

20% Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit

The Federal historic preservation tax incentives program (the 20% credit) is jointly administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Department of the Treasury. The National Park Service (NPS) acts on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in each State. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) acts on behalf of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Certification requests (requests for approval for a taxpayer to receive these benefits) are made to the National Park Service through the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Comments by the SHPO on certification requests are fully considered by the NPS. However, approval of projects undertaken for the 20% tax credit is conveyed *only in writing* by duly authorized officials of the National Park Service.

The 20% rehabilitation tax credit applies to any project that the Secretary of the Interior designates a *certified rehabilitation* of a *certified historic structure*. The 20% credit is available for properties rehabilitated for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but it is not available for properties used exclusively as the owner's private residence.

A *certified historic structure* is a building that is listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places -OR- a building that is located in a *registered historic district* and certified by the National Park Service as contributing to the historic significance of that district. The "structure" must be a building-not a bridge, ship, railroad car, or dam. (A *registered historic district* is any district listed in the National Register of Historic Places. A State or local historic district may also qualify as a *registered historic district* if the district and the enabling statute are certified by the Secretary of the Interior.)

For more information about Federal Tax incentives for Historic Preservation, please use the following link to the [National Park Service Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Technical Preservation Services](#)

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