

# **Business Improvement Area (BIA) FAQ**

## **What is the 2021 BIA tax credit?**

The BIA tax credit is over \$4.2 million in federal and provincial funding being applied towards the 2021 BIA tax accounts.

## **Do all businesses receive a BIA tax bill?**

If a business isn't within the boundaries of a BIA, they will not receive a BIA tax bill. Business owners define boundaries and vote on establishing a BIA. After a successful formation of a BIA, businesses within the boundaries will receive an annual BIA tax bill.

## **Where did the money come from to fund the 2021 BIA tax credit?**

The money for the BIA tax credit is being allocated from emergency funding supplied to municipalities by the Provincial and Federal government.

## **Who will benefit from the 2021 BIA tax credit?**

There are 15 BIAs located in Calgary and all 6,044 businesses located within the BIAs, all will have a BIA tax credit applied to their account.

## **If I have a business but I'm not located within a BIA will I benefit from the 2021 BIA tax credit?**

No. Only businesses located within a BIA, who receive a BIA tax bill will benefit from the credit.

## **Will property tax accounts benefit from the 2021 BIA tax credit?**

No. The 2021 BIA tax credit is only applied toward BIA tax accounts and is unrelated to property tax bills. Property tax bills will be mailed at the end of May. Current property tax information can be found at [calgary.ca/propertytax](http://calgary.ca/propertytax).

## **Are BIA tax bills related to property tax bills?**

BIA tax bills and property tax bills are unrelated. Property tax bills are mailed at the end of May and all property owners will receive a property tax bill. Current property tax information can be found at [calgary.ca/propertytax](http://calgary.ca/propertytax).

**Will this bring all BIA tax account balance to zero? What about BIA tax accounts in arrears?**

The BIA tax credit will apply an equivalent amount of the 2021 BIA tax levy as a credit to the tax account. The credit will be applied starting with the oldest amount owing. Any amount still owing after the BIA tax credit is applied is due and payable. To discuss and arrange for payment visit [calgary.ca/collections](http://calgary.ca/collections).

**If a credit is being applied to the 2021 BIA tax bill, how come 2021 BIA tax bills were mailed out?**

The funding for the 2021 BIA tax credit was not in place before the 2021 bills were mailed. Businesses will have received a 2021 BIA tax bill stating an amount owed that is no longer current after the 2021 BIA tax credit is applied. In March, an updated statement of account will be mailed and will reflect the current amount owing.

**What happens if I paid my 2021 BIA tax bill already or I participate in the Business Tax Instalment Payment Plan (BTIPP)?**

If the application of the 2021 BIA tax credit results in a negative account balance, a credit will be applied to your account to be used towards your 2022 BIA tax bill. If you participate in the Business Tax Instalment Payment Plan (BTIPP) and your account has a credit or a zero balance, the upcoming BTIPP instalment will not be deducted from your account. Your regular BTIPP instalments will resume on January 1, 2022.

If you have questions about your BIA statement of account, amount owing or are requesting the payout of your credit, call 311 or 403-268-CITY (2489) if calling from outside Calgary.

**If I close my business, move out of a BIA or have a change made to my 2021 BIA assessment will I receive a refund of the 2021 BIA tax?**

No. If a business closes, moves out of a BIA or has a change in the 2021 BIA assessment resulting in a 2021 BIA tax reduction, The City will adjust the BIA tax credit accordingly. There shall be no financial benefit to a BIA operator to receive this credit in cash.

**Is there a credit planned for the 2022 BIA tax bills?**

No. There is only funding allocated for the 2021 BIA tax credit.