



Clayton County Business Incentives

A variety of business incentives are available to companies relocating to or expanding in Clayton County. Incentives are typically awarded on a case-by-case basis depending on the type of company, number of jobs created, wages, physical or geographic location, and capital investment. Adjacent to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, and only 15 minutes from downtown Atlanta. Below are some key facts about investing in Clayton County.

Key Industries:

- Logistics & Distribution
- Aviation & Aerospace Manufacturing
- Food/Beverage Processing & Manufacturing
- Health Services & Health Logistics
- Film

Property Tax Abatement

Property tax abatements, also known as tax exemptions or “Bond for Title”, are designed to lower tax liability on the value of new investments made in Clayton County. The bonds may be taxable or tax-exempt from income taxation, and facilitate financing that allows a company to buy land, build new facilities, expand existing facilities, upgrade equipment, and make investments that enhance value and create jobs within Clayton County.

Job Tax Credit

A job tax credit is a tax credit that stimulates company expansion by rewarding job creation. In Clayton County, a minimum of 2 jobs must be created with a maximum credit of \$4,000 per job. The \$4,000 credit may be claimed up to five (5) years. Companies receiving the job tax credit are able to apply it to 100% of its tax liability in a given year, and the job credits may be carried forward for up to 10 years. The jobs must be full-time working a minimum of 35 hours per week, and pay must be in excess of the lowest average wage of any county in the State. The company must offer health insurance upon employment.

Tax Allocation Districts (TADs)

Clayton County has five active TADs, including the Northwest Clayton TAD, which surrounds Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, encompassing more than 1,300 acres. TADs are a form of tax increment financing used to provide monies for specific public or private infrastructure projects. Private developers may be able to take advantage of this development incentive by working with the Development Authority of Clayton County.

Talent

- Proximity to a variety of research universities and colleges
- Clayton State University
- Emory University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Georgia State University
- Morehouse College
- Spelman College
- Clark Atlanta University
- Kennesaw State University
- University of West Georgia

- Over 1.2 million workers in a 30 minutes drive radius

Less Developed Census Tracts (LDCTs)

Less Developed Census Tracts (LDCTs) provide a boost to the regular Georgia Job Tax Credit for any company that qualifies. Clayton County companies that are located in a LDCT and create more than five (5) jobs may receive credits of up to \$3,500 per job, per year for five years (for a total benefit of \$17,500 per job created).

Opportunity Zones (OZs)

The Opportunity Zone (OZ) program provides incentives for businesses to locate or expand in economically distressed areas of Clayton County as designated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Businesses located in an OZ may qualify for tax credits to encourage job creation and investment (2 job minimum; \$3,500 tax credit per job).

Job Training

Quick Start is the State of Georgia's internationally-recognized training program for new, expanding and existing industries. In addition to new companies, Quick Start helps existing companies retain jobs by offering free training to businesses that add 15 or more employees. Training services cover job-specific skills as well as automation, productivity enhancement, and human resource training. Additional training incentives include:

- On-The-Job Training (OJT)
- Incumbent Worker Training (IWT)
- Customized Training (CT)
- Internship and Co-op Assistance

Permitting & Planning/Fee Reductions & Waivers

Clayton County is committed to processing all development and building permitting plans in seven business days for impactful economic development projects. In addition to expediting the building permit and zoning processes, local governments may choose to reduce or waive fees for development permits, rezoning applications, and special use permits.

Additional Incentive Opportunities

In addition to the business incentives already listed, your business may also be eligible for the following incentives:

• 100% Freeport Exemption

Clayton County exempts tangible personal property including inventory of goods in process of being manufactured or produced, finished goods manufactured or produced within Georgia, and finished goods destined shipment outside Georgia.

• Atlanta Tradeport Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)

Clayton County is home to the Atlanta Tradeport Foreign Trade Zone. A FTZ is a federally designated site created to help businesses remain competitive in a global market place, with lower duties, reduced processing fees and quicker movement of goods from the port.

• New Markets Tax Credit

The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) was designed to increase the flow of capital to businesses and low income communities by providing a modest tax incentive to private investors. The NMTC program attracts capital to low income communities by providing private investors with a federal tax credit for investments made in businesses or economic development projects located in some of the most distressed communities in the nation – census tracts where the individual poverty rate is at least 20 percent or where median family income does not exceed 80 percent of the area median. Projects with total planned capital costs/business investments of at least \$2 million work best for NMTC.

• Federal Opportunity Zones

The Federal Opportunity Zone Program is a new community and economic development tool that aims to drive long-term private investment into low-income communities throughout the country. The program was established by Congress in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and encourages investors with recently realized capital gains to invest in local businesses, real estate, or development projects in exchange for a reduction in their tax obligations.