Instructions for Form 8801

Credit for Prior Year Minimum Tax—Individuals, Estates, and Trusts

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

General Instructions

Purpose of Form
Use Form 8801 if you are an individual, estate, or trust to figure the minimum tax credit, if any, for alternative minimum tax (AMT) you incurred in prior tax years and to figure any minimum tax credit carryforward.

Who Should File
Complete Form 8801 if you are an individual, estate, or trust that for 2005 had:

- An AMT liability and adjustments or preferences other than exclusion items,
- A minimum tax credit carryforward to 2006, or
- An unallowed nonconventional source fuel credit or qualified electric vehicle credit (see the instructions for line 20).

File Form 8801 only if line 21 is more than zero.

Specific Instructions

The AMT is caused by two types of adjustments and preferences—deferral items and exclusion items. Deferral items (for example, depreciation) generally do not cause a permanent difference in taxable income over time. Exclusion items (for example, the standard deduction), on the other hand, do cause a permanent difference. The minimum tax credit is allowed only for the AMT caused by deferral items.

Part I—Net Minimum Tax on Exclusion Items

Line 1—Estates and Trusts
Skip lines 1 through 3 of Form 8801. Complete Parts I and II of another 2005 Form 1041, Schedule I. For Part I of Schedule I, take into account only exclusion items (the amounts included on lines 2 through 6, 8, and 9, and any other adjustments related to exclusion items included on line 23 of Schedule I). On line 24 of Schedule I, use the minimum tax credit net operating loss deduction (MTCNOLD). However, do not limit the MTCNOLD to 90% of the total of lines 1 through 23 of Schedule I. (See the instructions for line 3 on this page for how to figure the MTCNOLD.) In Part II of Schedule I, complete lines 35 and 36 without taking into account any basis adjustments arising from deferral items. If the amount on Schedule I, line 29, is zero or less, enter -0- on Form 8801, line 4. Otherwise, enter on Form 8801, line 4, the amount from Schedule I, line 29, adjusted for exclusion items that were allocated to the beneficiary.

Line 2
Enter on this line the adjustments and preferences treated as exclusion items (except the standard deduction). Exclusion items are only the following AMT adjustments and preferences: itemized deductions (including any investment interest expense reported on Schedule E), certain tax-exempt interest, depletion, the section 1202 exclusion, and any other adjustments related to exclusion items. Do not include the standard deduction. It has already been included on line 1. Combining lines 2 through 5, 7 through 9, 11, and 12 of your 2005 Form 6251. Do not include any amount from line 14 of the 2005 Form 6251. Instead, include the exclusion item amount from the Schedule(s) K-1 (Form 1041) you received for 2005. That amount is shown in box 12 with code J. If you included on line 26 of the 2005 Form 6251 any adjustments related to exclusion items, also include those adjustments in the amount you enter on line 2. Enter the total on line 2.

Exclusion items on other lines. If you included any exclusion item on a line not listed above, include that item in the amount you enter on line 2. For example, if depletion was included on Form 6251 as an adjustment on line 18 (passive activities) instead of on line 9 (depletion), include it as an exclusion item in the amount you enter on line 2.

Line 3
Your minimum tax credit net operating loss deduction (MTCNOLD) is the total of the minimum tax credit net operating loss deduction (MTCNOLD) carried forward from previous years. Your MTCNOLD is figured as follows.

Your MTCNOL is the excess of the deductions (excluding the MTCNOLD) over the income used to figure alternative minimum taxable income (AMTI) taking into account only exclusion items. Figure this excess with the modifications in section 172(d) taking into account only exclusion items. (That is, the section 172(d) modifications must be figured separately for the MTCNOLD.)

For example, the limitation of nonbusiness deductions to the amount of nonbusiness income must be figured separately for the MTCNOLD using only nonbusiness income and deductions but taking into account only exclusion items. However, ignore the disallowance of the deduction for personal exemptions under section 172(d)(3) because it has already been taken into account to figure AMTI attributable only to exclusion items.

To determine the amount of MTCNOL that may be carried to tax years other than 2005, apply sections 172(b)(2) and 172(d) with appropriate modifications to take into account only exclusion items.

Line 4
If your filing status was married filing separately for 2005 and line 4 is more than $191,000, you must include an
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additional amount on line 4. If line 4 is $307,000 or more, include an additional $29,000 on line 4. Otherwise, include 25% of the excess of the amount on line 4 over $191,000. For example, if the amount on line 4 is $211,000, enter $216,000 instead—the additional $5,000 is 25% of $20,000 ($211,000 minus $191,000).

Line 9
If this form is for a child who was under age 14 at the end of 2005 and at least one of the child’s parents was alive at the end of 2005, do not enter more than the sum of the child’s 2005 earned income plus $5,850.

A child born on January 1, 1992, is considered to be age 14 at the end of 2005 and is therefore not subject to this limitation.

Line 10
If you filed Form 1040NR for 2005 and had a net gain on the disposition of U.S. real property interests, line 10 cannot be less than the smaller of that net gain or line 4.

Line 12
If you made an election to claim the foreign tax credit on your 2005 Form 1040 (or Form 1040NR) without filing Form 1116, enter on Form 8801, line 12, the amount from your 2005 Form 1040, line 47 (or Form 1040NR, line 44). Otherwise, the minimum tax foreign tax credit on exclusion items (MTFTCE) is your 2005 AMT foreign tax credit (AMTFTC) refuged using only exclusion items. Follow these steps to figure your MTFTCE.

Step 1. Use a separate 2005 Form 1116 for the MTFTCE for each separate category of income specified at the top of Form 1116.

When applying the separate categories of income, use the applicable AMT rate instead of the regular tax rate to determine if any income is “high-taxed.”

Step 2. If you figured your 2005 AMTFTC using the simplified limitation election, skip Part I and enter on the MTFTCE Form 1116, line 16, the same amount you entered on that line for the 2005 AMT Form 1116. Otherwise, complete Part I using only taxable income and exclusion items that are attributable to sources outside the United States. If you had any 2005 foreign source qualified dividends or foreign source capital gains (including any foreign source capital gain distributions) or losses, use the instructions under Step 3 to determine whether you must make adjustments to those amounts before you include the amounts on line 1 or line 5 of the MTFTCE Form 1116.

Step 3. Follow the instructions below, if applicable, to determine the amount of foreign source qualified dividends, capital gain distributions, and other capital gains and losses to include on line 1 and line 5 of the MTFTCE Form 1116.

Foreign qualified dividends. You must adjust your foreign source qualified dividends before you include those amounts on line 1 of the MTFTCE Form 1116 if:

• Line 44 of Form 8801 is smaller than line 45, and
• Line 32 of Form 8801 is greater than zero.

But do not need to make any adjustments if:

• You qualified for the adjustment exception under Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet (Individuals), Qualified Dividends Tax Worksheet (Estates and Trusts), or Adjustments to foreign qualified dividends under Schedule D Filers, whichever applies, in the Form 1116 instructions when you completed your regular tax Form 1116 (or you would have qualified for that adjustment exception if you had completed a regular tax Form 1116) for 2005, and
• Line 32 of Form 8801 is not more than $175,000 ($87,500 if married filing separately).

To adjust your foreign source qualified dividends, multiply your foreign source qualified dividends in each separate category by 0.5357. Include the results on line 1 of the applicable MTFTCE Form 1116. But do not adjust the amount of any foreign source qualified dividend you elected to include on line 4g of Form 4952.

Individuals with capital gain distributions only. If you had no 2005 capital gains or losses other than capital gain distributions from box 2a of Form(s) 1099-DIV or substitute statement(s), you must adjust your foreign source capital gain distributions before you include those amounts on line 1 of the MTFTCE Form 1116 if you are required to adjust your foreign source qualified dividends. See the rules just described or you would be required to adjust your foreign source qualified dividends if you had any.

To adjust your foreign source capital gain distributions, multiply your foreign source capital gain distributions in each separate category by 0.5357. Include the results on line 1 of the applicable MTFTCE Form 1116. But do not adjust the amount of any foreign source capital gain distribution you elected to include on line 4g of Form 4952.

Other capital gains or losses. Use Worksheet A in the instructions for the 2005 Form 1116 to determine the adjustments you must make to your foreign source capital gains or losses if you have foreign source capital gains or losses in more than two separate categories and any of the following apply.

• You figured your 2005 tax using the Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet in the Form 1040 (or Form 1040NR) instructions and line 3 of that worksheet minus the amount on line 4e of Form 4952 that you elected to include on line 4g of Form 4952 is zero or less.
• Line 15 or 16 of your 2005 Schedule D (Form 1040) (line 14a or 15 of Schedule D (Form 1041)) is zero or a loss.
• You figured your 2005 tax using the Schedule D Tax Worksheet in the Schedule D (Form 1040) instructions or in the Form 1041 instructions and line 9 of that worksheet is zero or a loss.
• You were not required to make adjustments to your foreign source qualified dividends under the rules described above (or you would not have been required to make those adjustments if you had foreign source qualified dividends).

Use Worksheet B if you:

• Cannot use Worksheet A,
• Had 2005 foreign source capital gains and losses in no more than two separate categories, and
• Did not have any item of recaptured section 1250 gain or 28% rate gain or loss.

Instructions for Worksheets A and B. When you complete Worksheet A or Worksheet B, do not use any foreign source capital gains you elected to include on line 4g of Form 4952. Use 0.5357 instead of 0.4286 to
complete lines 11, 13, and 15 of Worksheet B and to complete Steps 4 and 5 of the Line 15 Worksheet for Worksheet B.

If you do not qualify to use Worksheet A or Worksheet B, use the instructions for Capital Gains and Losses in Pub. 514 to determine the adjustments you make.

**Step 4.** Complete lines 9 through 13 of the MTFTCE Form 1116. For line 9, use the same amount you entered on that line for 2005 for the regular tax. Use your MTFTCE carryover, if any, on line 10.

**Step 5.** If you did not figure your 2005 AMTFTC using the simplified limitation election, complete lines 14 through 16 of the MTFTCE Form 1116.

**Step 6.** If you did not complete Part III of Form 8801, enter the amount from Form 8801, line 4, on line 17 of the MTFTCE Form 1116 and go to Step 7. If you completed Part III of Form 8801, you must complete, for the MTFTCE, the Worksheet for Line 17 in the Form 1116 instructions to determine the amount to enter on line 17 of the MTFTCE Form 1116:

- Line 44 of Form 8801 is smaller than line 45, and
- Line 32 of Form 8801 is greater than zero.

But you do not need to complete the Worksheet for Line 17 if:

- You qualified for the adjustment exception under Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet (Individuals), Qualified Dividends Tax Worksheet (Estates and Trusts), or Adjustments to foreign qualified dividends under Schedule D Filers, whichever applies, in the Form 1116 instructions when you completed your regular tax Form 1116 (or you would have qualified for that adjustment exception if you had completed a regular tax Form 1116) for 2005, and
- Line 32 of Form 8801 is not more than $175,000 ($87,500 if married filing separately).

If you do not need to complete the Worksheet for Line 17, enter the amount from line 4 of Form 8801 on line 17 of the MTFTCE Form 1116.

**Instructions for MTFTCE Worksheet for Line 17.** Follow these steps to complete, for the MTFTCE, the Worksheet for Line 17 in the Form 1116 instructions.

1. Enter the amount from Form 8801, line 4, on line 1 of the worksheet.
2. Skip lines 2 and 3 of the worksheet.
3. Enter the amount from Form 8801, line 42, on line 4 of the worksheet.
4. Multiply line 4 of the worksheet by 0.1071 (instead of 0.2857). Enter the result on line 5 of the worksheet.
5. Enter the amount from Form 8801, line 40, on line 6 of the worksheet.
6. Multiply line 6 of the worksheet by 0.4643 (instead of 0.5714). Enter the result on line 7 of the worksheet.
7. Complete lines 8 and 9 of the worksheet as instructed on the worksheet.

**Step 7.** Enter the amount from Form 8801, line 11, on the MTFTCE Form 1116, line 19. Complete lines 18, 20, and 21 of the MTFTCE Form 1116.

**Step 8.** Complete Part IV of the first MTFTCE Form 1116 only. Enter the amount from that MTFTCE Form 1116, line 33, on Form 8801, line 12.

**Step 9.** Keep all Forms 1116 you used to figure your MTFTCE, but do not attach them to your tax return.

If line 13 of the MTFTCE Form 1116 is greater than line 20 of the MTFTCE Form 1116, keep a record of the difference. This amount is carried forward and used to figure your MTFTCE next year.

**Part II—Minimum Tax Credit and Carryforward to 2007**

**Line 20.** Enter the total of any nonconventional source fuel credit and qualified electric vehicle credit not allowed for 2005 solely because of the limitations under sections 29(b)(6)(B) and 30(b)(3)(B).

**Line 21.** If line 21 is zero or less, you do not have a minimum tax credit or a minimum tax credit carryforward. Do not complete the rest of this form and do not file it.

**Line 22.** Follow the instructions below and refer to your 2006 income tax return to figure the amount to enter on line 22.

**Form 1040.** Subtract from the amount on line 44 the total of any credits on lines 47 through 55 (not including any credit for prior year minimum tax, clean renewable energy bond credit, and credit for Gulf tax credit bonds). If the result is zero or less, enter -0-.

**Form 1040NR.** Subtract from the amount on line 41 the total of any credits on lines 44 through 50 (not including any credit for prior year minimum tax, clean renewable energy bond credit, and credit for Gulf tax credit bonds). If the result is zero or less, enter -0-.

**Form 1041, Schedule G.** Subtract the total of any credits on lines 2a through 2c (not including any clean renewable energy bond credit and any credit for Gulf tax credit bonds) from the sum of lines 1a and 1b. If the result is zero or less, enter -0-.

**Part III—Tax Computation Using Maximum Capital Gains Rates**

If your 2005 taxable income was zero or less, complete lines 2 through 6 of the 2005 Qualified Dividends and Capital Gain Tax Worksheet, lines 18 through 22 of the 2005 Schedule D (Form 1041), or lines 2 through 13 of the 2005 Schedule D Tax Worksheet, whichever applies, before completing Part III.

**Estates and trusts.** If you figured your 2005 tax using the Qualified Dividends Tax Worksheet in the Form 1041 instructions, enter the amount from line 4 of that worksheet on Form 8801, lines 28 and 30; skip Form 8801, line 29; and enter on Form 8801, line 35, the amount from line 5 of that worksheet.
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The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated burden for individual taxpayers filing this form is approved under OMB control number 1545-0074 and is included in the estimates shown in the instructions for their individual income tax return. The estimated burden for all other taxpayers who file this form is shown below.

- Recordkeeping: 2 hr., 4 min.
- Learning about the law or the form: 1 hr., 48 min.
- Preparing the form: 1 hr., 36 min.
- Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS: 34 min.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for the tax return with which this form is filed.