

### Tax breaks for innovative start-ups

An overview on the Cantonal measures



Dipartimento delle finanze e dell'economia Divisione dell'economia

## **Eligibility criteria**

Two criteria need to be **cumulatively** met in order to be considered an innovative start-up:

Prove to be already legally registered as a company

**2.** Fulfill at least one of the requirements listed in art. 5a par. 1 of the Cantonal Tax Regulation

## **Period of eligibility**

ti

The tax break is granted for the three tax periods after:

- the win of one of the prizes according to art. 5a par. 1 of the Ticino <u>Cantonal</u> <u>Tax Regulation</u> (Regulation);
- the fulfilment of one of the programmes according to art. 5a of the Regulation;
- a venture capital (VC fund) according to art. 5a of the Regulation invests as shareholder in the start-up company.

The year in which the conditions are met counts as the first period.



## **Three measures**



Separated taxation at an income tax rate of 1% of the part of the taxable income of the individual which is equal to the amount invested from the same individual in the innovative start-up (art. 37c LT)





1

**Gift tax exemption** (art. 155 par. 4 Ticino Cantonal tax Law)

 Reduced capital tax at 0.01‰ (art. 87 par. 1bis Ticino Cantonal tax Law)

## ti Separated taxation at 1%

Investment CHF 50'000



#### Start-up

(eligible according to the Cantonal tax Regulation criteria)



Investor Taxable income CHF 300'000 - Taxation example for investors

Investment CHF 50'000

> separated taxation at 1% rate

Taxable income without investment CHF 250'000

> ordinary taxation at CHF 300'000 rate

### **O** Criteria for the separated taxation at 1%

1) Total minimum investment CHF 50'000

**ti** 🛛

2) Maximum tax privilege granted on 80% of taxable income of investor (individual), in any case not exceeding CHF 800'000 per fiscal year

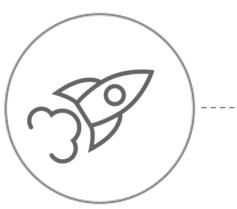
| Investor           |                               |                               |                                 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Investment         | Taxable income<br>CHF 300'000 | Taxable income<br>CHF 300'000 | Taxable income<br>CHF 1'250'000 |
| Start-up A         | CHF 20'000                    | CHF 20'000                    |                                 |
| Start-up B         | CHF 30'000                    | CHF 20'000                    | CHF 850'000                     |
| TOTAL              | CHF 50'000                    | CHF 40'000                    | CHF 850'000                     |
| Min. CHF 50'000    | $\checkmark$                  | ×                             | ✓                               |
| 80% taxable income | CHF 240'000                   | CHF 240'000                   | CHF 1'000'000                   |
| Separeted taxation | Yes                           | No                            | Yes                             |
| Amount             | CHF 50'000                    |                               | CHF 800'000                     |

# ti2 Gift tax exemption



Tax breaks for innovative start-ups

### ti B Capital tax at 0.01‰



Example of taxation for start-ups

Taxable capital
 > privileged tax rate
 Capital tax

tot. CHF 1'000'000 0,01‰ CHF 10

### Start-up

(eligible according to the Cantonal tax Regulation criteria)

## Procedure

The tax break is granted only if an **innovative start-up certificate** is attached to the tax declaration. This must be requested from the <u>Ufficio</u> <u>dell'amministrazione e del controlling</u>, by providing the following information:

### 1.

The certificate issued by **the VC fund**, **the programm** or **award organizers**, stating that the requirements listed at art. 5a par. 1 were fulfilled and on which date.

#### 2.

VC fund, the program or award organizers **contact information** (contact person,

phone, email, etc.).

### 3.

The company registration excerpt issued by company register of the Canton of Ticino.