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DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Memo

Date: March 27, 2025

To: Energy Transition Advisory Committee (ETAC)

From: Holly Soderbeck, Property Tax Division, Minnesota Department of Revenue

RE: First Quarter 2025 ETAC Meeting

The <u>Minnesota Department of Revenue's</u> Mission: Working together to fund the future for all of Minnesota. And **Our Vision**: Everyone reports, pays, and receives the right amount: no more, no less.

Office of Public Engagement

The Office of Public Engagement with Revenue launched in the <u>Summer of 2022</u>. In December 2024, the office held engagement sessions with the public to preview the upcoming legislative session. You can sign up to receive updates by visiting <u>www.revenue.state.mn.us</u> and entering your email in the Subscribe to Email Updates section. Select "Public Engagement with Revenue" to subscribe.



New Renter's Credit Coming in 2025

The department created a new webpage, <u>Renter's Credit FAQs</u>, to answer the most common questions about the new Renter's Credit. This page can help you when completing <u>Schedule M1RENT</u>.

This change does not affect homeowners. Homeowners will continue to use Form M1PR to file a Property Tax Refund return to receive the Homestead Credit Refund. Homeowners may be able to file for free using our <u>Property Tax Refund Online Filing System</u>.

e-Services and Certificates of Rent Paid

You can now use e-Services to create and submit 2024 Certificates of Rent Paid (CRPs). Beginning with 2024 CRPs, you must create and submit all Minnesota CRPs using e-Services, our online filing and payment system.

Get Started

You must have or create an e-Services account. When you log in, you can import your data from a spreadsheet or use a step-by-step process. After you log in to your e-Services account, select **Submit CRPs** on the **I Want To...** tab to get started.

Free Tax Preparation Sites

The Minnesota Department of Revenue announced that over 200 sites offering free tax preparation assistance are now open to help those filing state and federal income tax returns. These sites are staffed by certified volunteers and offer in-person and virtual options with most being open through April 15.

Free tax preparation criteria

You can get help at a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site if any of the following apply:

- You are age 60 or older.
- You are a person with a disability.
- You speak limited or no English.
- Your annual income is less than \$67,000.

The AARP Tax-Aide program offers free tax preparation for all Minnesotans, particularly those age 50 or older. Unlike VITA sites, AARP Tax-Aide sites do not have income restrictions.

Find a site near you and be prepared

You can <u>search for a site near you</u> on the department's website using their search feature and interactive map. You can search for sites by zip code or county and find sites with interpreters and volunteers certified to file military returns. The <u>interactive map</u> has search options by city, county, or zip code.

You can also search for sites by calling 651-297-3724 or 1-800-657-3989 (toll-free).

Advance Child Tax Credit

Choosing advance payments of the Child Tax Credit may impact Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and eligibility.

How can I help customers on SNAP understand the impact of advance payments?

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families created a tool which provides an estimate of the effect of advance payments on a household's SNAP benefit using information about a household's SNAP case and information from their tax return.

For additional information about using the <u>estimator tool</u>, <u>read this user guide</u>.

Where can I find more information about advance payments?

You can find more information about advance payments including a payment schedule, repayment, and more on our <u>Advance Payments of the Child Tax Credit webpage</u>.

The Department of Child, Youth and Families also has a webpage with information about <u>What families who</u> receive SNAP should know when they claim the Minnesota Child Tax Credit.

Gross Operating Revenues Tax Idea – for utility, pipeline, and railroad operating property

Currently, the department does not have intentions of proposing legislation on this idea.

The Senate Taxes Committee requested the Department of Revenue provide an update on the <u>Idea for a Gross</u> <u>Operating Revenues Tax</u> during their <u>January 16 hearing</u>. This was an information presentation. You can find more information or watch the recording on the <u>Senate Taxes Committee webpage</u>.

On February 26, 2025, we published a <u>summary of the November feedback sessions</u> and the <u>second</u> consolidated responses to written feedback

As a reminder, **the department currently does not have intentions of proposing legislation on this idea.** We also are available for continued conversations on this idea or on ways to improve the current system.

Please submit any comments or questions to <u>sa.property@state.mn.us</u> or <u>holly.soderbeck@state.mn.us</u>.

Other Resources

- Programs/Refunds/Credits:
 - Child Tax Credit <u>webpage</u> and <u>video</u>
 - o Property Tax Refund, https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/property-tax-refund
 - o Senior Citizens, <u>https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/senior-citizens</u>
 - o Find Free Tax Preparation Help, <u>https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/free-tax-preparation-help</u>
 - o Where's My Refund?