

Please see [Child Care Refundable Tax Credit](#) on DOR's website for more information.

## Instructions

**Who May File.** Parents or legal guardians of children 5 years old or younger may apply to the Nebraska Department of Revenue (DOR) to receive a refundable tax credit. The parent or legal guardian must claim the child as a dependent for federal income tax purposes and is eligible for the refundable tax credit if:

- The child is enrolled in a child care program licensed pursuant to the Child Care Licensing Act;
- The child receives care from an approved license-exempt provider enrolled in the child care subsidy program pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 68-1202 and 68-1206; **or**
- The parent's or legal guardian's total household income is less than or equal to 100% of the federal poverty level.

The credit will equal:

- \$2,000 per child, if the total household income is no more than \$75,000; or
- \$1,000 per child, if the total household income is more than \$75,000 but no more than \$150,000.
- If the total household income is more than \$150,000, the parent or legal guardian is **not eligible** for the child care refundable tax credit.

**When to File.** Application submission for each tax year will open on the first business day in January following the applicable tax year. The Child Care Refundable Tax Credit Application, Form 7203, must be certified by DOR prior to claiming the tax credit on your individual income tax return. **Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to submit the Child Care Refundable Tax Credit Application, Form 7203, using DOR's Electronic Document & Application Submission Hub (eDASH).**

**What to File.** Parents and legal guardians must submit the Child Care Refundable Tax Credit Application, Form 7203. If any dependent child received care from a DHHS approved license-exempt provider enrolled in the Child Care Subsidy Program pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 68-1202 and 68-1206, they must also submit a copy of the DHHS authorization with their application. The DHHS authorization is available in the parent's or legal guardian's ACCESSNebraska or iServe Nebraska account.

**Where to File.** To expedite processing, **DOR recommends submitting the Child Care Refundable Tax Credit Application, Form 7203, electronically through the eDASH portal.**

Paper submissions of Form 7203 should be mailed to: Nebraska Department of Revenue, ATTN: **Child Care Refundable Tax Credit**, PO Box 98911, Lincoln, NE 68509-8911. **Do not submit this form with your income tax return** as the tax credit application must be certified by DOR prior to claiming the credit on your individual income tax return.

**Claiming the Credit.** After your Form 7203 has been certified and returned by DOR, you must claim the reserved credit amount on the applicable line of your Nebraska individual income tax return. You will need the **Certification Number** and **Reserved Credit Amount** from the Estimated Credit Authorization section of your approved Form 7203 when claiming the credit on your Nebraska individual income tax return.

**Dependent and Child Care Program Information.** A program also qualifies if the dependent child was enrolled in a preschool, nursery or school-age child care program that is not required to be licensed under the Child Care Licensing Act because the program is operated or contracted by a public school district and subject to the rules and regulations of the Nebraska Department of Education pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ [71-1910](#) and [71-1916\(4\)](#). Enter the Child Care Program/Provider Name and select NO in the license-exempt box. Then, in the Child Care License Number field, enter "HS" followed by your [Public High School District Code](#). For example, enter "HS5555001" for the Lincoln high school district in Lancaster County.

**Email.** By entering an email address, the applicant acknowledges DOR may contact the applicant by email. The applicant accepts any risk to confidentiality associated with this method of communication. DOR will send all confidential information by secure email. If you do not wish to be contacted by email, write "Opt Out" on the line labeled "email address."

**Tax Preparer.** A tax preparer may submit the [Form 7203](#) via eDASH on behalf of the applicant, provided they retain either a Form 7203 or a Power of Attorney, [Form 33](#), signed by the taxpayer in their records. A digital signature is acceptable on the Form 7203. Per [Revenue Ruling 99-20-1](#), a digital signature is not acceptable on the Form 33. The signed forms retained for your records do not need to be submitted to DOR unless requested.

