Caution:

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This is an early release draft of a 2020 Massachusetts tax form or schedule.

Do not file **DRAFT** forms.

DRAFT forms **will not** be processed.

Massachusetts Department of Revenue

Schedule SC

Septic Credit for Repairing or Replacing a Failed Cesspool or Septic System

2020

Name(s) as shown on Massachusetts Forms 1 or 1-NR/PY | Social Security number

Street address of principal residence with a failed system (must be in Massachusetts; do not enter PO box)

City/Town | State | Zip | Phone number

Part 1. General information

1a Date certificate of compliance or verification letter issued (mm/dd/yyyy). Retain a copy of certificate or letter

1b Name of approving authority

2 If you were the sole owner of the property, enter 100%; otherwise enter the percentage of the total actual costs that you paid

List names, addresses and pct. of ownership of any co-owners of above property. If a condominium, list legal name of condominium association and total number of owners

If you received a subsidized loan from the Commonwealth, or a betterment issued by a municipality to complete repairs or replacement of a qualified cesspool or septic system, complete line 3 (you must also complete Part 5).

3a ○ Subsidized loan issued under homeowner septic repair program

Name of participating lender | Amount of loan

Loan term (in months) | Interest rate (fill in one only) ○ 0% ○ 3% ○ 5%

3a ○ Loan issued by municipality and assessed as a betterment (see instructions) to your property tax bill

Name of municipality | Amount of betterment

Number of years to repay betterment | Interest rate

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Part 2. Computation of Septic Credit

Complete Part 2 only if Certificate of Compliance or verification letter was issued in 2020.

4 Briefly describe the nature of expenditures made to comply with Title 5 or to connect to a municipal sewer system pursuant to a federal court order, Administrative Consent Order, state court order, consent decree or similar mandate. Complete details must be available upon request. Also include any actual costs incurred in 1995 through 2019.

a. Description	b. Date paid	c. Actual cost

5 Total actual costs to repair or replace a failed cesspool or septic system or to connect to a municipal sewer system. Add all amounts in line 4, col. c **5**

6 Maximum amount available for computation of the credit. Enter the smaller of line 5 or $15,000. . . . . **6**

7 Amount of actual costs available for the credit. Multiply line 6 by .40 (40%) **7**

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Part 3. Current year credit

8 Maximum Septic Credit available this year. If Certificate of Compliance or verification letter was issued in 2019, enter the smaller of line 7 or $1,500. If claiming a carryover credit, enter the smaller of 2019 Schedule SC, line 15, col. C or $1,500 . . . . . **8**

9 Adjusted Septic Credit. Multiply line 8 by the percentage in line 2 . . . . . **9**

10 Interest subsidy received, if any (from Part 5, line 36) **10**

11 Adjusted Septic Credit available for 2020. Subtract line 10 from line 9. Not less than 0 . . . . . **11**

12 Total tax from Form 1, line 28 or Form 1-NR/PY, line 32 less Limited Income Credit, and/or Credit for Taxes Paid to Other Jurisdictions, and/or certain other credits, if any. Not less than 0. See instructions **12**

13 Massachusetts Septic Credit allowable this year. Enter the smaller of line 11 or line 12 here and on Schedule CMS. You must enclose Schedule SC with your return. Failure to do so will result in this credit being disallowed on your tax return and an adjustment of your reported tax **13**

Part 4. Unused Septic Credit carryover

Complete only if line 7 is more than line 13, or if you have unused credits from prior years.

14 For year of issuance of certificate of compliance.

Year	a. Total credit available	b. Portion used this year (2020 Sch. SC, line 13)	c. Unused credit available Subtract col. b from col. a	
			Amount	For
2016	(2017 Sch. SC, line 15, col. c))			2021
2017	(2017 Sch. SC, line 15, col. c))			2020-2022
2018	(2017 Sch. SC, line 15, col. c))			2020–2023
2019	(2017 Sch. SC, line 15, col. c))			2020–2024
2020	(2019 Sch. SC, line 7)			2020–2025
15 Totals				

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Part 5. Computation of interest subsidy. If certificate of compliance or verification letter was issued in 2020, complete lines 31 through 36 only. If claiming a carryover credit, complete all applicable lines.

16 Total amount of loan or betterment outstanding during 2015 . . . . . **16**

17 Number of days the loan or betterment was issued during 2015 . . . . . **17**

18 Amount in line 16 × (number of days in line 17 ÷ 365) × 4% **18**

19 Total amount of loan or betterment outstanding during 2016 . . . . . **19**

20 Number of days the loan or betterment was issued during 2016 . . . . . **20**

21 Amount in line 19 × (number of days in line 20 ÷ 365) × 4.75% **21**

22 Total amount of loan or betterment outstanding during 2017 . . . . . **22**

23 Number of days the loan or betterment was issued for during 2017. . . . . **23**

24 Amount in line 22 × (number of days in line 23 ÷ 365) × 5%. **24**

25 Total amount of loan or betterment outstanding during 2018 . . . . . **25**

26 Number of days the loan or betterment was issued for during 2018. . . . . **26**

27 Amount in line 25 × (number of days in line 26 ÷ 365) × 5.75% **27**

28 Total amount of loan or betterment outstanding during 2019 . . . . . **28**

29 Number of days the loan or betterment was issued for during 2019. . . . . **29**

30 Amount in line 28 × (number of days in line 29 ÷ 365) × 6.5%. **30**

31 Total amount of loan or betterment outstanding during 2020 . . . . . **31**

32 Number of days the loan or betterment was issued for during 2020. . . . . **32**

33 Amount in line 31 × (number of days in line 32 ÷ 365) × 5% **33**

34 Total interest at market rate. Add lines 18, 21, 24, 27, 30 and 33 . . . . . **34**

35 Total interest actually paid on the loan or betterment. If Certificate of Compliance or verification letter was issued in 2020, enter the amount of interest paid in 2020. If claiming a carryover credit, enter the total interest paid during all periods listed above. **13**

36 Amount of interest subsidy. Subtract line 35 from line 34. Enter result here and in Part 3, line 10. **Not less than 0**. **12**

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What is the Title 5 Septic Credit?

The Septic Credit is a credit equal to 40% of the actual costs incurred in the repair or replacement of a failed septic system. The expenses are the lesser of the taxpayer's actual costs paid to repair and replace the system, or $15,000. The maximum amount of the credit that may be claimed in any tax year is $1,500.

Note: If you moved during the taxable year and had more than one principal residence that qualified for the Septic Credit, you must file a separate Schedule SC for each of those principal residences. However, the maximum amount of the combined Schedule SC credits cannot exceed $1,500. Any excess credit amount may be used in the five tax years following the year in which the credit was initially claimed. The total amount of credit that may be claimed by the owner for a residential property is $6,000.

Who is Qualified to Claim the Credit?

To claim the Septic Credit, you:

- Must be the owner of the residential property located in Massachusetts;
- Must occupy the property as your principal residence; and
- May not be the dependent of another taxpayer.

You are the owner of the residential property if you have legal title to the property. Co-owners of the residential property who meet each of the above requirements may claim the credit proportionate to the amount of actual costs paid by each such co-owner, up to the total maximum amount of the credit of $1,500 per year. A principle residence is generally the residence that you live in most of the time. If another taxpayer may claim you as a dependent on his or her 2020 Massachusetts income tax form you are not eligible to claim the credit.

What are Actual Costs?

Actual costs are the reasonable and necessary costs paid by the owner to repair and replace a failed septic system, including the costs for materials, equipment, demolition, relocation, design, engineering, testing and inspection. Expenses incurred by the owner in 1995 through 2018 to repair or replace a failed system are also actual costs. Actual costs do not include costs paid for the repair and replacement of any system that is not a failed system, or for the repair and replace ment of any system not undertaken pursuant to the relevant Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reg u lations. A copy of the Certificate of Compliance or verification letter issued to the owner by the appropriate authority stating that the system has been repaired or replaced in compliance with the relevant DEP regulations must be kept with your records.

What is an Interest Subsidy?

The Commonwealth, through the efforts of the DEP, and the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) and the state's cities and towns, offers qualified owners interest subsidies in the form of low interest rate loans and betterments for the repair and replacement of failed septic systems. If an owner has received an interest subsidy, the amount of the Title 5 credit that the owner may claim is reduced by the amount of the interest subsidy the owner receives. Generally, the amount of the interest subsidy is the difference between the nonsubsidized interest rate determined under G.L. c. 62C, § 32(a) in effect at the time the owner receives the subsidy and the amount of interest the owner actually pays.

How Do I Claim the Credit?

To claim the credit, you must complete and enclose Schedule SC with your return. Failure to do so will result in this credit being disallowed on your tax return and an adjustment of your reported tax.

You must retain for your records:

- A copy of the Certificate of Compliance or verification letter;
- If you have received an interest subsidy from the Commonwealth, a copy of a truth in lending statement or similar document from the lender stating the lender's name, the amount of the loan, the interest rate imposed, the length of the repayment term, and the amount of the loan that you have repaid; and/or
- If the interest subsidy is in the form of a better ment, the relevant property tax bill(s) or other documents received from the taxpayer's city or town stating the name of the city or town, the amount of the betterment, the interest rate imposed, the length of the repayment term, and the amount of the betterment that you have repaid.

For more information on the Septic Credit, see Technical Information Releases 97-12, 98-8, 99-5 and 99-20 and DOR Directive 01-6.

What If I Am Taking the Septic Credit and Another Credit On My Tax Return?

If you are taking another credit in addition to the Septic Credit on your tax return, you must reduce the amount of tax reported in line 12 of Schedule SC (from Form 1, line 28 or Form 1-NR/PY, line 32) by any Limited Income Credit and/or Credit for Taxes Paid to Other Jurisdiction and any other credits you may be eligible for. These include but are not limited to the Solar and Wind Energy Credit, Lead Paint Credit, Economic Oppor tunity Area Credit, Economic Development Incentive Program Credit, Brownfields Credit, Low-Income Housing Credit, Historic Rehabilitation Credit, Film Incentive Credit, Medical Device Credit, Employer Wellness Program Credit, Farming and Fisheries Credit, Low-Income Housing Donation Credit and Veterans Hire Credit.

Note: It is more advantageous to use the credit(s) that is going to expire first.

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