

▶ See instructions.  
▶ Attach to Form 1040 or Form 1040NR.

Name(s) shown on return

Your social security number

**Before you begin:** Figure the amount of any District of Columbia first-time homebuyer credit you are claiming.

**Note.** Skip lines 1 through 12 if you only have a **credit carryforward from 2007.**

1	Qualified solar electric property costs . . . . .	1				
2	Multiply line 1 by 30% (.30) . . . . .	2				
3	Maximum credit amount . . . . .	3	\$2,000			
4	Enter the smaller of line 2 or line 3 . . . . .	4				
5	Qualified solar water heating property costs . . . . .	5				
6	Multiply line 5 by 30% (.30) . . . . .	6				
7	Maximum credit amount . . . . .	7	\$2,000			
8	Enter the smaller of line 6 or line 7 . . . . .	8				
9	Qualified fuel cell property costs . . . . .	9				
10	Multiply line 9 by 30% (.30) . . . . .	10				
11	Kilowatt capacity of property on line 9 above ▶ X \$1,000	11				
12	Enter the smaller of line 10 or line 11 . . . . .	12				
13	Credit carryforward from 2007. Enter the amount, if any, from your 2007 Form 5695, line 34 . . . . .	13				
14	Add lines 4, 8, 12, and 13 . . . . .	14				
15	Enter the amount from Form 1040, line 44, or Form 1040NR, line 41	15				
16	<b>1040 filers:</b> Enter the total, if any, of your credits from Form 1040, lines 47 through 49, plus the amounts, if any, from line 13 of Form 8396, and line 7 of Form 8859.	16				
	<b>1040NR filers:</b> Enter the amount, if any, from Form 1040NR, line 44, plus the amount, if any, from line 13 of Form 8396, and line 7 of Form 8859.					
17	Enter the amount from Form 6251, line 31 . . . . .	17				
18	Add lines 16 and 17 . . . . .	18				
19	Subtract line 18 from line 15. If zero or less, enter -0- here and on line 20 . . . . .	19				
20	<b>Residential energy efficient property credit.</b> Enter the smaller of line 14 or line 19 here and on Form 1040, line 53, or Form 1040NR, line 48, and check box b on that line . . . . .	20				
21	Credit carryforward to 2009. If line 20 is less than line 14, subtract line 20 from line 14 . . . . .	21				

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## General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code.

### What's New

**Nonbusiness energy property credit expired.** You cannot take the nonbusiness energy property credit for property placed in service after 2007.

### Purpose of Form

Use Form 5695 to figure and take your residential energy efficient property credit, including any credit carryforward from 2007.

### Who Can Take the Credit

You may be able to take the credit if you made energy saving improvements to your home located in the United States in 2008. For credit purposes, costs are treated as being paid when the original installation of the item is completed, or in the case of costs connected with the construction or reconstruction of your home, when your original use of the constructed or reconstructed home begins. If less than 80% of the use of an item is for nonbusiness purposes, only that portion of the costs that are allocable to the nonbusiness use can be used to determine the credit.

**Home.** A home is where you lived in 2008 and may include a house, houseboat, mobile home, cooperative apartment, condominium, and a manufactured home that conforms to Federal Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards.

You must reduce the basis of your home by the amount of any credits allowed.

**Main home.** Your main home is generally the home where you live most of the time. A temporary absence due to special circumstances, such as illness, education, business, military service, or vacation, will not change your main home.

**Special rules.** If you are a member of a condominium management association for a condominium you own or a tenant-stockholder in a cooperative housing corporation, you are treated as having paid your proportionate share of any costs of such association or corporation.

**Subsidized energy financing.** Any amounts provided for by subsidized energy financing cannot be used to figure the credits. This is financing provided under a federal, state, or local program, the principal purpose of which is to provide subsidized financing for projects designed to conserve or produce energy.

### Residential Energy Efficient Property Credit

You may be able to take a credit of 30% of your costs of qualified solar electric property, solar water heating property, and fuel cell property. This includes labor costs properly allocable to the onsite preparation, assembly, or original installation of the property and for piping or wiring to interconnect such property to the home. This credit is limited to:

- \$2,000 for qualified solar electric property costs,
- \$2,000 for qualified solar water heating property costs, and

- \$500 for each one-half kilowatt of capacity of qualified fuel cell property for which qualified fuel cell property costs are paid.

**Qualified solar electric property costs.** Qualified solar electric property costs are costs for property that uses solar energy to generate electricity for use in a home located in the United States and used as your home. This includes costs relating to a solar panel or other property installed as a roof or a portion of a roof. The home does not have to be your main home.

**Qualified solar water heating property costs.** Qualified solar water heating property costs are costs for property to heat water for use in a home located in the United States and used as your home if at least half of the energy used by the solar water heating property for such purpose is derived from the sun. This includes costs relating to a solar panel or other property installed as a roof or a portion of a roof. To qualify for the credit, the property must be certified for performance by the nonprofit Solar Rating Certification Corporation or a comparable entity endorsed by the government of the state in which the property is installed. The home does not have to be your main home.

**Qualified fuel cell property costs.** Qualified fuel cell property costs are costs for qualified fuel cell property installed on or in connection with your main home located in the United States. Qualified fuel cell property is an integrated system comprised of a fuel cell stack assembly and associated balance of plant components that converts a fuel into electricity using electrochemical means. To qualify for the credit, the fuel cell property must have a nameplate capacity of at least one-half kilowatt of electricity using an electrochemical process and an electricity-only generation efficiency greater than 30%.



*Costs allocable to a swimming pool, hot tub, or any other energy storage medium which has a function other than the function of such storage do not qualify for the residential energy efficiency credit.*

**Married taxpayers with more than one home.** If you or your spouse lived in more than one home that you used as a home, the credit limits would apply to each of you separately. For qualified fuel cell property, the homes must be your main homes. If you are filing separate returns, both of you must complete a separate Form 5695. If you are filing a joint return, figure your nonbusiness energy property credit as follows.

1. Complete a separate Form 5695 for each home through line 12.
2. On one of the forms, complete line 13. Then, figure the amount to be entered on line 14 of both forms and enter the combined amount on line 14 of this form.
3. On the dotted line to the left of the entry space for line 14, enter "More than one home". Then, complete the rest of this form.
4. Attach both forms to your return.

**Joint occupancy.** If you occupied your home jointly, each occupant must complete his or her own Form 5695. To figure the credit, the maximum qualifying costs that can be taken into account by all occupants for figuring the credit is \$6,667 for qualified solar electric or solar water heating property, and \$1,667 for each one-half kilowatt of capacity of qualified fuel cell property. The amount allocable to you is the lesser of:

1. The amount you paid, or
2. The maximum qualifying cost of the property multiplied by a fraction. The numerator is the amount you paid and the denominator is the total amount paid by you and all other occupants.

These rules do not apply to married individuals filing a joint return.

## Specific Instructions



*Also include on lines 1, 5, or 9, any labor costs properly allocable to the onsite preparation, assembly, or original installation of the property and for piping or wiring to interconnect such property to the home.*

### Line 1

Enter the amounts you paid for qualified solar electric property. See *Qualified solar electric property costs* on page 3.

### Line 5

Enter the amounts you paid for qualified solar water heating property. See *Qualified solar water heating property costs* on page 3.

### Line 9

Enter the amounts you paid for qualified fuel cell property. See *Qualified fuel cell property costs* on page 3.

### Line 21

If you cannot use all of the credit because of the tax liability limit (line 19 is less than line 14), you can carry the unused portion of the credit to 2009.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.** We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The average time and expenses required to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. For the estimated averages, see the instructions for your income tax return.

If you have suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for your income tax return.

