not included in line 1.

Line 6 – If the maximum rated capacity of the equipment is stated in kilowatts instead of watts, multiply the kilowatts by 1,000 to obtain the number of watts.

Line 10 – If you occupy a principal residence with another taxpayer or taxpayers, the amount of credit allowable to each taxpayer is prorated according to the percentage of the total eligible expenditures contributed by each taxpayer. However, a husband and wife filing a joint return do not have to prorate the credit. The maximum credit cannot exceed \$3,750.

Enter the total credit on line 10 and see the instructions for line 19.

Line 11 – Enter the amount of net credit available for carryover to 2003. The net credit available for carryover is that portion of your 2002 solar electric generating equipment credit from your 2002 Form IT-201-ATT, line 46, or Form IT-203-B, line 32, that was not applied to your 2002 tax.

Part II — Fuel cell electric generating equipment credit

General information

If the rated capacity of the system exceeds twenty-five kilowatts (25,000 watts), stop; you do not qualify for the credit.

Effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2003, Tax Law section 606(g-2) allows a credit for the purchase and installation of eligible fuel cell electric generating equipment. The credit is 20% of the qualified fuel cell electric generating equipment expenditures for the purchase and installation of a system that generates fuel cell electric energy for residential use. The equipment must be installed and used at the taxpayer's principal residence in New York State and must be placed in service on or after January 1, 2003.

If your credit is greater than the amount of tax you owe, the balance will **not** be refunded to you. However, any credit amount in excess of the tax due for 2003 can be carried over for a maximum of up to five years.

Definitions

Fuel cell electric generating equipment means an on-site electricity generation system that utilizes proton exchange membrane fuel cells, providing a rated baseload capacity of no more than 25 kilowatts (25,000 watts) of electricity operated in accordance with applicable industry standards.

Qualified fuel cell electric generating equipment expenditures means expenditures incurred on or after January 1, 2003, for the purchase of fuel cell electric generating equipment which is installed and used at residential property located in New York State that is your principal residence at the time the fuel cell electric generating equipment is placed in service.

Qualified expenditures include expenditures incurred on or after January 1, 2003, for materials, labor costs properly allocated to on-site preparation, assembly and original installation, engineering services, designs and plans directly related to the construction or installation, and utility compliance costs of the fuel cell electric generating equipment.

Expenditures made with nontaxable federal, state, and local grants, and any interest or finance charges, do not qualify as fuel cell electric generating equipment expenditures.

Principal residence means the home where you and your family live most of the time. A summer or vacation home does not qualify. Your principal residence can be a house, whether owned or rented, a mobile home, cooperative apartment, or condominium. If you move from one principal residence to another principal residence in New York State, a separate credit is allowed for each principal residence. You must file separate Forms IT-255 to compute your allowable credit for each principal residence.

Line instructions

Line 14 – If any of the expenditures on line 13 were paid for with a nontaxable federal, state, or local grant, enter the amount of the grant on line 14. Do not include any grant that you were required to include in your federal adjusted gross income in the year received.

Line 15 – If line 13 includes any interest or other finance charges, include that amount on line 15. Do not include any finance or interest charge not included in line 13.

Line 18 – If you occupy a principal residence with another taxpayer or taxpayers, the amount of credit allowable to each taxpayer is prorated according to the percentage of the total eligible expenditures contributed by each taxpayer. However, a husband and wife filing a joint return do not have to prorate the credit. The maximum credit cannot exceed \$1,500.

Enter the total credit on line 18 and see the instructions for line 19.

Part III — Combined solar and fuel cell electric generating equipment credit

Line 19 – Add the amounts from lines 12 and 18. If you occupy a principal residence with another taxpayer or taxpayers, enter only your share of the line 19 amount on Form IT-201-ATT or Form IT-203-B. Also attach a statement showing the name of each taxpayer of the residence and the total expenditures contributed by each taxpayer.

Example: *You and your father occupy the same residence. You each pay one-half of the cost of the equipment. You must claim one-half of the total credit on your New York State return and your father would claim the other half of the credit on his New York State return. You must each file Form IT-255 showing the computation of the total credit and attach the statement as described above.*