

R&D Evidence Collector

Quick start — contemporaneous R&D documentation for builders

What it does

It runs quietly alongside your normal development work in Claude. When a session involves real technical uncertainty — an API behaving contrary to its docs, two architectures you have to test against each other, an approach that fails and gets abandoned — it writes a structured evidence record into the project: what the uncertainty was, which alternatives you evaluated, what you tested, what happened, and how long the experimentation took.

At tax time it compiles those records into a package organized by business component, which is how IRS Form 6765 Section G asks for the information. You hand that to your CPA — or your client's CPA.

Install (about ten seconds)

1. **Download** rnd-evidence-collector.skill from the bundle.
2. **Open Claude** (desktop app, Cowork mode).
3. **Drag the file into a chat**, then click Save skill on the card that appears.

That's it. No terminal, no configuration. The skill activates automatically during development sessions.

Using it on a project

Start: "Start R&D evidence tracking on this project." It asks a handful of intake questions — who the work is for, how the contract is structured, what you're building — and creates an rnd-evidence folder in the project.

During: **Nothing.** Work normally. It logs evidence events as they occur and won't interrupt you.

End of session: "Run the end-of-session review." Six questions, mostly pre-filled from what it observed. Takes a minute.

Year end: "Build the CPA package for [year]." It compiles everything into markdown and Word, organized by business component.

What makes it different

It is built to say no. It will tell you a session was routine implementation and log nothing. A system that labels everything R&D produces documentation no CPA will rely on; one that declines most of the time makes the rest credible. It also never claims anything qualifies — every output is labeled candidate activity, because qualification is a determination only a tax professional can make.

What's in the bundle

rnd-evidence-collector.skill — the tool (six files, one click)

Research-Documentation-Contract-Clause-SAMPLE.docx — sample contract language making the risk and rights facts explicit for your clients' accountants. Attorney review required before use.

This quick start.

Not tax, legal, or accounting advice

This tool captures evidence; it does not determine that any activity qualifies for any credit or that any expense is deductible. Those determinations belong to a qualified tax professional who knows your facts. The sample contract language is provided for discussion only and creates no attorney-client relationship — have your own attorney review it. Tax rules change; the bundled reference material reflects U.S. federal rules as of mid-2026 and should be confirmed at filing time.