

# 2025 INCOME TAX ORGANIZER

<b>Filing Status:</b>	Single	Married Filing Joint	Qualifying Surviving Spouse <sup>1</sup>	Head of Household <sup>2</sup>	Married Filing Separate
<b>In year 2025 only:</b>	Married (date: _____)		Divorced (date: _____)		
	Taxpayer Death (date: _____)		Spouse Death (date: _____)		
<b>TAXPAYER</b>			<b>SPOUSE</b>		
Name			Name		
Occupation			Occupation		
SSN	Date of Birth		SSN	Date of Birth	
Home Phone	Disabled		Home Phone	Disabled	
Work Phone	Blind		Work Phone	Blind	
Cell Phone			Cell Phone		
Best Time to Call			Best Time to Call		
Fax			Fax		
Email			Email		
Address			State	County	
City				Zip Code	
Address on Last Year's Tax Return (if different)			Date Address Changed _____		

<sup>1</sup> All of the following must apply: your spouse died in 2023 or 2024; in that year you qualified to file jointly; you did not remarry before January 1, 2026 and you paid over half the cost of maintaining your home, which was your dependent child's (or stepchild's) main home for the entire year.

<sup>2</sup> Must be unmarried (or considered unmarried) at the end of the tax year, and maintain a home that for more than half of the tax year is the principal home of a qualifying person (generally your child or relative). You may be considered unmarried if your spouse did not live in your home during the last six months of the tax year. If you are maintaining the household of a parent, the parent does not need to live with you to qualify.

## Personal Income Tax Organizer and Deduction Finder<sup>®</sup>



### CHECKLIST

Documents  
needed in addition to  
your completed  
organizer:

All Forms W-2 (wages), 1095, 1098, and 1099 (such as 1099-INT for interest; 1099-DIV for dividends; 1099-B for sale of securities; 1099-R for annuities, pensions, IRA or other retirement plan withdrawals; 1099-G for state tax refunds, unemployment compensation, etc.; 1099-S for real estate sales; SSA-1099 for social security; 1099-K for merchant card and third-party network payments; 1099-MISC for rents, royalties, prizes, and awards, etc.; 1099-NEC for nonemployee compensation, and 1099-DA for sale of digital assets, etc.). Include all copies.

Schedules K-1 for partnerships, S corporations, estates, or trusts. (Note: You do not need these documents to make your tax appointment. You can provide them at a later date.)

If you sold real estate, stock, or mutual fund shares during the year, see **STEP 4**.

If you acquired, sold, or refinanced a home or other property in 2025, provide a copy of the closing statement.

If you are a new client, provide copies of tax returns for the last three years.

**Note:** When completing your organizer, round all amounts to the nearest dollar. For married couples, questions referring to "you" generally mean you or your spouse.

**Our tax organizer serves as  
a checklist and reminder of  
items needed to prepare  
your tax return.**

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**STEP 1** The following items may affect your tax return. Please answer carefully.

These questions pertain to calendar year 2025 unless otherwise noted.

1) Y	N	Did you pay or receive alimony (Tax Tip 1)? Do not include child support. (Select one.)	Pay	Receive
To/From: Name _____ Social Security Number _____ Amount \$ _____				
Date of original divorce or separation agreement: _____				
2) Y	N	At any time during 2025, did you: (a) receive (as a reward, award, or payment for property or services); or (b) sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of a digital asset (or a financial interest in a digital asset)?		
3) Y	N	Did you receive an advance premium for health insurance purchased through a Health Insurance Marketplace (Exchange)? If yes, attach Form 1095-A.		
4) Y	N	Did you (or do you plan to before April 15, 2026) contribute to a traditional IRA or Roth IRA for 2025? (Tax Tip 2)		
<b>Self:</b> Traditional IRA \$ _____ <b>Roth IRA \$</b> _____ <b>Spouse:</b> Traditional IRA \$ _____ Roth IRA \$ _____				
5) Y	N	Did you convert a traditional IRA or roll a qualified plan distribution to a Roth IRA in 2025? If yes, amount converted/rolled over: \$ _____		
6) Y	N	Did you (or do you plan to before April 15, 2026) contribute to a health savings account (HSA) for 2025? (Tax Tip 3)		
Amount of contribution: (Do not list employer contributions, including amounts you elected to contribute under a cafeteria plan, shown on your Form W-2.)				
Self: \$ _____ Spouse: \$ _____ Type of health plan coverage: Self-only Family				
7) Y	N	Did you receive any distributions from your health savings account (HSA)?		
Amount of distributions: \$ _____ Amount of unreimbursed qualified medical expenses (attach list): \$ _____				
8) Y	N	Are you a grade K-12 teacher?		
If yes, enter amount of out-of-pocket classroom costs you paid (Tax Tip 4): \$ _____				
9) Y	N	Did you pay child care costs for a dependent child under age 13, or costs of caring for a disabled dependent or spouse, so you could work, attend school, or look for a job? If yes, provide the amounts paid for each individual and the names, addresses, and taxpayer identification numbers of the care providers.		
Amount, if any, reimbursed by an employer dependent care plan (Tax Tip 5): \$ _____				
10) Y	N	Did you pay expenses related to adopting a child? If yes, provide details of any expenses incurred (attach list).		
11) Y	N	Did you pay any individual \$2,800 or more to perform household services during the year, such as a babysitter, caretaker, housekeeper, cook, or gardener?		
12) Y	N	Did you have any debts cancelled or reduced (including credit cards and student loans), property repossessed or foreclosed upon, or did you file for bankruptcy? (Tax Tip 6)		
13) Y	N	Did you have a financial interest in, or signature authority over, a financial account (such as a bank, securities, or brokerage account) located in a foreign country at any time during 2025? A financial account is located in a foreign country if it is physically located outside of the U.S., including an account maintained with a branch of a U.S. bank that is physically located outside of the U.S.		
Y N If yes, did the aggregate value of all accounts located in a foreign country (other than accounts maintained on a U.S. military installation) exceed \$10,000 at any time during the year?				
14) Y	N	Did you receive a distribution from, or were you the grantor of, or a transferor to, a foreign trust?		
15) Y	N	Do you have financial accounts maintained by a foreign (non-U.S.) bank or financial institution that totaled more than \$50,000 on the last day of the year or more than \$75,000 at any time during the year (\$100,000 and \$150,000, respectively, if married filing a joint return)?		
16) Y	N	Did you own any other foreign financial assets (such as stock in a foreign corporation or an interest in a foreign partnership) that are not held in a financial account?		
17) T	S	Do you (T) [or your spouse (S)] want to designate \$3 to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund? (Does not change amount due or refund.) Leave blank if neither wishes to designate \$3.		
18) Y	N	Do you want to allow your preparer or another individual to discuss your federal return with the IRS? Provide name, phone number, and personal identification number of individual if not preparer.		
Name: _____ Phone Number: _____ Identification Number: _____				
19) Y	N	Have you (or your spouse) received an Identity Protection Personal Identification Number (IP PIN) from the IRS? If yes, enter six-digit code: <b>Self:</b> _____ <b>Spouse:</b> _____		
20) Y	N	Did you make gifts to a trust or gifts totaling more than \$19,000 to any individual during the year? If so, provide recipient's name, address, relationship to you, and the amount of the gift.		
21) Y	N	Did you receive a Paycheck Protection Program loan for your Schedule C business?		
Amount \$ _____ Amount forgiven \$ _____				

**STEP 1  
(Continued)**

**Check any of the boxes below that apply to you for 2025:**

Purchased health insurance for yourself or a family member through the Health Insurance Marketplace (Exchange). [Attach Form 1095-A (Health Insurance Marketplace Statement).]

Was granted stock options by your employer and/or exercised employer stock options.

Owned any securities or held any debts that became worthless during the year.

Contributed to or received distributions from an Archer Medical Savings Account (MSA).

Traveled more than 100 miles from home and stayed overnight to perform duties as a National Guard member or reservist.

Performed services in the performing arts for at least two employers.

Lived or worked in a foreign country.

Purchased a plug-in electric vehicle on or before September 30, 2025. Enter vehicle information in STEP 10.

Was in the military (or reservist).

Was an active-duty member of the military and moved pursuant to a military order and incident to a permanent change of station.

Received any notice from the IRS or a state taxing authority.

Contributed to or received distributions from an Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) account.

I can be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return for 2025.

**Please provide any other information related to your 2025 taxes not reported elsewhere on this Organizer:**

**STEP 2**

**Dependents (Tax Tip 7) (attach additional sheet, if necessary)**

**Children**

Age 18 or younger (age 19–23 if attending school full time for at least five months during the year) who lived with you more than half the year and who did not provide more than half of their own support (or a permanently and totally disabled child).

**Is 2025 Unearned (Investment) Income > \$1,350?**

Full Name	Date of Birth	SSN

Check if it is possible that a different taxpayer might claim a child listed above as a dependent.

Check if you are divorced and either signed or received Form 8332 (release of exemption for child). (Provide Form 8332.)

Other Dependents (relatives and/or members of household)	Relationship	Social Security Number	Is 2025 Gross Income less than \$5,200?	# Months Resided in Your Home in 2025	% Support Received From You

**STEP 3**

**Income**

**Wages—Provide Forms W-2**

Number of employers (during the year): Self: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you receive tip income? Yes No  
Do you receive overtime pay? Yes No

**Dividend and Interest Income**

Provide all Forms 1099-INT, 1099-DIV, and 1099-OID. List interest and dividends not reported on Form 1099 on a separate sheet, but do not duplicate what's reported on the 1099s. Also, list any penalty on early withdrawal from savings.

**Installment Sale Payments Received**

Total Payments \$ _____	Is payer a relative or related party? Yes No
Interest \$ _____	If payer uses property as a principal residence, provide payer's:
Principal \$ _____	Name _____
Did sale occur in 2025? Yes No	Address _____
If yes, complete STEP 4.	SSN _____

**STEP 3****Income (Continued)****Retirement Plan and Social Security Income**

1) Did you receive distributions from IRAs, SEPs, pensions, 401(k)s, or other retirement plans (including amounts rolled over and in-plan Roth rollovers)? .....	Yes	No
If yes, provide all Forms 1099-R received. Enter amounts received but not reported on a Form 1099-R here ..... \$ _____		
2) Amount of distribution rolled over to a qualified plan or traditional IRA ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 8</a> ) .....		
3) Amount of distribution rolled over to a Roth IRA.....		
4) Amount of distribution rolled over to a Designated Roth Account.....		
5) Amount of distribution made directly to a qualified charity .....		
6) If you were under age 59½ when the distribution was received, do you qualify for an exception to the 10% early withdrawal tax on early distributions? ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 9</a> ).....	Yes	No
Explain: _____		
7) If age 73 or older on December 31, 2025, did you take the 2025 required minimum distributions from your IRAs (other than Roth IRAs) and qualified retirement plans?.....	Self: Yes	No
Spouse: Yes No		
8) Did you recontribute any of your 2025 required minimum distributions to your IRAs and qualified retirement plans?.....	Self: Yes	No
Spouse: Yes No		
9) Did you receive social security or railroad retirement benefits? .....	Yes	No
If yes, provide all Forms SSA-1099 or RRB-1099 received.		

**Partnerships, Estates, Trusts, and S Corporations**

Provide a list of all the partnerships and S corporations in which you own an interest and all trusts of which you are a beneficiary. Indicate on the list whether you materially participated in that entity's trade or business in 2025 ([Tax Tip 10](#)). Write "N/A" if the entity is not engaged in a trade or business (for example, an entity whose only activity is ownership of rental real estate or investment assets such as stocks and bonds). Provide all Schedules K-1 received for the tax year. See also [Tax Tip 20](#).

**Other Income—Provide Forms 1098 and 1099**

Bartering Income .....	\$ _____
Bonuses and Prizes not reported on Form W-2 (Explain) .....	
Cancellation of Debt (Form 1099-A or 1099-C) ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 6</a> ) .....	
Commissions and Fees (Not reported in <b>STEP 5</b> ) .....	
Disability Income not included on Form W-2 (taxable) .....	
Education Savings Account or Qualified Tuition (529) Plan Withdrawals (Form 1099-Q).....	
Gambling/Lottery Winnings (Form W-2G) .....	
Jury Duty—Election Board Fees .....	
Scholarships (Form 1098-T).....	
State Income Tax Refund (Form 1099-G) .....	
Tips and Gratuities not reported on Form W-2 ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 11</a> ).....	
Unemployment Compensation (Form 1099-G) .....	
Veterans' Pension and Disability .....	
Workers' Compensation .....	
Other (attach separate sheets if necessary).....	

**STEP 4 Sales and Exchanges**

Provide information about sales of stock, real estate, or other property along with Forms 1099-B, 1099-S, closing statement, or other supporting information. Attach separate sheet if necessary. If all transactions, including basis, are reported on Forms 1099-B you provide, there is no need to complete the following. If your principal residence was sold, see [STEP 13](#).

	<b>Asset #1</b>	<b>Asset #2</b>	<b>Asset #3</b>
Description of Property.....			
Date Acquired .....			
Date Sold.....			
Sales Price .....	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Basis ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 12</a> and <a href="#">Tax Tip 13</a> ) .....			
Expenses of Sale.....			

**STEP 5****Self-Employment Income** (See also [STEP 7](#), [STEP 8](#), and [STEP 9](#))

If more than one farm activity or business, list income and expenses separately for each. Also include any single-member limited liability companies (LLCs). See [Tax Tip 20](#).

Business Activity/Product: _____		
Business Name: _____		
Did you begin or end the business in 2025? Begin _____ End _____		
Gross Receipts (provide all Forms 1099-MISC, 1099-NEC, and 1099-K) <sup>1</sup> .....	\$ _____	
Inventory—Beginning of Year .....	\$ _____	
Merchandise Purchases (less Product for Personal Use) .....		
Labor, Materials, and Other Costs of Inventory .....		
Inventory—End of Year .....		
Did you make any payments requiring Forms 1099 be filed? <sup>1,2</sup> .....	Yes	No
If Yes, did you file Forms 1099? .....	Yes	No

<sup>1</sup> Digital asset receipts or payments must be reported.

<sup>2</sup> Generally, payments of \$600 or more made to individuals and noncorporate entities in the course of a trade or business must be reported. Common examples are payments for non-employee compensation and rent.

**STEP 6****Rental and Royalty Income**

Physical Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code)	Type <sup>1</sup>	Rent/Royalty Received	Fair Rental Days	Personal Use Days
.....	.....	\$ _____		
.....	.....			
.....	.....			
.....	.....			
.....	.....			
.....	.....			
Did you make any payments requiring Forms 1099 be filed? .....	Yes	No		
If Yes, did you file Forms 1099? .....	Yes	No		
Were 250 or more hours spent on rental services for each rental activity listed? .....	Yes	No		

<sup>1</sup> 1—Single family residence; 2—Multi-family residence; 3—Vacation/short-term rental; 4—Commercial; 5—Land; 6—Royalties; 7—Self-rental; 8—Other (describe).

**STEP 7****Business Travel and Meal Expenses**

Travel expenses are deductible if you traveled away from home overnight on business. Business meals when not traveling are also deductible (subject to limits), provided you have records showing date, amount, persons present, and business purpose.

Use Correct Column 	Self-Employed	Rental Activity
<b>Travel:</b>		
Airplane, Train, Taxi, Auto Rental .....	\$ _____	\$ _____
Restaurant Meals .....		
Meals (See Tip C under <i>Self-Employed Tax Tips</i> ) .....		
Lodging .....		
Telephone/Internet Connection .....		
Cleaning and Laundry .....		
Baggage and Shipping .....		
Other: .....		
<b>Meals Not Associated With Travel</b> .....		



<b>STEP 11</b>		<b>Education Expenses (Attach Forms 1098-E, 1098-T, and 1099-Q)</b>					
Include information about education expenses incurred for you, your spouse, or your dependents.							
1) Student's Name .....							
2) If in college, was student enrolled at least half-time for at least one academic period beginning in 2025? .....	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
3) Felony Conviction? <sup>1</sup> .....	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
4) Educational Purpose (degree seeking, job related).....							
5) Name of Institution.....							
6) Total Amount Paid (attach detailed list of expenses) (See <a href="#">Tax Tip 14</a> ) .....	\$		\$		\$		
7) Paid By Whom?.....							
8) Student's Grade or Year in College .....							
<sup>1</sup> Indicate whether or not student was convicted before 12/31/2025 of a felony for possession or distribution of a controlled substance.							

<b>STEP 12</b>		<b>Itemized Deductions (Continued)</b>					
<b>Taxes</b>							
<b>Note:</b> In 2025, the deduction for state and local taxes is limited to \$40,000 (\$20,000 if married filing separate) and foreign real estate taxes are not deductible.							
State and Local Income Taxes Paid in 2025 (include 2025 estimated tax payments and amounts paid with 2024 return) .....							\$ _____
State and Local Sales Tax Paid for Major Purchases (motor vehicles, boats, airplanes, homes, or home building materials, if rate same as general sales tax rate).....							_____
Foreign Taxes (other than foreign real estate taxes) .....							_____
Real Estate Taxes—Homestead (less special assessments).....							_____
Other Real Estate Taxes (second home, cabin, etc. but not foreign real estate taxes).....							_____
Property Tax Refund.....							_____
Special Assessments—Interest Portion Only .....							_____
Personal Property Taxes (auto license tags, etc.) .....							_____
<b>Charitable Donations (Use separate sheet if needed.)</b>							
<b>Note:</b> Monetary donations under \$250 each must be substantiated by either (1) a bank record (such as a cancelled check) or (2) a written receipt from the charity showing its name and the date and amount of the donation. For each donation of \$250 or more, the taxpayer must obtain a written acknowledgment from the charity. (See <a href="#">Tax Tip 16</a> .)							
<b>Cash, Check, or Credit Card (include payroll deductions):</b>							
Churches or Synagogues.....							\$ _____
Other: _____							_____
Other: _____							_____
Other: _____							_____
<b>Noncash:</b>							
Fair Market Value (FMV) of Items Given to Charities .....							_____
Attach list of each item (or group of similar items) and its FMV ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 17</a> ).							_____
If a vehicle, boat, or airplane donation over \$500, provide Form 1098-C.							_____
<b>Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Charitable Work</b>							
Charitable Miles: _____ Miles × 14¢ = .....							_____
Other: _____							_____
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>							
<b>Note:</b> In 2025, miscellaneous itemized deductions (for example, unreimbursed employee business expenses, investment expenses) generally are no longer deductible.							
Gambling Losses. Limited to Total Gambling Winnings Listed in <a href="#">STEP 3</a> .....							\$ _____
If Disabled, Impairment-Related Work Expenses.....							_____
<b>Casualty Loss</b>							
Casualty, Disaster, and Theft Losses. Provide details. ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 21</a> )							
<b>Interest Paid (Provide Forms 1098)</b>							
Home Mortgage (If seller-financed, provide seller's name/address/SSN).....							<b>Primary Residence</b> \$ _____
Home Equity Loan. Loan Proceeds Used for: _____							<b>Second Home (Tax Tip 22)</b> \$ _____
Loan Points not Reported on Form 1099-INT ( <a href="#">Tax Tip 23</a> ).....							_____
Investment Interest Paid..... \$ _____							_____

<sup>1</sup> Do not include any premiums included in [STEP 9](#) (if self-employed).

## STEP 13 Principal Residence (attach any 2025 closing statements)

Yes	No	Did you sell your principal residence in 2025? If yes (Tax Tip 24):
Yes No Did you own and use it as a principal residence for at least two of five years before the sale?		
Yes No Did you sell a previous residence within two years before the sale date and exclude any gain?		
Yes No After 2008, was the property ever used for anything other than as a principal residence (for example, as a vacation home or rental property)?		
Yes No Did you purchase a residence in 2025?		
Yes No Did you refinance your mortgage or take out a home equity loan in 2025? Amount of proceeds used for something other than acquiring or improving your home: \$ _____		
Yes No Did you purchase any energy-efficient improvements such as solar electric, solar water heating, fuel cell, small wind energy, geothermal heat pump, or biomass fuel property, or energy-efficient exterior doors, windows, insulation, heat pumps, furnaces, central air conditioners, or water heaters? Did you have a home energy audit?		

## STEP 14 2025 Estimated Tax Payments<sup>1</sup>

	Federal	Date Paid	State	Date Paid
Amount applied from 2024 overpayment, if any:	\$ _____		\$ _____	
First Quarter Payment Made .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Second Quarter Payment Made .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Third Quarter Payment Made .....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Fourth Quarter Payment Made .....	_____	_____	_____	_____

<sup>1</sup> Do not include withholding from Forms W-2 or 1099 in estimated tax payments listed here.

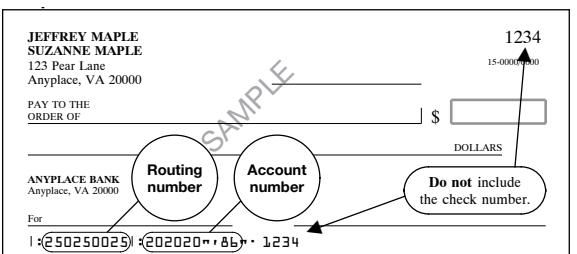
## STEP 15 Tax Refund—Direct Deposit Information

If you receive a 2025 federal tax refund, the refund can be routed to up to three of your checking or savings accounts. (Tax refunds may also be directly deposited to your IRA, Health Savings Account, Archer MSA, or Education Savings Account.) If you prefer a direct deposit, please complete the following information. The IRS is phasing out paper checks. Most refunds will be delivered by direct deposit or other secure electronic methods. The IRS is expected to publish detailed guidance before the 2026 tax filing season begins.

Type of Account (Checking, Savings, IRA, etc.)	Routing Number (Nine digits)	Account Number	Percent of Refund

### Sample check:

**Note:** The routing and account numbers may be in different places on your check.



### Privacy Policy:

We collect nonpublic information about you from the following sources:

- 1) Information we receive from you on applications, tax organizers, worksheets, and other forms;
- 2) Information about your transactions with us, our affiliates, or others; and
- 3) Information we receive from a consumer reporting agency.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about our customers or former customers to anyone, except as required by law.

We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about you to those members of our firm who need to know that information in order to provide services to you. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulations to guard your nonpublic personal information.

## Tax Tips

- 1) Payments that meet specific requirements may be treated as alimony for tax, regardless of how they are described in a divorce decree. One of the requirements is that the payments end upon the recipient's death. So, payments for maintenance or spousal support may be considered alimony for tax. Alimony with respect to divorce decrees executed after 2018 does not have any tax consequences; it is neither deductible by the payor nor taxable to the payee. Ask us for details.
- 2) IRA contributions are limited to the lesser of \$7,000 (\$8,000 if age 50 or older at year-end) or compensation. If you (and your spouse) are not covered by an employer retirement plan, traditional IRA contributions are fully deductible. If you or your spouse are covered by an employer retirement plan, the deduction is phased out at higher income levels. Roth IRA contributions are not deductible and regardless of whether you are covered by an employer retirement plan, they phase out at certain income levels. If only one spouse has compensation, a spousal IRA can be set up for the nonworking spouse. Each spouse (working and nonworking) can contribute up to \$7,000 (\$8,000 if age 50 or older) provided the working spouse's compensation is at least equal to the IRA contributions.
- 3) Individuals covered only by a high deductible health plan (for 2025, deductible of at least \$1,650 for individual coverage and \$3,300 for family coverage) can make deductible (subject to limits) HSA contributions.
- 4) Grade K-12 teachers may be able to deduct amounts paid for books, supplies (other than nonathletic supplies for health and PE courses), computer software, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other equipment and materials used in the classroom as well as certain expenses for professional development courses.
- 5) The child and dependent care credit is generally available to married taxpayers only if both spouses have earned income, unless a spouse is a full-time student or disabled.
- 6) Cancellation of debt (COD) generally results in taxable income. However, exceptions are available for bankrupt and insolvent taxpayers as well as for cancellations or reductions of student loans, farm-related loans, Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, and loans related to business real property.
- 7) A person who files a joint return (other than a return filed solely to claim a refund) cannot be claimed as a dependent. Also, special rules apply to children of divorced parents.
- 8) To be tax free, IRA and qualified plan distributions generally must be rolled over to another traditional IRA or qualified plan within 60 days. Also, for IRAs, there is a one-year waiting period between tax-free rollovers.
- 9) IRA (but not qualified plan) withdrawals before age 59½ are not subject to the 10% additional tax if the funds are used for (a) otherwise deductible medical expenses, (b) certain higher educational expenses, (c) a first-time home purchase for distributions up to \$10,000, or (d) medical insurance by certain unemployed individuals. Other exceptions may apply to IRA and qualified plan withdrawals.
- 10) Material participation in a trade or business generally means the taxpayer spends more than 500 hours participating in the activity during the year. However, the test can also be met in other situations, such as when the taxpayer is the only one who substantially participates in the activity or spends more than 100 hours participating and no one else spends more time.
- 11) If "allocated tips" are listed on year-end Form W-2, the amount will be subject to both social security and income tax unless records (tip log) verify that a lesser amount was actually received.
- 12) Improvement costs may reduce taxable gain upon sale of property. Keep records of improvement costs made to all real property at least four years after the property is sold.
- 13) If stock or mutual fund dividends are automatically reinvested instead of received in cash, these reinvestments increase cost basis, and reduce gain or increase loss upon sale.
- 14) Tax benefits such as a credit or income exclusion for interest on certain U.S. savings bonds may be available for certain education expenses. Benefits may be phased out at certain income levels. List the following expenses: (a) tuition and required fees; (b) books, supplies, and equipment required for attendance; (c) computer equipment and internet access; (d) room and board (if at least half-time attendance); and (e) student loan interest.
- 15) Qualified long-term care insurance premiums are deductible subject to age and annual dollar limits.
- 16) Charitable contributions of \$250 or more in any one day to any one organization must have written acknowledgment from the organization. The acknowledgment must state whether or not any goods or services were received in exchange for the donation.
- 17) When making contributions of used furniture, appliances, and clothing, attach a record of the items donated to the receipt for proof of this deductible contribution. Contributions must be in good or better condition to be deductible.
- 18) The 2025 Act (formerly referred to as the One Big Beautiful Bill or OBBB) makes permanent 100% bonus depreciation (full expensing) for qualified property placed in service after January 19, 2025 [IRC Sec. 168(k)]. A 40% bonus depreciation is generally allowed for property placed in service from January 1, 2025 through January 19, 2025. Qualified business property includes such property as office furniture, computers, machinery, and equipment. Limits apply to certain automobiles, trucks, and SUVs.
- 19) The Section 179 business property expensing allowance is \$2.5 million (for 2025) and includes tangible personal property and off-the-shelf computer software. Limits apply to certain automobiles, trucks, and SUVs.
- 20) In 2025, self-employed individuals and owners of pass-through interests in business activities generally may deduct 20% of their qualified business income, as well as 20% of aggregate qualified REIT dividends and qualified publicly-traded partnership income. Joint filers with taxable income of \$394,600 or more (\$197,300 for all other filers) are subject to special rules.
- 21) Generally, in 2025, a net loss due to a casualty (such as flood, fire, etc.) must be attributable to a federally declared disaster to be deductible to the extent it exceeds 10% of your AGI.
- 22) A home can be a house, condominium, cooperative, mobile home, boat, or similar property. It must provide basic living accommodations including sleeping space, toilet, and cooking facilities.
- 23) Loan origination fees (points) paid on a loan to buy or build a principal residence are generally deductible as interest in the year paid. Points paid on refinancing an existing mortgage or on a loan to purchase or improve a second home must be deducted (amortized) over the life of the loan. *Exception:* If part of the proceeds were used to improve your main home, points related to the improvements may be deducted in the year paid.
- 24) You can exclude up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 if married and filing jointly or certain surviving spouses) of the gain on a sale of a principal residence if you owned and occupied the residence for two out of the five years before the date of sale. If the home was used other than as your principal residence any time after 2008, some of the gain may be taxable.
- 25) Keep receipts supporting tax deductions at least four years.