

# Tax Deduction Checklist

## General & Itemized Deductions

- State & local income taxes paid (or sales tax)
- Real estate taxes (on primary residence or investment property)
- Mortgage interest (Form 1098 from lender)
- Charitable contributions (cash + non-cash with receipts)
- Medical and dental expenses (if they exceed 7.5% of AGI)
- Casualty and theft losses (in federally declared disaster zones)
- Investment interest expense

## Self-Employed / Freelancer Deductions

- Home office deduction (based on square footage or actual expenses)
- Business travel and lodging (must be ordinary and necessary)
- Meals (50%) when traveling for business or meeting clients
- Health insurance premiums (for self-employed individuals)
- Office supplies, equipment, software
- Internet and phone usage (business portion only)
- Professional dues & subscriptions
- Continuing education or certification
- Contract labor/payments to subcontractors (1099-NEC)

## Vehicle & Mileage Deductions

- Standard mileage rate OR actual vehicle expenses
- Parking fees and tolls
- Car loan interest (self-employed only)

## Education & Training

- Student loan interest deduction (up to \$2,500)
- Tuition & fees deduction or Lifetime Learning Credit
- 529 Plan contributions (state tax deduction, varies by state)

## **Home & Rental Property Deductions**

Property taxes

Depreciation (for rental property)

Repairs, maintenance, insurance

HOA fees (for rental only)

## **Family & Dependents**

Child and dependent care expenses (up to \$3,000 per child)

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

Child Tax Credit / Additional Child Tax Credit

Adoption expenses

## **Retirement Contributions**

Traditional IRA contributions

Self-employed retirement plans (SEP IRA, Solo 401(k))

HSA contributions (Health Savings Account)

## **Investment & Financial Deductions**

Capital loss deductions (up to \$3,000)

Tax preparation fees (if self-employed, can deduct business portion)

Safe deposit box fees (for investment storage, limited)

Financial advisor fees (business-related only)