

GUIDELINES FOR STATE REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

Revised March 2016

Statutes provide that counties are entitled to reimbursement of up to 60%, (currently at 50%) of all approved costs from the State, up to the current maximum rate per parcel and that counties will receive a minimum of \$3.00 per parcel for up to the first 20,000 parcels.

Parcel counts must be certified by the Tax Commission. An email is sent to the Assessor, County Clerks and County Auditors when parcel counts are updated. **Currently the certified count is located on the State Tax Commission website, the link is: <http://stc.mo.gov> or www.stc.mo.gov**

Section 137.750.3, RSMo: Requests for reimbursement of assessment costs must be made quarterly **no later than the thirtieth day of the month immediately following the quarter for which such state funds are sought. Even if the county has depleted their state funds in previous quarter(s), a quarterly reimbursement and documentation must be submitted.**

The reimbursement request form should be completed by the Accounting Officer/County Clerk, and must be signed by the Assessor, the Accounting Officer/County Clerk, Presiding Commissioner of the County Commission or County Executive Officer, and the Clerk of the County Commission. **Lack of any signatures or official county seal will result in the request being returned to the county.**

All costs submitted for state reimbursement must be incurred for the purpose of assessment and equalization during the specific time period of the Assessor's approved maintenance plan. **Non-reimbursable expenses will be deducted from the request.**

Reimbursements are paid on the state's fiscal year basis. The state's fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30. **Consider within which state fiscal quarter you will be filing the request.**

Timeframe of Expenditures	Fiscal Quarter	County's Calendar Quarter*	Due Date
January 1 – March 31	Fourth	First	April 30
April 1 - June 30	First	Second	July 30
July 1 – September 30	Second	Third	October 30
October 1 – December 31	Third	Fourth	January 30

*Class 1 County on Fiscal Year

NON-REIMBURSABLE and SPECIFIC APPROVAL EXPENSES

Section 137.750.4, RSMo: (Emphasis added)

1. The following costs and expenses **shall not** qualify for state reimbursement or reimbursement from tax moneys withheld from political subdivisions:
 - a. **Premiums for property and casualty insurance and liability insurance;**
 - b. Depreciation, interest, building and ground maintenance, fuel and utility costs, and other indirect expenses which can be classified as the overhead expenses of the assessor's office;
 - c. Purchases of motor vehicles.

2. Costs and expenses which shall qualify for state reimbursement, but **only** if identified in the county maintenance plan and subsequently **specifically approved by the State Tax Commission** shall include:
 - a. Costs and expenses for computer software, hardware and maintenance (this includes monitors, scanners, printers, etc.);
 - b. Costs and expenses of any additional office space made necessary in order to carry out the county's maintenance plan;
 - c. Costs of leased equipment;
 - d. Costs of aerial photography.
 - e. Cost of Legal Fees.

As of 3-19-2015, no prior approval letter is required unless the expense(s) exceeds the budgeted amount or are not included in county's maintenance plan.

Items 2a through 2e listed immediately above **must have prior approval** from the State Tax Commission before submitting the quarterly reimbursement.

If costs are budgeted in the plan on an as needed basis, for non-scheduled maintenance or minor modifications, then one letter detailing the anticipated expenditures may be submitted for approval. When those costs are incurred, the quarterly reimbursement request needs to include the invoice (with sufficient explanation for the charge) and prior approval letter from the State Tax Commission allowing those charges to be processed up to the approved possible amount.

Your continued cooperation in providing this information prior to the submission of your quarterly reimbursement request will ensure the prompt handling of those requests. Without specific prior approval, these costs cannot be processed in the quarterly reimbursement request.

Computer system costs will be allocated based upon the assessor's use or share of the system. To allocate the costs, the county should submit a completed Annual Computer Inventory by April 1 of each year.

DOCUMENTATION of EXPENDITURES

All expenditures, except for salaries and mileage must be documented by attaching copies of the appropriate invoice or receipt.

Do not include copies of checks, County Commission vouchers, requisitions, purchase orders, or statements. Only copies of paid invoices or receipts are to be submitted.

The invoices or receipts for the quarter must be grouped according to line item on the reimbursement request. Do not group by month.

An adding machine tape, reflecting the total amount of each line item, is to be attached to the invoice copies for each line item.

Highlight the appropriate cost(s) on the invoices and submit documentation in the same order as the adding machine tape.

Tapes should have one entry for each expense. Do not include subtotal tapes or double sided copies of invoices.

PREPARATION of the REQUEST

Verify that the most current version of the reimbursement request form, MO 869-1319 (Rev03-15) is being utilized. The form is available on the STC website, or call 573-751-1735. The quarterly reimbursement (Qtrly_ReimbV2.xls) can be found at:

<http://stc.mo.gov/assessor/generalforms>

Required data entry cells on the form are color-coded. **Utilizing the TAB key allows you to maneuver through just the cells which require data entry.**

The date format when entering the time frame of the calendar quarter must be one of the following; 1/01/15, 1/01/2015, or January 1, 2015. **Using any other format, (i.e. Jan/01/15 or January 1/2015) will result in an improper statement in the Certification section of the form.**

The form will automatically calculate upon required information being entered.

COST SECTION

County must complete the gray highlighted fields. Before starting to organize the assessor's expenses, talk to the assessor to confirm the software vendor; the individual or company paid for completing the mapping; and if the mapping is completed manually or is it GIS.

Examples of costs are provided for each line number. Please understand the examples listed are not inclusive of every expense a county could encounter.

Line A: "Assessor": Enter the Assessor's salary.

Line B: "Assessor's Staff:" Enter the number of employees and the salary total.

Line C: "Other" salaries of other personnel whose time is partly allocated to assessment duties. Enter number of persons who are not part of Assessor's staff who have allocated time for assessment work. (I.e. data processing personnel, etc.) Enter the apportioned salary total.

Line D: "Employee Fringe Benefits" Enter the portion paid by County for all employee fringe benefits. This normally includes, but is not limited to the county's portion of Social Security, Medicare, Laggers, or other retirement plan paid all or partially by the County, Unemployment Insurance, Workmen Compensation, Dental Insurance, Health Insurance, etc.

Please make sure to include an adding machine tape for each line item.

- 1a. Office Expenses: Supplies, Forms, Manuals --** Film, magnets, vehicle signs, Farm Equipment Guide, Batteries, Door Hangers, Stationary, Printing of Assessment Forms, Assessors Personal Property Valuation Guide, any valuation manuals either in paper or on-line, copy machine copies, staples, notepads, stationary, toner for printer, ink cartridge, subscription, etc.
- 1b. Postage Expenses --** Stamps for mailing and shipping
- 1c. Telephone Expense --** Assessor's portion of telephone bill (Land line or cell phone), email account fees, monthly internet fees. Telecommunication expense. (Please highlight assessor's Total Charges for Assessor's office)
- 2. (All) Mileage Expense Only --** Assessor's office mileage for the quarter. The state reimburses costs only for the actual miles driven for assessment purposes, regardless of whether the vehicle is owned by the county, or by an individual. Please write the number of miles and the current mileage rate as allowed by the county. (Example: 1,900 miles @ \$0.56 = \$1,064.00) Form will calculate and auto-populate the amount column. **Costs such as vehicle purchase, fuel, oil, maintenance, tires, towing, insurance, etc. are not reimbursable. County must provide the number of**

miles and the rate. For the Assessor’s Conference please refer to RSMo 138.450 for mileage reimbursement.

- 3. Education and Training** (Meals, Registration, Association Dues, Lodging, etc.) – Assessor’s and assessor’s staff registration fees to attend regional assessor’s meetings, annual assessor’s conference, Missouri State Assessor’s Association School, dues to Missouri State Assessor’s Association, meals and hotel rooms to attend education/training meetings, Regional Assessor Chapter Dues, etc. **Request all evening meal and hotel/lodging receipts for Assessor’s Conference**
- 4a. Non-Computer Equipment (Purchases)** --Total for equipment purchases such as calculators, measuring tapes, copiers, map printing machines, chair, desk, camera, etc.
- 4b. Non-Computer Related Equipment Maintenance** -- copy machine repairs, fax machine repairs.
- 4c. Non-Computer Related Equipment Leases** – copy machine leases, mailing machines, etc. **Leases require prior approval**

4c items must receive prior approval from the State Tax Commission before submitting quarterly reimbursement. The letter to the State Tax Commission shall include the following:

Row	Title	Example	County’s prior approval request must include:
4c	Non-Computer Related Equipment Leases	Copy Machine Leases, Mailing Machines, etc.	1. A detailed description of what is to be purchased, including brand names, model number, capacity, etc.
			2. Describe what the item will enable the county to accomplish relative to its maintenance program. If the item is to be used by the assessor and other offices, list the offices.
			3. Total estimated cost. The percentage to be charged to the assessment program will be based on data from the annual computer inventory.
			4. If this item or system is a replacement, how long has the current item or system been in service?

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All computer related expenses for lines 5a, 5b and 5c require specific prior approval from STC

- 5a. Computer: Original Hardware Purchases/Lease** – Monitor/Screen, keyboard, mouse, tower, power strips, notepad/I-pad/tablet, battery back-up, printer, etc. (for a shared system, this must only be the Assessor’s portion as determined by the Annual Computer

Inventory).

5A items must receive prior approval from the State Tax Commission before submitting quarterly reimbursement. The letter to the State Tax Commission shall include the following:

Row	Title	Example	County's prior approval request must include:
5a	Computer: Original Hardware Purchase and/or Lease	Monitor, screen, keyboard mouse, tower, power strips, notepad, I-pad, tablet, battery back-up, printer, etc. (for a shared system, this must only be the Assessor's portion as determined by the Annual computer Inventory)	1. A detailed description of what is to be purchased, including brand names, model number, capacity, etc.
			2. Describe what the item will enable the county to accomplish relative to its maintenance program. If the item is to be used by the assessor and other offices, list the offices.
			3. Total estimated cost. The percentage to be charged to the assessment program will be based on data from the annual computer inventory.
			4. If this item or system is a replacement, how long has the current item or system been in service?

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urchases/Lease -- original purchase of a Apex, Marshall & Swift, etc. (for a shared same manner as in 5a above).

the State Tax Commission before submitting quarterly reimbursement. The letter to the State Tax Commission shall include the following:

Row	Title	Example	County's prior approval request must include:
5b	Computer: Original Software Purchase and/or Lease	<u>ORIGINAL</u> purchase of a software program such as Microsoft office, Apex, Marshall & Swift, etc. (for a shared system, software must be allocated in the same manner as in 5a above).	1. A detailed description of what is to be purchased/modified, and how the software will benefit the assessment program.
			2. Total estimated cost. The percentage to be charged to the assessment program will be based on data from the annual computer survey.
			3. If this software/program replaces current programming, what benefits are anticipated over the current programming?

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5c. Hardware and/or Software Maintenance, Program Updates --renewal of user licenses fee with software vendor, fix server issues, charge for back up services, etc. Enter total for Assessor's portion of maintenance/support for system hardware, software and program modifications as determined in **5a** above.

5c items must receive prior approval from the State Tax Commission before submitting quarterly reimbursement. The letter to the State Tax Commission shall include the following:

Row	Title	Example	County's prior approval request must include:
5c	Hardware and/or Software Maintenance, Program Updates (Arc View)	<u>RENEWAL</u> of user licenses fee with software vendor, fix server issues, charge for back up services, etc.	1. A detailed description as to what hardware or software is being serviced. If the charge is for a maintenance contract, include the length of time for the contract. 2. Total estimated cost. The percentage to be charged to the assessment program will be based on the data from the annual computer survey.

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6a. Contracts/Appraisals – Charges from appraisers only, no legal fees.

6b. Mapping – charges for manual mapping for work maps, inking and creation of mylars, Mapping Solutions

6c. Other (Aerial Photography, GIS, Legal Fees, Utilities/Rent for Leased Assessor' Office Space, etc.) – Aerial Photography and photo enlargement (companies could be Surdex), some of the GIS companies (could be Midland Mapping, IntrinsicCorp GIS, Great Rivers, Sidwell Mapping, Schneider); Costs and Expenses of any additional office space made necessary in order to carry out the county's maintenance plan; Legal Fees; Salaries and benefits of data processing personnel not directly employed by the assessor.

6c items must receive prior approval from the State Tax Commission before submitting quarterly reimbursement. The letter to the State Tax Commission shall include the following:

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Aerial Photography, GIS, and Photo Enlargement:

Row	Title	Example	County's prior approval request must include:
6c	Other (Aerial Photography, GIS, etc.)	Aerial Photography and photo enlargement (companies could be Surdex), some of the GIS companies (could be Midland Mapping, Intrinsic Corp GIS, Great Rivers, Sidwell Mapping, Schneider, etc.).	1. An explanation of why the new photography is needed.
			2. A description of the areas of the county to be re-flown.
			3. The scale of maps to be produced
			4. The total estimated cost.
			5. A detailed copy of the work specifications.
			6. An estimate of the cost of re-inking of ownership mylars, and timeframe planned for incorporating the new aerial photography into the system.

Cost and Expense of any additional office space made necessary in order to carry out the county's maintenance plan. *This is assessor office space that is located in a non-county owned building:*

Row	Title	Example	County's prior approval request must include:
6c	Additional office space made necessary in order to carry out the county's maintenance plan.	An annex in a building not owned by the county.	1. Is the space owned by the county or being rented from others?
			2. What costs are anticipated? Rent, utilities,
			3. If additional space is a new location for the assessor, why has it become necessary?

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Legal Fees; Salaries and benefits of data processing personnel not directly employed by the assessor:

Row	Title	Example	County's prior approval request must include:
6c	Legal Fees; Salaries and benefits of data processing personnel not directly employed by the assessor	An attorney	1. Detail how they relate directly to the assessment process and/or defense of county appraisals.
			2. Total estimated cost and how those costs will be incurred or charged.

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- 7. Other Expenses** – Enter any expenses which do not fit descriptions of the previous line items. Examples are: Advertising, Assessor's bond fee, BOE Expenses, Uniforms, Realtor Publication, Parking Fees, Realtor's License, etc.

CALCULATION SECTION

The Calculation Section determines the amount reimbursable for the current period and the maximum amount available in future periods of the current fiscal year. Complete the calculation section as follows:

Line 1: Enter the current parcel rate and the current certified parcel count for your county. The certified parcel count can be obtained with the following link <http://stc.mo.gov/files/2011-2013-Certified-Parcel-Count.pdf>

Line 3: Enter the total costs incurred in the previous periods of the current state's fiscal year.
Example:

State's 1st Fiscal Qtr. which is the County's 2nd Calendar Qtr; Line 3 and Line 4 would be "0".

State's 2nd Fiscal Qtr which is the County's 3rd Calendar Qtr would add the "0" plus the county's Total Costs on the reimbursement they are submitting.

State's 3rd Fiscal Qtr which is the County's 4th Calendar Qtr would add the "0" plus the amount from the County's 3rd Calendar Qtr and the total costs from the reimbursement they are submitting.

State's 4th Fiscal Qtr which is the County's 1st Calendar Qtr for the current year and the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Total Costs would be for the previous year. (April 1, 2014-June 30, 2014; July 1, 2014—September 30, 2014; October 1, 2014—December 31, 2014; January 1, 2015—March 31, 2015)

Line 4: Enter the total reimbursement received from the State for assessment costs in previous periods of the current state’s fiscal year.

Line 9: Enter the proper quarter (state fiscal quarter at time of filing).

Enter **1** for county’s April-June reimbursement,
2 for county’s July-September reimbursement,
3 for county’s October-December reimbursement,
4 for county’s January-March reimbursement.

Timeframe of Expenditures	Fiscal Quarter	County’s Calendar Quarter*	Due Date
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October 1 – December 31	Third	Fourth	January 30

*Class 1 County on Fiscal Year

CERTIFICATION SECTION

Step 1. Complete the reimbursement request form by entering the day, month and calendar year.

Step 2. Signatures are obtained from the Assessor, Presiding County Commissioner or the County Executive Officer and the Accounting Officer/County Clerk.

Step 3. The County Clerk completes the certification by signing and affixing the County Seal.

Step 4. Make copies of reimbursement form and all documents for you record keeping.

Step 5. Mail to:
STATE OF MISSOURI
ASSESSMENT REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 146
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102

Step 6. If any questions while preparing the reimbursement request, do not hesitate to contact:

Alice Scheulen, Alice.Scheulen@stc.mo.gov or 573-751-1735
Jeff Schmidt, Jeff.Schmidt@stc.mo.gov or 573-751-1726
Jan Elliott, Jan.Elliott@stc.mo.gov or 573-751-1708

The following quarterly reimbursement form is provided as a reference.