

Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC)



Direct Your Tax Dollars to Local Education

Each year, more than 2,000 students in the Wissahickon Valley engage in Wissahickon Trails' environmental education program thanks to funding by the Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. Our educators work in partnership with local school districts and teachers to provide hands-on, experiential learning in the environmental sciences.

The Education Improvement Tax Credit is a state program that supports academic enrichment programs by providing tax credits to businesses that make financial contributions to approved Educational Improvement Organizations. Wissahickon Trails is an approved Education Improvement Organization.

It Could Increase Your Bottom Line

EITC provides companies with a 75% tax credit for donations to an Educational Improvement Organization. The tax credit increases to 90% if the company commits to making the same donations for two consecutive years. Not only does your business receive a PA state tax credit for your contribution to an Educational Improvement Organization, but your contribution is also eligible as a charitable donation on your federal tax returns. Consult your tax professional for specific rules.

Which Taxes are Eligible for Educational Improvement Tax Credits?

Entities eligible to apply for EITC are companies authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that are subject to any of the following taxes:

- Personal Income Tax Derived from Pass-Through Entities (i.e. LLC, S-Corp)
- Corporate Net Income Tax
- Capital Stock Franchise Tax
- Bank and Trust Company Shares Tax
- Title Insurance Companies Shares Tax
- Insurance Premiums Tax
- Mutual Thrift Institutions Tax

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Wissahickon Trails' Academic Enrichment Programs

Academic enrichment programs are educational programs that complement and enhance students' classroom curriculum. Wissahickon Trails' environmental education program provides students with classroom and field-based learning experiences in the environmental sciences, including an introduction to the water cycle, watersheds, water chemistry, and aquatic life. What makes our program so special is the unique balance of classroom and outdoor learning. Our environmental education program is developed in partnership with local school districts and private schools and meet Pennsylvania content standards.

"Wissahickon Trails education program provides enrichment and hands-on activities that correspond directly to school curriculum. The classroom lessons and activities- both on school grounds and off site at Wissahickon Trails' preserves, the Wissahickon Creek, and the Evans-Mumbower Mill- expand and enrich topics students are currently studying in the classroom. Because many children learn better through active engagement, these programs provide Wissahickon School District students with a unique opportunity to incorporate the natural world and local environmental issues into their everyday school experience."

--Ronnie Hayman, Wissahickon School District Board Member

Apply Today!

Applications are made and approved by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Every year there is a cap on the tax credits available for the EITC program. New applications for the tax credits are received beginning on July 1, and are awarded on a first come first-served basis. Returning applicants apply beginning on May 15.

Note: Wissahickon Trails is registered as "Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association" with the DCED.

Step 1: Visit the EITC webpage and apply to the program:

www.dced.pa.gov/programs/educational-improvement-tax-credit-program-eitc

Wissahickon Trails staff can assist with questions regarding the application.

Step 2: After receiving your approval letter from the DCED, please make your gift to Wissahickon Trails within 60 days, per DCED requirement.

Step 3: Wissahickon Trails will send you an official acknowledgement letter.

For more information or to make a gift, contact Anna Marchini, Development Director at anna@wissahickontrails.org or 215-646-8866.