



Green Roof Tax Credit

The City of Philadelphia's Green Roof Tax Credit provides businesses a rebate for 50% of green roof costs up to \$100,000.

Process

Applicants must be issued a building permit from the Department of Licenses and Inspections (L&I) before initiating construction of the green roof or applying for the tax credit. An engineer must complete and sign the second page of the application, attesting to the suitability of the roof. The tax credit application can be submitted before, during, or after construction of the green roof. Approved applicants must sign a Commitment Agreement with the Department of Revenue and complete construction of the green roof before receiving the tax credit. Unused portions of the credit may be carried forward to future tax years.



Green Roof at Ridge Avenue Wash & Lube

Eligibility

The applicant must own the property on which the green roof will be constructed and must be in compliance with all Philadelphia tax ordinances, regulations and published policies in order to claim the credit. Eligibility is restricted to businesses and individuals that file Business Income and Receipts Tax (BIRT). Every individual, partnership, association and corporation engaged in a business, profession or other activity for profit within the City of Philadelphia must file BIRT. This includes property managers, developers (residential, commercial, industrial), estates & trusts, retail & wholesale businesses and manufacturers.

Learn More & Apply

Application materials are available for download on the Department of Revenue website:

www.phila.gov/Revenue/taxpro/Pages/TaxCredits.aspx

For questions about eligibility and the application process:

Department of Revenue

Call: **215.686.6600**

Email: revenuetaxadvisors@phila.gov

For questions about how a green roof can help you meet Philadelphia stormwater management regulations:

PWD Plan Review

Call: **215.685.6387**

Email: PWD.PlanReview@phila.gov



Green Roof on UPenn Law School



Green Roof Tax Credit

Frequently Asked Questions

Does my mailing address or company address need to be the same as the address location of the green roof?

No. The address location of the green roof must be within the City of Philadelphia. The company address can be inside or outside of the City of Philadelphia, and does not need to be the same address.

I am a developer based out-of-state, constructing a development in the City of Philadelphia. Am I eligible for the tax credit?

Yes. You are eligible for the tax credit as long as the proposed green roof will be constructed on a building that you own, located within the City of Philadelphia.

I plan to construct a green roof to comply with the City's stormwater regulations. Am I eligible for a green roof tax credit?

Yes. You are eligible for the tax credit, even if the green roof will be constructed for compliance purposes.

I plan to construct a green roof to receive a discount on my stormwater bill. Am I eligible for a green roof tax credit too?

Yes. Recipients of Stormwater Billing Credits are also eligible for the Green Roof Tax Credit, assuming all other eligibility criteria are met.

What do I need to apply?

You will need a building permit for your green roof from the Department of Licenses and Inspections (L&I). You will need to complete the Green Roof Tax Credit Application, available at the Department of Revenue website. An engineer must complete and sign the second page of the application. You will need to be in compliance with all applicable tax ordinances, regulations and published policies.

Do I need to build the green roof before I can apply?

No. You only need to have a building permit from L&I before applying for the tax credit. Your building permit will expire if construction does not begin within six months after issuance of the permit, irrespective of your application for the tax credit. Once Revenue approves your application for the credit, you can begin construction on the green roof at any time, so long as your building permit is still valid.

Am I still eligible to apply if I have already started construction on my green roof?

Yes. You are encouraged to apply as early as possible, but you are still eligible to apply if you have already started construction on your green roof.



Green Roof on the PECO building

What year do I receive the tax credit? Can I wait and use the tax credit in a future tax year?

You will not receive the credit until the roof has been constructed and Revenue has certified the roof. You must use the tax credit in the year the roof was certified. However, any unused credits will be carried over to the next tax year. Credits can be carried over indefinitely until they are fully utilized.

How much does the application cost?

The building permit requires a filing fee of \$100, but the tax credit application is free.