R&D Tax Credit for Mechanical Contractors

The Credit for Increasing Research Activities (IRC Section 41) or the R&D Tax Credit, as it is more commonly known, has been around since 1981. While the methodologies for calculating and documenting the credit have evolved through the years, the R&D Tax Credit remains a great benefit to the taxpayers that are eligible for this incentive. With the PATH Act of 2015 making the R&D Tax Credit permanent and enabling eligible start-up companies to offset payroll taxes, some taxpayers do not even have to be in a taxable position to benefit from the credit!

Example Qualifying R&D Credit Activities for Mechanical Contractors

- Design and development of new Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems or improvements/upgrades for existing HVAC systems for new or renovated buildings or structures
- » Development of unique heat exchange, humidity control, refrigeration, or air filtration solutions
- » Design and development to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) or energy efficient requirements
- » Building Information Modeling (BIM) to develop designs and evaluate constructability and functionality
- » Programming and installation of Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs)
- » Mechanical system testing and commissioning

New businesses and start-up companies may be eligible to apply the R&D Tax Credit against their payroll taxes for up to five years. Eligible companies can claim a payroll-tax offset of up to \$500,000 annually. Gross Receipts for 5 years or fewer

> Less than \$5M in GRs annually

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Elected on originally filed return If you'd like more information or if you have any questions, please contact a member of the R&D team: Ross Alessandro, Erin Haase or Charlotte Garraway.



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