

Desert Sky Community School

1350 N. Arcadia Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85712

(520) 745-3888

Arizona Public School Tax Credit Program

The Arizona tax credit program is a wonderful and important way for school parents, relatives, friends, and other Arizonans to **SUPPORT DESERT SKY COMMUNITY SCHOOL AT NO COST!** Tax credit donations go directly to the children and the programs at Desert Sky Community School, a non-profit, tuition-free charter school inspired by Waldorf education with a strong focus on arts, music, foreign languages, and academics. If you have any questions, please call Erich Saphir at 609-4033 or email esaphir@pima.edu

What is the public school tax credit?

A.R.S. 42-1088 provides a state income tax credit of **up to \$400.00 for married couples filing a joint return, or \$200.00 for single and head of household filers.** These monies are used to support extracurricular and character education programs. **This tax credit counts as a dollar-for-dollar credit against your income tax liability, so it simply redirects taxes you have to pay anyway to Desert Sky.** Taxpayers get 100 percent of the money returned to them when they file their Arizona income taxes, provided their total Arizona income tax liability for the entire tax year adds up to at least as much as they donate (up to the limit). If a taxpayer's total tax liability is less than they donate, the difference can be rolled over as a credit against next year's Arizona income taxes. So **your donation really constitutes a free gift to support education!**

Please make your contributions by Dec. 31st to help Desert Sky plan for putting your donation to the best possible use.

How does a tax credit differ from a tax deduction? Can I claim both?

A tax credit is much more beneficial than a deduction. A credit reduces your Arizona income taxes dollar-for-dollar while a deduction only reduces the taxable income upon which taxes are calculated. If you claim the tax credit, you cannot claim a deduction on your Arizona return. However, you might also be able to claim an itemized deduction for the tax credit donation on your Federal tax return – please check with your tax advisor.

Can I claim the public school tax credit even if I have already contributed to another type of tax credit program, such as the private school tuition tax credit or the working poor tax credit?

Yes! While you can only contribute up to a total of \$400 (married) or \$200 (single) in public school tax credits in a given tax year, you can contribute to other types of tax credit programs as well, such as for private school tuition scholarship organizations or the working poor tax credit.

How do I make a donation to Desert Sky Community School under the Arizona Public School Tax Credit Program?

It's easy! Just complete the attached form and send it with your payment to Desert Sky Community School. Make checks out to DSCS, or charge your contribution to your credit card, either in full or in installments (prior to December 31). You will get a receipt from the school for your income tax records. You can also go to www.desertskyschool.org, click on "Support Us," and follow the instructions for donating online. Please be sure to designate your donation as a tax credit.

How do I claim my tax credit?

The credit is claimed by filling out the designated lines on your Arizona income tax return and completing Arizona Form 322. The credit applies only to the extent that you incur an income tax liability. If your tax liability is under \$400/\$200, you can either send in a smaller amount, or roll over the excess credit to the following year. If you have excess taxes paid due to payroll **withholding and the tax credit, the excess payroll withholding will be refunded.**

Where can I obtain more information?

The Arizona Department of Revenue publishes a pamphlet, School Tax Credits (Brochure 707), which is available by calling 602-855-3381 or 800-352-4090, or online at: <https://www.azdor.gov/Portals/0/Brochure/707.pdf>

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2015 Tax Credit Donation Receipt

Receipt # _____

For Donations Made to Desert Sky Community School

CTD #: 108732000

Single taxpayers may donate up to \$200. Married taxpayers may donate up to \$400. If married and filling separately, each spouse may claim up to ½ of the credit that would have been allowed on a joint return.

If married, each spouse must include name.

Date: _____

Donor #1 Name: _____ Phone # _____

Mailing address: _____ E-Mail _____

Donor #2 Name: _____

Donation: _____ Check #: _____ Amount: _____

Make payable to DSCS

_____ Cash Amount: _____

_____ Credit Card Amount: _____

Please charge my credit card for the above amount. Unless requested otherwise all charges will be made before December 31, 2015.

Amount to charge to the below card : _____

MasterCard or Visa # _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: _____/_____

Name on Card _____ cvv code _____

Billing Address for Card if different from above address:

I authorize DCSC to charge my credit card (above) for a tax credit donation.

Cardholder Signature: _____

Your tax credit donation will be applied towards extracurricular and character building programs/activities including, but not limited to, instrumental music, choir, foreign language, dance, sports, field trips, handwork, crafts, gardening and woodworking.

Thank you so much for supporting these programs!