# 2019 U.S. TAX AND FINANCIAL PLANNING INFORMATION 

An overview of important changes, rates, rules and deadlines to assist your 2019 U.S. tax planning

What you will see in this brochure

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Tax Rates
KeyTax Rules

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF TAX PLANNING

After making its way through Congress and seeing numerous last-minute tweaks, the tax reform bill was approved by Congress and then signed by President Trump on December 22, 2017. The new tax rates and countless other provisions generally took effect on January 1, 2018. This guide provides an overview of tax rates, credits, deductions and related considerations that may apply to you. For more information about changes made, please refer to the Comparison of Prior Tax Law with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act white paper.

Tax planning should not be done in isolation, but instead should be driven by your overall financial goals and integrated with your total financial plan. By developing and implementing appropriate strategies to lessen or to shift current and future tax liabilities, you can improve your prospects of meeting long- and shortterm objectives. For example, accurately projecting your income taxes can help you determine the cash flow available to you in the coming year.

Keep in mind that tax laws are often complex and frequently change. As a consequence, you should consult your tax advisor before making investment and tax decisions.

## SOCIAL SECURITY CHANGES

As a result of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, "Restricted Application" and "File and Suspend" strategies are being and have been phased out.

Restricted Application - Available to individuals born on or before January 1, 1954. This strategy can be elected when the individual reaches their full retirement age or later. Restricted application creates an opportunity for one member of a couple to claim a spousal benefit if their spouse has filed, while allowing their own benefit to grow until age 70 . At age 70 they normally transition from a spousal benefit to their own benefit, if higher.

File and Suspend - Before its expiration on April 30, 2016, this strategy allowed one spouse to file for their Social Security benefit at their full retirement age and immediately suspend receiving their benefit. The act of filing and immediately suspending their benefit allowed the other spouse to begin drawing a spousal benefit. This process also allowed both of their worker benefits to defer credits up until age 70. At age 70 they would then switch to their own worker benefit, if higher.

## IRS RULES FOR LATE 60-DAY ROLLOVERS

When redepositing funds from your IRA, Roth IRA or other plan, individuals receive a check and have a 60-day period in which to roll over those funds.

Now, with Revenue Procedure 2016-47 (released in August 2016), individuals who miss the 60-day rollover period can self-certify that they qualify for a waiver, so long as they meet a few criteria:

1. There can be no prior denial by the IRS for a waiver.
2. The late rollover must be attributed to one of the 11 reasons listed in the form provided by
the IRS. (Go to irs.gov and search "2016-47" for the list of reasons.)
3. The funds must be redeposited into an IRA account "as soon as practical after the reason or reasons no longer prevent the taxpayer from making the contribution." This guideline does include a 30-day safe harbor window.

## QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION

IRA owners who are at least $701 / 2$ years old could make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to $\$ 100,000$ directly from an IRA to a charity without having to include the distribution in taxable income. Legislation has made these QCD rules permanent.

Donating IRA funds directly to qualified charities allows the IRA holder or beneficiary to avoid taking possession of the funds and the tax bill that comes with them. It also allows the extra income to be excluded from tax formulas for Medicare premiums.

In brief, a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from an IRA can be made only by an IRA owner or beneficiary age $701 / 2$ or older, and can total up to $\$ 100,000$. A spouse age $701 / 2$ with an IRA could give up to $\$ 100,000$ as well. A QCD can be in excess of your required minimum distribution, but cannot exceed $\$ 100,000$. The funds, which cannot come from active SEP or SIMPLE IRAs, must be sent directly to the qualified (IRS approved) charitable organization. [The gift cannot be made to a private foundation, donor-advised fund or supporting organization (as described in IRC Section 509(a)(3)). The gift cannot be
made in exchange for a charitable gift annuity or to a charitable remainder trust.]

## MEDICAL EXPENSES DEDUCTION

During 2018, a taxpayer could deduct medical expenses in excess of $7.5 \%$ of AGI. In 2019 the deduction changes to $10 \%$ of AGI (except for taxpayers age 65 or older for whom the $7.5 \%$ floor will remain in place). To write off medical expenses, deductions must be itemized.

## MORTGAGE INTEREST DEDUCTION

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed in December 2017 limited the amount of mortgage interest that can be taken by an individual itemizing deductions. Previously, an individual could deduct interest on up to $\$ 1,000,000$ of qualified mortgage debt on up to two homes. Current tax law retains the interest deduction on up to $\$ 1,000,000$ for homes acquired before 12/15/17 but limits the deduction for new purchases to mortgage debt of $\$ 750,000$. This deduction is still allowed for up to two homes.

The deduction for interest on home equity debt is eliminated in 2019 except when used to buy, build or substantially improve the taxpayer's home that secures the loan.

## SALT

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act also limited state and local tax deductions to \$10,000.

2019 TAX RATES

Taxable income is income after all deductions, including either itemized deductions or the standard deductions.

Standard Deduction - Single \$12,200;
Head of Household \$18,350; Joint \$24,400.
Dependent cannot exceed the greater of $\$ 1,100$
or \$350 + earned income.
Extra Deduction if Blind or Over 65 - Single and Head of Household \$1,650; all others \$1,300

Single

| If Taxable Income is: | Your Tax is: |
| :--- | :--- |
| Not over $\$ 9,700$ | $10 \%$ of taxable income |
| over $\$ 9,700-\$ 39,475$ | $\$ 970+12 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 9,700$ |
| over $\$ 39,475-\$ 84,200$ | $\$ 4,543+22 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 39,475$ |
| over $\$ 84,200-\$ 160,725$ | $\$ 14,382.50+24 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 84,200$ |
| over $\$ 160,725-\$ 204,100$ | $\$ 32,748.50+32 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 160,725$ |
| over $\$ 204,100-\$ 510,300$ | $\$ 46,628.50+35 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 204,100$ |
| over $\$ 510,300$ | $\$ 153,798.50+37 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 510,300$ |

Married Filing Jointly/Surviving Spouse

| If Taxable Income is: | Your Tax is: |
| :--- | :--- |
| Not over $\$ 19,400$ | $10 \%$ of taxable income |
| over $\$ 19,400-\$ 78,950$ | $\$ 1,940+12 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 19,400$ |
| over $\$ 78,950-\$ 168,400$ | $\$ 9,086+22 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 78,950$ |
| over $\$ 168,400-\$ 321,450$ | $\$ 28,765+24 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 168,400$ |
| over $\$ 321,450-\$ 408,200$ | $\$ 65,497+32 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 321,450$ |
| over $\$ 408,200-\$ 612,350$ | $\$ 93,257+35 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 408,200$ |
| over $\$ 612,350$ | $\$ 164,709.50+37 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 612,350$ |

Head of Household

| If Taxable Income is: | Your Tax is: |
| :--- | :--- |
| Not over $\$ 13,850$ | $10 \%$ of taxable income |
| over $\$ 13,850-\$ 52,850$ | $\$ 1,385+12 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 13,850$ |
| over $\$ 52,850-\$ 84,200$ | $\$ 6,065+22 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 52,850$ |
| over $\$ 84,200-\$ 160,700$ | $\$ 12,962+24 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 84,200$ |
| over $\$ 160,700-\$ 204,100$ | $\$ 31,322+32 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 160,700$ |
| over $\$ 204,100-\$ 510,300$ | $\$ 45,210+35 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 204,100$ |
| over $\$ 510,300$ | $\$ 152,380+37 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 510,300$ |

Married Filing Separately

| If Taxable Income is: | Your Tax is: |
| :--- | :--- |
| Not over $\$ 9,700$ | $10 \%$ of taxable income |
| over $\$ 9,700$ to $\$ 39,475$ | $\$ 970+12 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 9,700$ |
| over $\$ 39,475$ to $\$ 84,200$ | $\$ 4,543+22 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 39,475$ |
| over $\$ 84,200$ to $\$ 160,725$ | $\$ 14,382.50+24 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 84,200$ |
| over $\$ 160,725$ to $\$ 204,100$ | $\$ 32,748.50+32 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 160,725$ |
| over $\$ 204,100$ to $\$ 306,175$ | $\$ 46,628.50+35 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 204,100$ |
| over $\$ 306,175$ | $\$ 82,354.75+37 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 306,175$ |

## PERSONAL EXEMPTION PHASEOUT ("PEP")

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act removed personal exemptions. As a result, the phase out of personal exemptions was also eliminated.

## LIMITATIONS ON ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS <br> ("PEASE LIMITATION")

The Pease Limitation was removed in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The Pease limitation reduced itemized deductions by $\$ 3,000$ for every $\$ 100,000$ of AGI over the threshold amount. The Pease limitation did not apply to investment interest expenses, medical expenses, casualty and theft losses, and gambling losses. In addition, the Pease limitation did not apply to estates or trusts.

## QUALIFIED DIVIDEND INCOME

The tax law indefinitely extended the favorable
long-term capital gains tax rates for "Qualified dividends." To qualify, the taxpayer must have held the stock for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date, and the dividend must be paid from a domestic corporation or certain qualified foreign corporations.

Dividend income that is not qualified dividend income will be taxed at ordinary income rates.

## CAPITAL GAINS RATES

Short-term Capital Gains: Assets held for one year or less are taxed at an individual's ordinary tax rate.

Long-term Capital Gains: Assets held for more than one year are taxed at favorable rates outlined in the chart below.

NETTING PROCESS

| Long Term <br> Capital <br> Gains Rate | Single | Married <br> Filing <br> Jointly | Head <br> of <br> Household | Married <br> Filing <br> Separately | Trusts and <br> Estate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $0 \%$ | Less than <br> $\$ 39,375$ | Less than <br> $\$ 78,750$ | Less than <br> $\$ 52,750$ | Less than <br> $\$ 39,375$ | Less than <br> $\$ 2,650$ |
| $15 \%$ | $\$ 39,376-$ | $\$ 78,751-$ | $\$ 52,751-$ | $\$ 39,376-$ | $\$ 2,651-$ |
| $\$ \$ 434,550$ | $\$ 488,850$ | $\$ 461,700$ | $\$ 244,425$ | $\$ 12,950$ |  |
| $20 \%$ | Over <br> \$434,550 | Over <br> $\$ 488,850$ | Over <br> $\$ 461,700$ | Over <br> $\$ 244,425$ | Over <br> $\$ 12,950$ |

1. Determine whether you have a net short-term or net long-term capital gain or loss on the sale of stock.
2. Net your short-term gains and short-term losses.
3. Net your long-term gains and long-term losses.
4. Net your short-term gain/loss against long-term gain/ loss.
5. For gains, you must pay tax on all gains each year. For losses, you may only deduct up to $\$ 3,000$ of excess losses against ordinary income per year.
6. Carry over any remaining losses to future tax years.

MEDICARE TAX

## A NOTE ABOUT WASH SALES

Selling a security at a loss and purchasing another "substantially identical" security within 30 days before or after the sale date triggers what the IRS considers a "wash sale," an action that disallows the loss deduction. The IRS looks at all of your accounts to determine whether a wash sale has occurred, so selling the stock at a loss in a taxable account and buying it within that 61-day window in your 401(k) or IRA isn't a viable option.

SALE DATE
30 days before 30 days after
61-DAY WINDOW

On January 1, 2013, pursuant to the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, high-income taxpayers became subject to two additional Medicare taxes - an additional 0.9\% Medicare payroll tax and a $3.8 \%$ Medicare surtax on net investment income.

## 3.8\% SURTAX ON UNEARNED INCOME

The 3.8\% surtax on "unearned income" applies to individuals, trusts and estates. "Unearned income" is defined as investment income such as income from interest, dividends, annuities, royalties, capital gains and other passive income.

Two conditions must be met for the $3.8 \%$ surtax to apply. First, the taxpayer must have investment income, and second, the taxpayer's modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) must exceed the limits below, which are not indexed for inflation:

- $\$ 250,000$ for taxpayers filing jointly
- \$125,000 for taxpayers married filing separately
- \$200,000 for other taxpayers

For purposes of the $3.8 \%$ surtax, the MAGI limitation is simply the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI) plus any excluded net foreign income. In general terms, AGI is the number at the bottom of the first page of a taxpayer's 1040 (line 37).

If those two conditions are met, then the $3.8 \%$ surtax applies to the amount of the investment income, or if smaller, the difference between the taxpayer's MAGI and the limits listed above. For example, if a single taxpayer has $\$ 10,000$ of dividend income and MAGI of $\$ 205,000$, then the
$3.8 \%$ surtax applies to $\$ 5,000$. If the same taxpayer had MAGI of $\$ 211,000$, the $3.8 \%$ surtax would apply to $\$ 10,000$.

| Filing Status | 3.8\% Surtax Applies <br> to the Lesser of: |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Investment <br> Income | MAGI minus <br> \$250,000 |
| Married Filing Separately | Investment | MAGI minus <br> \$125,000 |
| Income | Investment | MAGI minus <br> $\$ 200,000$ |

The 3.8\% surtax does not apply to distributions from tax-favored retirement plans such as IRAs or qualified plans, although distributions from tax-favored retirement plans may increase a taxpayer's MAGI over the limits discussed above and thereby potentially expose investment income to the $3.8 \%$ surtax. In general terms, the $3.8 \%$ surtax does not apply to active trades or businesses conducted by a sole proprietor, S corporation or partnership, or to the gains and losses on the sale of active trades or businesses. However, working capital is not treated as being part of an active trade or business for purposes of the $3.8 \%$ surtax.

## 0.9\% TAX ON WAGES

An additional 0.9\% Medicare tax will be imposed on wages of employees and on earnings of selfemployed individuals. The 0.9\% Medicare tax will apply to wages and self-employment earnings above the limits below, which are not indexed for
inflation:

- $\$ 250,000$ for taxpayers filing jointly
- \$125,000 for taxpayers married filing separately
- \$200,000 for other taxpayers

The 0.9\% Medicare tax applies to employees, but not to employers. For joint filers, the tax applies to the spouses' combined wages. For self-employed individuals, the $0.9 \%$ tax is not deductible.

## ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX

The tax rates for computing the AMT tax have remained the same at $26 \%$ and $28 \%$, however the exemption and phaseout have changed.

| Filing Status | AMT Exemption 2018 | AMT Exemption <br> Phaseout <br> Threshold 2018 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Single Filers and <br> Head of Household | $\$ 71,700$ | $\$ 510,300$ |
| Married Filing Jointly <br> and <br> Surviving Spouses | $\$ 111,700$ | $\$ 1,020,600$ |
| Married Filing <br> Separately | $\$ 55,850$ | $\$ 510,300$ |

RETIREMENT

## INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

Generally, traditional IRA contributions are fully deductible unless you or your spouse is covered by a workplace retirement plan, in which case the following deduction phaseouts apply. If neither individual nor spouse is covered by a plan, you can deduct up to $\$ 6,000$ each or MAGI, whichever is less. Contributions are not allowed in the year one reaches age $701 / 2$ or older.

Traditional IRA: Deductibility of Contributions

| Status | Modified Adjusted <br> Gross Income | Deduction <br> Allowed |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | $\$ 0-\$ 64,000$ | $\$ 6,000$ Maximum |

* Applies to individuals whose spouses are covered by a workplace plan but who are not covered themselves.


## CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have either a traditional or Roth IRA and attain age 50 or older during the tax year, an additional $\$ 1,000$ may be contributed.

## ROTH IRAS

Contributions made to a Roth IRA are not deductible,
unlike contributions made to a traditional IRA, and there is no age restriction on making contributions. An individual may contribute up to $\$ 6,000$ to the Roth IRA, subject to income phaseout limits.

Roth IRA: Eligibility of Contributions

| Status | Modified Adjusted <br> Gross Income | Contribution |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | \$0-\$122,000 | \$6,000 Maximum |
|  | More than \$137,000 | None |
| Married <br> Filing <br> Jointly and <br> Surviving <br> Spouses | \$193,000 - \$203,000 | Partial |
|  | More than \$203,000 | None |

## CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have either a traditional or Roth IRA and attain age 50 or older during the tax year, an additional \$1,000 may be contributed.

Traditional \& Roth IRA Contribution
\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|}\hline \begin{array}{c}\text { Individual maximum } \\
\text { contribution }\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}\text { Catch-up contribution } \\
\text { if age } 50 \text { or older }\end{array}
$$ <br>

\hline \$ 6,000 \& \$ 1,000\end{array}\right]\)| 401(k), 403(b), 457 and SARSEP Contribution |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Employee maximum <br> deferral contribution | Catch-up contribution if <br> age 50 or older |
| \$19,000 | $\$ 6,000$ |
| Simple IRA Contribution | Catch-up contribution if <br> age 50 or older <br> Employee maximum <br> deferral contribution <br> \$13,000 |

Individual annual limit (415 for DC plans): \$56,000
Maximum compensation limit: \$280,000
Key Employee limit: \$180,000 for officers, \$150,000 for more than 1\% owners, \$1 for more than 5\% owners
Highly Compensated Employee limit: \$125,000

## IRA ROLLOVERS

Currently, you can only make one rollover from an IRA in a 12-month period. In the past, individuals would take distributions from separate IRAs and make multiple rollovers with the philosophy being each IRA only had one rollover. The IRS has clarified that all your IRAs are counted as one and only one rollover can occur per 12 -month period. However, this is different than trustee to trustee transfers. Those movements of money are still unlimited. The ruling applies to individuals receiving a check in their hand, and then rolling the money back into the IRA within 60 days.

AFTER TAX 401(K) TO ROTH IRA

Previously if you wanted to roll your after-tax money in a $401(\mathrm{k})$ to a Roth IRA, you had to navigate through some very complicated rules that even experts could not always agree upon and then keep your fingers crossed that the IRS would bless the transaction. Now, if you have after-tax dollars in a plan and you are able to take a rollover eligible distribution, you may direct those after-tax dollars to a Roth IRA as a tax-free transaction. There are two critical elements to the distributions. First, you must tell the plan administrator how you are allocating the pre-tax and after-tax dollars beforehand (separate checks preferred). And second, the transfers must occur at the same time.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

Maximum monthly benefit for retirees at full retirement age in 2019 is $\$ 2,861$.

If an individual files for Social Security prior to FRA, they are subject to the earnings test. Benefits will be withheld until full retirement age, when benefits are increased permanently to account for withheld benefits.

For those under full retirement age for the entire year: $\$ 17,640^{*}$
For months before reaching full retirement age in the year full retirement age will be reached: $\$ 46,920$ ** Beginning with month reaching full retirement age: No reduction in benefit associated with earnings

[^0]Taxation Thresholds

|  | Up to 50\% taxed | Up to 85\% taxed |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Single | $\$ 25,000-34,000$ | More than $\$ 34,000$ |
| Married <br> Filing <br> Jointly | $\$ 32,000-44,000$ | More than \$44,000 |

*Taxation is based on Combined Income, which is defined as AGI + nontaxable interest $+1 / 2$ Social Security Benefits

Taxable wage base: \$132,900

## REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

Most IRA owners will use the following uniform life table to calculate RMDs. There is an exception when a spousal beneficiary is more than 10 years younger than the participant and is the sole beneficiary on January 1. In this case, a different table is used.

To calculate your RMD, first find the age you will turn in 2019 and the corresponding applicable divisor. Then divide the prior year-end balance of your IRA account by the divisor. The resulting number is the dollar figure you will need to remove from your IRA to meet your RMD for the current year.

For illustration purposes we are using Table III (Uniform Tables).

For example, if you are now 82, your applicable divisor is 17.1. If the balance in your IRA as of December 31 of last year was $\$ 235,000$, divide that amount by 17.1 . The result is $\$ 13,742.69$. This is the amount of your RMD for the current year.

| Age | Applicable <br> Divisor | Age | Applicable <br> Divisor | Age | Applicable <br> Divisor |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 70 | 27.4 | 86 | 14.1 | 102 | 5.5 |
| 71 | 26.5 | 87 | 13.4 | 103 | 5.2 |
| 72 | 25.6 | 88 | 12.7 | 104 | 4.9 |
| 73 | 24.7 | 89 | 12 | 105 | 4.5 |
| 74 | 23.8 | 90 | 11.4 | 106 | 4.2 |
| 75 | 22.9 | 91 | 10.8 | 107 | 3.9 |
| 76 | 22 | 92 | 10.2 | 108 | 3.7 |
| 77 | 21.2 | 93 | 9.6 | 109 | 3.4 |
| 78 | 20.3 | 94 | 9.1 | 110 | 3.1 |
| 79 | 19.5 | 95 | 8.6 | 111 | 2.9 |
| 80 | 18.7 | 96 | 8.1 | 112 | 2.6 |
| 81 | 17.9 | 97 | 7.6 | 113 | 2.4 |
| 82 | 17.1 | 98 | 7.1 | 114 | 2.1 |
| 83 | 16.3 | 99 | 6.7 | $115+$ | 1.9 |
| 84 | 15.5 | 100 | 6.3 |  |  |
| 85 | 14.8 | 101 | 5.9 |  |  |

2019 ESTATE, GIFT AND GENERATION SKIPPING TAX

| GST Exemption Equivalent Amount | $\$ 11,400,000$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Annual Gift Tax Exclusion | $\$ 15,000$ |
| Non-Citizen Spouse Annual Exclusion | $\$ 155,000$ |
| Gift and Estate Tax Applicable Exclusion Amount | $\$ 11,400,000$ |
| Unified Credit Amount | $\$ 4,505,800$ |

# THE ANNUAL GIFT TAX EXCLUSION <br> allowing married couples to gift a combined <br> <br> \$30,000 

 <br> <br> \$30,000}


TRUST AND ESTATE INCOME TAX RATES

| If Taxable Income is: | Your Tax is: |
| :--- | :--- |
| Not over $\$ 2,600$ | $10 \%$ of the taxable income |
| over $\$ 2,600$ to $\$ 9,300$ | $\$ 260$ plus $24 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 2,600$ |
| over $\$ 9,300$ to $\$ 12,750$ | $\$ 1,868$ plus $35 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 9,300$ |
| over $\$ 12,750$ | $\$ 3,075$ plus $37 \%$ of the excess over $\$ 12,750$ |

Estate and Gift Tax Rates

| Taxable Gift/Estate |  |  | Percentage | Of <br> Amount |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Over | Not Over | Pay | On Excess | Above |
| $\$ 0$ | $\$ 10,000$ | $\$ 0$ | $18 \%$ | $\$ 0$ |
| 10,000 | 20,000 | 1,800 | $20 \%$ | 10,000 |
| 20,000 | 40,000 | 3,800 | $22 \%$ | 20,000 |
| 40,000 | 60,000 | 8,200 | $24 \%$ | 40,000 |
| 60,000 | 80,000 | 13,000 | $26 \%$ | 60,000 |
| 80,000 | 100,000 | 18,200 | $28 \%$ | 80,000 |
| 100,000 | 150,000 | 23,800 | $30 \%$ | 100,000 |
| 150,000 | 250,000 | 38,800 | $32 \%$ | 150,000 |
| 250,000 | 500,000 | 70,800 | $34 \%$ | 250,000 |
| 500,000 | 750,000 | 155,800 | $37 \%$ | 500,000 |
| 750,000 | $1,000,000$ | 248,300 | $39 \%$ | 750,000 |
| $\$ 1,000,000$ |  | $\$ 345,800$ | $40 \%$ | $\$ 1,000,000$ |

## EDUCATION

## CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS TO COVERDELL

$\$ 2,000$ per beneficiary. This amount is phased out from $\$ 190,000$ to $\$ 220,000$ for married filing jointly, and $\$ 95,000$ to $\$ 110,000$ for single filers.

GIFTS TO 529 PLAN
Gifts can be front loaded up to $\$ 75,000$ (5 years $x$ $\$ 15,000$ annual exclusion) and $\$ 150,000$ for married couples who split gifts. Front loading uses the annual gift tax exclusion for the current year and the next four years.

As part of the 2018 tax legislation, the use of 529 plans has been extended to cover expenses for tuition in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school. These expenses for a single beneficiary during any taxable year should not exceed \$10,000 incurred during that year.

## AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY CREDIT

Up to $100 \%$ of the first $\$ 2,000$, and $25 \%$ of the next $\$ 2,000$, for a total of $\$ 2,500$ maximum credit per eligible student per year, with reduction for MAGI between $\$ 80,000$ and $\$ 90,000$ for single filers, and $\$ 160,000$ and $\$ 180,000$ for joint filers.

LIFETIME LEARNING CREDIT
Up to $20 \%$ of the first $\$ 10,000$ (per taxpayer) of qualified expenses paid in 2019 with reduction for MAGI from $\$ 58,000$ to $\$ 68,000$ for single filers and $\$ 116,000$ to $\$ 136,000$ for joint filers.

## STUDENT LOAN INTEREST DEDUCTION

\$2,500 "above-the-line" deduction, with reduction for MAGI from $\$ 70,000$ to $\$ 85,000$ for single filers and $\$ 140,000$ to $\$ 170,000$ for married filing jointly.

## MODIFIED AGI - U.S. SAVINGS BOND

## INTEREST EXCLUSION

$\$ 81,100$ to $\$ 96,100$ for single filers and $\$ 121,600$ to $\$ 151,600$ for married filing jointly. Bonds must be titled in the name of the parents only, owner must be age 24 or older at the time of issue, proceeds must be used for qualified post-secondary education expenses of the taxpayer, the taxpayer's spouse or the taxpayer's dependent.

## KIDDIE TAX RULES

The Kiddie Tax rules require the unearned income of a child or young adult be taxed at the trust and estate tax rates once the unearned income exceeds $\$ 2,200$. Under the Kiddie Tax rules, the first $\$ 1,100$ in unearned income is not subject to tax. The next $\$ 1,100$ of unearned income is taxed at the child's rate. Then, any unearned income of more than \$2,200 is taxed at the trust and estate rate. The Kiddie Tax rules apply to unearned income of the following:

- A child under age 18 at the end of each tax year
- An 18-year-old whose earned income does not exceed one-half of his or her support
- A 19- to 23-year-old full-time student whose earned income does not exceed one-half of his or her support

Please note, your child would not be subject to the Kiddie Tax if:

- He or she only had earned income
- He or she is not required to file because their income is below the filing threshold
- He or she is filing jointly


## CHILD TAX CREDIT

With the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the Child Tax Credit was expanded to $\$ 2,000$ per child, with $\$ 500$ being nonrefundable for dependents who are not qualifying children. The credit is phased out $\$ 50$ for each $\$ 1,000$ or fraction thereof of MAGI over $\$ 200,000$ for single filers and married filing separately and $\$ 400,000$ for married filing jointly. The credit is also partially refundable up to $15 \%$ of earned income in excess of $\$ 2,500$ for a maximum refund of $\$ 1,400$.

## BUSINESS

CORPORATE TAX RATES:
Flat 21\%

## CORPORATE DIVIDEND EXCLUSION

Corporations get a tax break for investing in common and preferred stocks (of companies other than their own).

- There is a dividend exclusion of $50 \%$ that applies to corporations that own less than $20 \%$ of the other company. (In other words, 50\% of dividends received from another corporation are tax-free.)
- If the company owns between $20 \%$ and $80 \%$, the dividend exclusion is $65 \%$.
- If the company owns $80 \%$ or more, the exclusion is $100 \%$.


## STANDARD MILEAGE RATE

58 cents per mile for business miles.

## PASS-THROUGH BUSINESS INCOME

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act introduced new taxation for pass-through businesses. Any business organized as a sole proprietorship, LLC, and partnership pays income as a pass-through entity. Owners can now take a $20 \%$ deduction on the business income, with limitations phasing in above $\$ 157,500$ for single filers and $\$ 315,000$ for married filing jointly. There are limitations on a taxpayer's ability to take the deduction, and anyone subject to this new rule should contact their CPA for more information.

## CONSIDERATIONS

## PRESENT VALUE OF A LUMP SUM

What if you know you will need $\$ 10,000$ accumulated 10 years from now? How much money do you need to invest today at an average interest rate of $8 \%$ to obtain your goal? Looking at the table below, go to 10 years and then across to $8 \%$. You see that $\$ 0.463$ invested today at 8\% should yield \$1 in 10 years. Since you want $\$ 10,000$, multiply $\$ 0.463$ by $\$ 10,000$ to arrive at $\$ 4,630$.

| Years | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | .614 | .558 | .463 | .386 | .322 |
| 20 | .377 | .312 | .215 | .149 | .104 |
| 30 | .231 | .174 | .099 | .057 | .033 |
| 40 | .142 | .097 | .046 | .022 | .011 |

This is a hypothetical illustration and is not intended to reflect the actual performance of any particular security. Actual investor results will vary. Investments involve risk and you may incur a profit or a loss.

## FUTURE VALUE OF A LUMP SUM

If you invest $\$ 10,000$ at an interest rate of $8 \%$, how much will your investment be worth in 10 years? By referring to the table, you find that $\$ 1$ invested today at $8 \%$ would grow to $\$ 2.159$ in 10 years. Since you invested $\$ 10,000$, multiply $\$ 2.159$ by $\$ 10,000$, giving you $\$ 21,590$.

| Years | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 1.629 | 1.791 | 2.159 | 2.594 | 3.106 |
| 20 | 2.653 | 3.207 | 4.661 | 6.727 | 9.646 |
| 30 | 4.322 | 5.743 | 10.063 | 17.449 | 29.960 |
| 40 | 7.040 | 10.286 | 21.725 | 45.259 | 93.051 |

## PRESENT VALUE OF A SERIES

## OF ANNUAL PAYMENTS

How much money would you need to invest today at an interest rate of $8 \%$ to provide $\$ 10,000$ per year for 10 years? Looking at the chart below, to receive $\$ 1$ per year for 10 years at $8 \%$, you would need to invest $\$ 6.710$. Multiply that figure by $\$ 10,000$ to get $\$ 67,100$, the amount which you would need to invest.

| Years | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 7.722 | 7.360 | 6.710 | 6.145 | 5.650 |
| 20 | 12.462 | 11.470 | 9.818 | 8.514 | 7.469 |
| 30 | 15.372 | 13.765 | 11.258 | 9.427 | 8.055 |
| 40 | 17.159 | 15.046 | 11.925 | 9.779 | 8.244 |

These are hypothetical illustrations and are not intended to reflect the actual performance of any particular security. Actual investor results will vary. Investments involve risk and you may incur a profit or a loss.

## FUTURE VALUE OF A SERIES

OF ANNUAL PAYMENTS
If you deposit $\$ 5,000$ in an annuity at the end of each year for 10 years at an $8 \%$ interest rate, you would have $\$ 72,435(\$ 5,000 \times \$ 14.487)$ in your account at the end of the 10th year.

| Years | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $12 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 12.578 | 13.181 | 14.487 | 15.937 | 17.549 |
| 20 | 33.066 | 36.786 | 45.762 | 57.275 | 72.052 |
| 30 | 66.439 | 79.058 | 113.283 | 164.494 | 241.333 |
| 40 | 120.800 | 154.762 | 259.057 | 442.593 | 767.091 |

## TAXABLE EQUIVALENT YIELDS

Taxable equivalent yield is the return that is required on a taxable investment to make it equal to the return on a tax-exempt investment. The taxable equivalent yield is commonly used when evaluating municipal bond returns.

| Tax <br> Exempt <br> Yields | $15 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $33 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $39.6 \%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4.00 | 4.71 | 5.56 | 5.55 | 5.97 | 6.15 | 6.62 |
| 4.50 | 5.29 | 6.25 | 6.25 | 6.71 | 6.92 | 7.45 |
| 5.00 | 5.88 | 6.94 | 6.94 | 7.46 | 7.69 | 8.28 |
| 5.50 | 6.47 | 7.64 | 7.63 | 8.20 | 8.46 | 9.11 |
| 6.00 | 7.06 | 8.33 | 8.33 | 8.95 | 9.23 | 9.93 |
| 6.50 | 7.65 | 9.03 | 9.02 | 9.70 | 10.00 | 10.76 |
| 7.00 | 8.24 | 9.72 | 9.72 | 10.44 | 10.77 | 11.59 |

These are hypothetical illustrations and are not intended to reflect the actual performance of any particular security. Actual investor results will vary. Investments involve risk and you may incur a profit or a loss.

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Quarterly taxes due
April 15, 2019; June 17, 2019;
September 16, 2019; January 15, 2020
Corporate return deadline
March 15 for calendar year partnerships and
S-corporations returns
RMD deadline
April 1, 2019, for those who reached $701 / 2$ in 2018
December 31 thereafter
Tax deadline
April 15, 2019, for 2018 returns
October 15, 2019, for extensions
RMD, lock in gains/losses, make contributions
to 529 plans, gift
December 31, 2019
SIMPLE IRA
October 1, 2019
Qualified Plan Establishment
December 31, 2019

## LIFE WELL PLANNED.

## RAYMONDJAMES ${ }^{\circ}$

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[^0]:    *If your earnings exceed this, then \$1 of benefits is withheld for every $\$ 2$ you earn above $\$ 17,640$
    **If your earnings exceed this, then $\$ 1$ of benefits is withheld for every $\$ 3$ you earn above \$46,920

