

Are you missing out?

Our jargon-free guide to R&D tax credits



ASTON SHAW

— since 1969 —

www.astonshaw.co.uk

What is R&D?

Research and Development tax credits, commonly referred to as simply 'R&D' is a government incentive designed to drive forward innovation across multiple industries.

This is an opportunity for you to reduce your corporation tax bill or receive a refund from HMRC based upon the working hours your business dedicates to R&D.



Keep in mind:

R&D is not limited to scientists in lab coats. It is this common misconception that steers people away from claiming R&D that they otherwise would be entitled to. R&D has a much wider scope than most people realise, and you should not be put off by thinking such relief is reserved solely for mad professors. R&D is available to any business that invests time and money into research and development.



Who is Eligible for R&D?

So, what business activities qualify as research and development?

To list every possible project that could qualify for R&D would make this document rival the page count of Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*. However, according to gov.uk, to get R&D relief you need to explain how a project:

1

Looked for an advance in science & technology



2

Had to overcome an uncertainty



3

Tried to overcome an uncertainty



4

Couldn't be easily worked out by a professional in the field



Providing these criteria are met, you could save thousands in tax relief. From our experience, the criteria can often be met in seemingly unlikely projects.

How Can Aston Shaw Help?

As with capital allowances, we often find that R&D is under-claimed, meaning vast numbers of businesses are missing out on some significant tax relief.

We can help. We have the specialist knowledge and extensive experience required to ensure that if you have a claim, we will achieve the very best result for you. The intricacies and finer details of R&D can be complex, so a professional approach that comes from a position of understanding is always necessary.

How Can Aston Shaw Help?

Our process starts with learning about your business and the nature of the projects it's involved in. Once we've established a thorough understanding of your business and its activities, we can review and indentify areas that qualify you for R&D tax credits. After ascertaining that you are eligible, we can begin the process of providing you with the best possible tax savings.

You really could be missing out on thousands of pounds of tax savings or even a refund! To take the first step, we recommend you contact us so we can begin to assess your situation.

Contact us

www.astonshaw.co.uk

Case Study #1

Our client manufactures a variety of unique, quirky outbuildings and structures, the difference being that they tend to have a modern twist. After meeting with the business, we conducted an extensive analysis that highlighted several areas that could qualify for R&D. In the end, the company was able to claim a cash refund of £11,000.

Tax saved	£9,500
Cash claimed	£11,000

“
”

When I approached Aston Shaw I was faced with an annual tax bill of £9,500. Aston Shaw were able to identify costs qualifying for R&D, and this propelled me into a positive tax position where I was able to claim back £11,000 from HMRC.

Case Study #2

Our client is a large insurance provider that grew tired of using Customer Relationship Management (CRM) systems that weren't quite right for their business. They decided to design their own piece of software from scratch. Upon learning about this, we informed the client that such an activity was likely to qualify them for R&D. The result we ultimately achieved for them meant that instead of the client paying HMRC £15,000, HMRC paid them £25,000.

Tax saved	£15,400
-----------	----------------

Cash claimed	£25,000
--------------	----------------

“
”

Aston Shaw advised me there was potential to claim R&D, especially as the cost involved in developing the software was associated with an element of risk. Following the production of the software, Aston Shaw advised me to protect my product with a patent, thus ensuring 10% corporation tax on any sales made. A particularly practical piece of hand-in-hand advice.

Case Study #3

An engineering company known for designing and creating quality components for the defence and aerospace industry approached us enquiring about R&D. They'll probably be the first to admit that they weren't expecting to save much, perhaps a slight discount off their tax bill at best. When we revealed that not only could we abolish their tax bill altogether, we could also claim a total of £49,000 to fund the creation of a new product, both we and client were extremely happy with the results.

Tax saved	£60,000
-----------	----------------

Cash claimed	£49,000
--------------	----------------

“
”

Aston Shaw are clearly very knowledgeable in this field; every part of the process was conducted professionally and thoroughly. I have no doubt in my mind that Aston Shaw saved us the maximum amount possible through R&D claims. I still have to pinch myself when I think about how much we were able to gain through R&D.

Contact us

Norwich

01603 616300
norwich@astonshaw.co.uk

Cambridge

01223 202900
cambridge@astonshaw.co.uk

Ipswich

01473 721193
ipswich@astonshaw.co.uk

Dereham

01362 691466
dereham@astonshaw.co.uk

Gt. Yarmouth

01493 335830
yarmouth@astonshaw.co.uk

King's Lynn

01553 761316
kingslynn@astonshaw.co.uk



ASTON SHAW

— since 1969 —

www.astonshaw.co.uk