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## GET RELIEF FROM SCHOOL SUPPLY EXPENSES WITH TAX BREAK HOLIDAY

According to the National Retail Federation, American families will pay about \$500 per child on school supplies this year. This time of year is always a burden for families; especially this year, since the cost of food and gas remains high. However, families in Eastern Nebraska and Iowa can take advantage of Iowa's tax break holiday this weekend, August 1 and 2.

"This is an excellent opportunity to save on purchases you must make anyway," Michaela Harper Program Director at Credit Advisors Foundation said. "Look at the tax holiday as an extra five to seven percent discount on the items you purchase" Harper said. "But be budget wise when shopping. Make your list, take your list and don't break your list. Watch the ads and plan your route."

Harper suggests shoppers first obtain a list of required supplies from the school, create a list with each child divided into needs and wants, and inventory what you have remaining from last school year.

There may be limitations on types of products and cost caps. Iowa's sales tax holiday includes clothing and footwear for less than \$100. Gloves such as dress, garden, leather and work are included in the exempt list; however, gloves for sports like baseball, batting, bicycle, golf and weightlifting are still taxable, in the Iowa program. For more information on what is included in the tax break holiday visit Iowa's Department of Revenue's Web site at <http://www.iowaccess.org/tax/educate/holiday1.html>.

Other states that have tax break holidays include: Alabama, Connecticut, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Washington DC. For more information, including the dates of the tax break holidays in the other states visit their department of revenue's Web site.

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*Credit Advisors Foundation is a national, non-profit credit and housing counseling organization with offices in Omaha, Nebraska and Tacoma, Washington. The organization provides financial education to the community via publications, speakers, and counseling. For more information visit [creditadvisors.org](http://creditadvisors.org)*