2019 Schedule CF Instructions

Purpose of Schedule CF

If certain nonrefundable credits are not entirely applied against tax for the year in which they are computed, the unused credit may be carried forward up to 15 years. Use Schedule CF to record the amount of credit used in a year and the amount that may be carried forward and offset against tax in a future year.

Use Schedule CF to report credits computed for any taxable year from 2004-2019 if you have an amount of unused credit to be carried forward to 2019 and future years.

If a credit is still available, the carryforward of the credit is claimed on the same schedule used to compute the credit. For example, the carryforward of the manufacturing credit is claimed on Schedule MA-M.

If a credit is no longer available (only a carryforward is allowed), the carryforward of the credit is claimed on the appropriate line of Schedule CR, Other Credits. In this case, the amounts in Columns (d) and (e) of Schedule CF will be the same as the amounts in Columns A and B of Schedule CR. However, if a combined return is filed, the credit is claimed on Part V of Form 6.

Do not enclose Schedule CF if the full amount of a credit was computed and used in the same year.

General Instructions

Who must file Schedule CF You must file Schedule CF if you had any of the following credits and the entire amount of the credit was not used to offset tax for the year for which the credit was computed or as of the first day of your taxable year beginning in 2019 (January 1, 2019, for calendar-year filers).

Code No. Name of Credit
01 Community development finance
02 Community rehabilitation program
03 Dairy and livestock farm investment
04 Development zones
11 Early stage seed investment
12 Economic development
13 Ethanol and biodiesel fuel pump
14 Film production company investment
15 Film production services
16 Health insurance risk-sharing assessments
17 Internet equipment
18 Biodiesel fuel production
20 Manufacturing investment
21 Postsecondary education
22 Research expense
23 Research expense-energy efficient products
24 Research expense-internal combustion engines
25 Research facilities
26 Research facilities-energy efficient products
27 Research facilities-internal combustion engines
29 Supplement to federal historic rehabilitation
30 Technology zone
31 Water consumption
32 Electronic medical records
33 Veteran employment
34 Manufacturing
35 Development opportunity zone investment
36 Agriculture
37 Capital investment
40 State historic rehabilitation
41 Angel investment
42 Low-income housing
43 Employee college savings account contribution

Note: The list of credits does not include the manufacturer's sales tax credit as the carryforward amount is determined on Schedule MS.

File a separate Schedule CF for each credit for which you have a carryforward. If you computed the same credit for more than one taxable year, complete a separate row of Schedule CF for each year for which the same credit was computed.

Example: You computed an economic development credit of $20,000 for 2015. You used $10,000 of the credit and have a carryforward of the remaining $10,000. You computed an additional economic development credit of $30,000 for 2016. The entire $30,000 of the 2016 credit will be carried forward. You must complete two rows of the worksheet, one for the 2015 credit and one for the 2016 credit. If you also have a carryforward of another credit (for example, the angel investment credit), a separate Schedule CF must be completed for that credit.

How do I determine how much credit has been used each year? Wisconsin law provides that the listed credits “may” be claimed for a taxable year. Because the statutes use the word “may” instead of “shall” or “must,” you have the option of claiming all, a portion, or none of the credit available for a particular year. Any amount not used in the year for which a credit is computed may be carried forward and offset against tax until entirely used or the 15-year carryforward period expires, whichever is earlier.

The amount of credit used for 2019 is the amount from the appropriate line of Column B of Schedule CR.

Must I complete a new Schedule CF each year? You must submit a new Schedule CF each year until the carryforward is eliminated or until the 15-year carryforward period expires, whichever is earlier.
Specific Instructions

Fill in the name and identification number of the individual or entity that has a carryforward of an unused credit.

Fill in the code number and name of the credit. The code number for each credit is listed on the first page of these instructions. Enter the code number in the bracketed space. For example, if you are filing Schedule CF for the carryforward of the agriculture credit, fill in 36 in the space for the code number.

Column (b) For each year listed in column (a) for which you computed a credit and have an unused amount of credit to carry forward, fill in the amount of computed credit.

Example: You computed technology zone credits of $10,000 for 2004, $15,000 for 2011, and $8,000 for 2015. You would fill in $10,000 in column (b) for 2004, $15,000 in column (b) for 2011, and $8,000 in column (b) for 2015.

Include both the credit computed for yourself or the business entity and any credit passed through from a tax-option (S) corporation, partnership, LLC treated as a partnership, estate, or trust.

CAUTION Special instructions apply to recipients of a transferred credit. If you are the recipient of a transferred supplement to federal historic rehabilitation tax credit or early stage seed investment credit, fill in the amount of credit transferred to you in column (b) for the year in which the credit was originally computed by the person or entity that transferred the credit to you. If you are the recipient of a transferred economic development tax credit, fill in the amount of credit transferred to you in column (b) for the year of the transfer.

Column (c) For each computed credit in column (b), fill in the amount of credit used for the year in which the credit was computed (or transferred to you) plus the amount used in all subsequent years. If you transferred any portion of a credit to another person or entity during a year, include the amount transferred in column (c) as credit used.

Example: You computed an angel investment credit of $25,000 for 2012. You used $10,000 for 2012, $2,000 for 2013, and $5,000 for 2018. Fill in $17,000 in column (c) as credit used through 2018.

Column (d) For each year that has a computed credit, subtract the amount in column (c) from the amount in column (b). This is the amount of credit available for 2019. Enter this amount on the appropriate line of Column A of 2019 Schedule CR.

Column (e) For each year that has a credit available for 2019, fill in the amount of credit used on your 2019 return. Include as credit used in 2019 any amount of credit transferred to another person or entity during 2019. This is the amount from the appropriate line of Column B of Schedule CR plus the amount of credit that you transferred to another person or entity in 2019.

Column (f) For each year that has a credit available for 2019, subtract the amount in column (e) from the amount in column (d). This is the amount of credit that is available for 2020.

Note: For the 2004 year, column (f) is shaded. Do not enter any amount in this space. The 15-year carryforward period for a credit computed in 2004 has expired and any credit computed in 2004 cannot be carried forward to 2020.

Attachments to the Return

A copy of Schedule CF must be enclosed with your Wisconsin income or franchise tax return each year for which a carryforward of a credit is available.

Additional Information

For more information, you may:

Email your questions to: DORFranchise@wisconsin.gov

Call: (608) 266-2772

TTY: Call the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System at 711

Write to:
Corporate Franchise and Income Tax Assistance
Wisconsin Department of Revenue
PO Box 8906
Madison WI 53708-8906

Applicable Laws and Rules

This document provides statements or interpretations of the following laws and regulations in effect as of November 1, 2019: Chapter 71, Wis. Stats.