



STATE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

(Tax Year 2002)

**Could You Use Money Back From
Your Homestead Property Tax?**

State Homestead Property Tax Credit

1 What Is It?

The **Homestead Property Tax Credit** is a state benefit available to eligible Michigan residents who pay high property taxes in relation to their income.

2 Who Qualifies?

You may qualify for a Homestead Property Tax Credit if:

- ✧ Your homestead (i.e., the place you reside) is in Michigan;
- ✧ You lived in Michigan for at least 6 months in 2002;
- ✧ You pay property taxes or rent on your Michigan homestead; and
- ✧ Your income is below \$82,650.

3 How Much is the Credit?

The credit you receive depends on your income. The maximum credit is \$1,200. The computed credit is reduced by 10 percent for every \$1,000 (or part of \$1,000) that the household income exceeds \$73,650. The Homestead Property Tax Credit can be used to reduce the amount of taxes owed or it can be issued as a refund.

4 How Do You Get the Credit?

- ✧ Applicants must use Form MI-1040CR.
- ✧ If you are:
 - blind and own your homestead,
 - are active in the military, are an eligible veteran, or
 - the surviving spouse of a veteran,you should complete Form MI-1040CR-2, as well as MI-1040CR. Return whichever gives you a larger credit.

5 Do You Need Help With Your Claim?

Call the Michigan Department of Treasury at **1 (800) 367-6263** to request Form MI-1040CR or MI-1040CR-2, or call from a fax phone 1 (517) 241-8730 and receive forms by fax. Call **1 (800) 487-7000** for help filling out the form or to check on the status of your refund or claim. Call **Michigan Tele-Help System 1 (800) 827-4000** (ext. 311 for the Property Tax Credit) for an automated system of information anytime. Forms are also available on the web site: www.treasury.state.mi.us.



Remember...

You do not have to file a Michigan income tax return in order to qualify for the credit. If you do not have to file, you can file a credit claim as soon as you know your 2002 household income and property taxes levied for 2002.