

ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM Incentive Information Sheet

The State of Florida established Enterprise Zones (EZ) to encourage business development, expansion and job creation in Florida, especially in economically distressed areas. Businesses, which locate or expand in an EZ and hire employees who live in the zone, can reduce their State tax liability.

As the local Enterprise Zone Coordinator, the Regulatory and Resources Department (RER) maintains the day-to-day operations for the 53.1 square-mile EZ. All tax incentive applications must be certified at a local office before the applications are sent to the Department of Revenue to be processed.

EZ Address Locator: <http://gisweb.miamidade.gov/businessincentive>

EZ Incentive Applications are available on the Florida EZ website:

<http://www.enterpriseflorida.com/why-florida/business-climate/incentives/enterprise-zone-incentives/>

SALES TAX BENEFITS

Sales Tax Credit for Job Creation

Businesses which collect and pay Florida Sales and Use Tax, may apply for a State sales tax credit equal to 20% or 30% of wages paid to new Enterprise Zone residents. If the percentage of employees residing in an Enterprise Zone is *less* than 20 % the tax credit will be 20 % of monthly wages paid to a new employee. If this percentage is 20% or more the tax credit will be 30% of monthly wages paid to a new employee.

Sales Tax Refund on Business Equipment

For businesses locating or expanding in an Enterprise Zone, 97% of the State sales tax on business property is exempted, up to \$10,000.

Sales Tax Refund on Building Materials

If a business builds or renovates in an Enterprise Zone, 97% of the State sales tax on materials used in rehabilitation of real property is exempted, up to \$10,000 per parcel of real property.

Sales Tax Exemption for Electricity

If a business builds or expands in an Enterprise Zone, 50% or 100% of the State sales tax on utilities and 50% of the municipal utility tax is exempted based on municipality participation.

CORPORATE INCOME TAX BENEFITS

Jobs Credit

For businesses that pay Florida Corporate Income Tax, the business may apply for a State Corporate Income tax credit equal to 20% or 30% of wages paid to new Enterprise Zone residents. If the percentage of employees residing in an Enterprise Zone is *less* than 20% the tax credit will be 20% of monthly wages paid to a new employee. If this percentage is 20% or more the tax credit will be 30% of monthly wages paid to a new employee.

Property Tax Credit

For businesses that pay Florida Corporate Income Tax, a tax credit equal to 96% of all ad valorem taxes not abated by local government is applied against State corporate income taxes for a period of up to five (5) years. If 20% or more of the full-time employees are enterprise zone residents the maximum of \$50,000 annual credit per eligible location can be claimed for 5 years; otherwise, the credit is limited to \$25,000 annually per eligible location for five years.

Community Contribution Tax Incentive

If a business pays Florida Corporate Income Tax, 50 % of contributions made to approve community organizations is credited against State corporate income taxes.

50% Exemption Sales Tax on Electricity (State and Miami-Dade County Incentive)

Qualified company can receive an exemption of 50% of the sales tax levied by the County on electricity in the unincorporated areas of the County. The facility must have been renovated and without power for three months or the company must have applied and been approved for a Building Materials Sales Tax refund for a property located in the EZ.

For questions please contact Lori Weldon at (305) 375-3623 or loriw@miamidade.gov

For additional information visit our website at: <http://www.miamidade.gov/business/enterprise-zones.asp>