2006 Instructions for Schedule C

Profit or Loss From Business

Use Schedule C (Form 1040) to report income or loss from a business you operated or a profession you practiced as a sole proprietor. Also, use Schedule C to report wages and expenses you had as a statutory employee. An activity qualifies as a business if your primary purpose for engaging in the activity is for income or profit and you are involved in the activity with continuity and regularity. For example, a sporadic activity or a hobby does not qualify as a business. To report income from a nonbusiness activity, see the instructions for Form 1040, line 21, or Form 1040NR, line 21.

Small businesses and statutory employees with expenses of $5,000 or less may be able to file Schedule C-EZ instead of Schedule C. See Schedule C-EZ for details.

You may be subject to state and local taxes and other requirements such as business licenses and fees. Check with your state and local governments for more information.

What’s New

Deduction for qualified clean-up costs. You may be able to deduct 50% of amounts paid or incurred for the removal of debris or demolition of structures located in the Gulf Opportunity (GO) Zone. See GO Zone clean-up costs on page C-8.

Increased expensing for qualified timber property. For qualified timber property you own in the GO Zone, the Rita GO Zone, or the Wilma GO Zone, the limit on expensing reforestation expenditures is increased by up to $10,000. See Forestation and reforestation costs beginning on page C-7 and Pub. 4492.

Increased section 179 limits for GO Zone property. You may be able to take an increased section 179 deduction for qualified GO Zone property you placed in service in 2006. For information, see Pub. 946.

Additional depreciation allowed for qualified property. If, during 2006, you placed in service qualified property in the GO Zone, you may be able to claim additional depreciation deductions. See Pub. 946 for more information.

Amortization of expenses incurred in creating or acquiring music or music copyrights. Beginning in 2006, if you placed in service any musical composition or copy- right with respect to a musical composition, you may elect to amortize the expenses incurred over a 5-year period. See Pub. 946 for more information.

Employee retention credit has expired. This credit was available for qualified wages paid before January 1, 2006.

Clean-fuel vehicle and refueling property deductions have expired. These deductions were available for property placed in service before January 1, 2006.

Indian employment credit has expired. This credit was available for qualified wages paid before January 1, 2006.

At the time these instructions went to print, Congress was considering legislation that would extend the Indian employment credit that expired at the end of 2005. To find out if this legislation was enacted, and for more details, go to www.irs.gov, click on More Forms and Publications, and then on What’s Hot in forms and publications, or see Pub. 553.

General Instructions

Other Schedules and Forms You May Have To File

• Schedule A to deduct interest, taxes, and casualty losses not related to your business.
• Schedule E to report rental real estate and royalty income or (loss) that is not subject to self-employment tax.
• Schedule F to report profit or (loss) from farming.
• Schedule J to figure your tax by averaging your fishing income over the previous 3 years. Doing so may reduce your tax.
• Schedule SE to pay self-employment tax on income from any trade or business.
• Form 4562 to claim depreciation on assets placed in service in 2006, to claim amortization that began in 2006, to make an election under section 179 to expense certain property, or to report information on listed property.
• Form 4684 to report a casualty or theft gain or loss involving property used in your trade or business or income-producing property.
• Form 4797 to report sales, exchanges, and involuntary conversions (not from a casualty or theft) of trade or business property.

• Form 8594 to report certain purchases or sales of groups of assets that constitute a trade or business.
• Form 8824 to report like-kind exchanges.
• Form 8826 to claim a credit for expenditures to improve access to your business for individuals with disabilities.
• Form 8829 to claim expenses for business use of your home.
• Form 8903 to take a deduction for income from domestic production activities.
• Form 8910 to claim a credit for placing a new alternative motor vehicle in service after 2005 for business use.
• Form 8911 to claim a credit for placing qualified alternative fuel vehicle refueling property in service after 2005 for business use.

Husband-wife business. If you and your spouse jointly own and operate a business and share in the profits and losses, you are partners in a partnership, whether or not you have a formal partnership agreement. Do not use Schedule C or C-EZ. Instead, file Form 1065. See Pub. 541 for more details.

Exception. If you and your spouse wholly own an unincorporated business as community property under the community property laws of a state, foreign country, or U.S. possession, you can treat the business either as a sole proprietorship or a partner- ship. The only states with community prop- erty laws are Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin. A change in your reporting position will be treated as a conversion of the entity.

Single-member limited liability company (LLC). Generally, a single-member do- mestic LLC is not treated as a separate ent- ity for federal income tax purposes. If you are the sole member of a domestic LLC, file Schedule C or C-EZ (or Schedule E or F, if applicable). However, you can elect to treat a domestic LLC as a corporation. See Form 8832 for details on the election and the tax treatment of a foreign LLC.

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.
Heavy highway vehicle use tax. If you use certain highway trucks, truck-trailers, tractor-trailers, or buses in your trade or business, you may have to pay a federal highway motor vehicle use tax. See the Instructions for Form 2290 to find out if you owe this tax.

Information returns. You may have to file information returns for wages paid to employees, certain payments of fees and other nonemployee compensation, interest, rents, royalties, real estate transactions, annuities, and pensions. You may also have to file an information return if you sold $5,000 or more of consumer products to a person on a buy-sell, deposit-commission, or other similar basis for resale. For details, see the 2006 General Instructions for Forms 1099, 1098, 5498, and W-2G.

If you received cash of more than $10,000 in one or more related transactions in your trade or business, you may have to file Form 306. For details, see Pub. 1544.

Reportable Transaction Disclosure Statement

Use Form 8886 to disclose information for each reportable transaction in which you participated. Form 8886 must be filed for each tax year that your federal income tax liability is affected by your participation in the transaction. You may have to pay a penalty if you are required to file Form 8886 but do not so do. You may also have to pay interest and penalties on any reportable transaction understatements. The following are reportable transactions:

- Any transaction that is the same as or substantially similar to tax avoidance transactions identified by the IRS.
- Any transaction offered under conditions of confidentiality for which you paid an advisor a minimum fee.
- Any transaction for which you have contractual protection against disallowance of the tax benefits.
- Any transaction resulting in a loss of at least $2 million in any single tax year or $4 million in any combination of tax years. (At least $50,000 for a single tax year if the loss arose from a foreign currency transaction defined in section 988(c)(1), whether or not the loss flows through from an S corporation or partnership.)
- Any transaction resulting in a tax credit of more than $250,000, if you held the asset generating the credit for 45 days or less.

See the Instructions for Form 8886 for more details and exceptions.

Capital Construction Fund

Do not claim on Schedule C or C-EZ the deduction for amounts contributed to a capital construction fund set up under the Merchant Marine Act of 1936. Instead, reduce the amount you would otherwise enter on Form 1040, line 43, by the amount of the deduction. Next to line 43, enter “CCF” and the amount of the deduction. For details, see Pub. 595.

Additional Information

See Pub. 334 for more information for small businesses.

Specific Instructions

Filters of Form 1041. Do not complete the block labeled “Social security number (SSN).” Instead, enter your employer identification number (EIN) on line D.

Line A

Describe the business or professional activity that provided your principal source of income reported on line 1. If you owned more than one business, you must complete a separate Schedule C for each business. Give the general field or activity and the type of product or service. If your general field or activity is wholesale or retail trade, or services connected with production services (e.g., design, engineering, programming), also give the type of customer or client. For example, “wholesale sale of hardware to retailers” or “appraisal of real estate for lending institutions.”

Line B

You need an employer identification number (EIN) only if you had a qualified retirement plan or were required to file an employment, excise, estate, trust, or alcohol, tobacco, and firearms tax return. If you need an EIN, see the Instructions for Form SS-4. If you do not have an EIN, leave line D blank. Do not enter your SSN.

Line E

Enter your business address. Show a street address instead of a box number. Include the suite or room number, if any. If you conducted the business from your home located at the address shown on Form 1040, page 1, you do not have to complete this line.

Line F

Generally, you can use the cash method, accrual method, or any other method permitted by the Internal Revenue Code. In all cases, the method used must clearly reflect income. Unless you are a qualifying taxpayer or a qualifying small business taxpayer (see the Part III instructions on page C-7), you must use the accrual method for sales and purchases of inventory items. Special rules apply to long-term contracts. See section 460 for details.

If you use the cash method, show all items of taxable income actually or constructively received during the year (in cash, property, or services). Income is constructively received when it is credited to your account or set aside for you to use. Also, show amounts actually paid during the year for deductible expenses. However, if the payment of an expenditure creates an asset having a useful life that extends substantially beyond the close of the year, it may not be deductible or may be deductible only in part for the year of the payment. See Pub. 535.

If you use the accrual method, report income when you earn it and deduct expenses when you incur them even if you do not pay them during the tax year. Accrual-basis taxpayers are put on a cash basis for deducting business expenses owed to a related cash-basis taxpayer. Rather than determine the timing of deductions based on economic performance. See Pub. 538.

To change your accounting method, you generally must file Form 3115. You may also have to make an adjustment to prevent amounts of income or expense from being duplicated or omitted. This is called a section 481(a) adjustment.

Example. You change to the cash method of accounting and choose to account for inventory items in the same manner as materials and supplies that are not incidental. You incurred sales in 2005 for which you received payment in 2006. You must report those sales in both years as a result of changing your accounting method and must make a section 481(a) adjustment to prevent duplication of income.

A net negative section 481(a) adjustment is taken into account entirely in the year of the change. A net positive section 481(a) adjustment is generally taken into account over a period of 4 years. Include any net positive section 481(a) adjustments on line 6. If the net section 481(a) adjustment is negative, report it in Part III.


Line G

If your business activity was not a rental activity and you met any of the material participation tests below or the exception for oil and gas applies (explained on page C-5), check the “Yes” box. Otherwise, check the “No” box. If you check the “No” box, this business is a passive activity. If you have a loss from this business activity but have current year losses from other passive activities or you have prior year unallowed passive activity losses, see the Instructions for Form 8582.

Material participation. Participation, for purposes of the seven material participation tests listed on page C-3, generally includes any work you did in connection with an activity if you owned an interest in the activity at the time you did the work. The capacity in which you did the work does not matter. However, work is not treated as participation if it is work that an owner would not customarily do in the same type of activity and one of your main reasons for doing the work was to avoid the disallowance of losses or credits from the activity under the passive activity rules.
Work you did as an investor in an activity is not treated as participation unless you were directly involved in the day-to-day management or operations of the activity. Work done as an investor includes:
- Studying and reviewing financial statements or reports on the activity.
- Preparing or compiling summaries or analyses of the finances or operations of the activity for your own use, and
- Making decisions affecting the finances or operations of the activity in a nonmanagerial capacity.

Participation by your spouse during the tax year in an activity you own can be counted as your participation in the activity. This applies even if your spouse did not own an interest in the activity and whether or not you and your spouse file a joint return.

For purposes of the passive activity rules, you materially participated in the operation of this trade or business activity during 2006 if you met any of the following seven tests:
1. You participated in the activity for more than 500 hours during the tax year.
2. Your participation in the activity for the tax year was substantially all of the participation in the activity of all individuals (including individuals who did not own any interest in the activity) for the tax year.
3. You participated in the activity for more than 100 hours during the tax year, and you participated at least as much as any other person for the tax year. This includes individuals who did not own any interest in the activity.
4. The activity is a significant participation activity for the tax year, and you participated in all significant participation activities for more than 500 hours during the year. An activity is a "significant participation activity" if it involves the conduct of a trade or business, you participated under any of the material participation tests (other than this test 4).
5. You materially participated in the activity for any 5 of the prior 10 tax years.
6. The activity is a personal service activity in which you materially participated for any 3 prior tax years. A personal service activity is an activity that involves performing personal services in the fields of health, law, engineering, architecture, accounting, actuarial science, performing arts, consulting, or any other trade or business in which capital is not a material income-producing factor.
7. Based on the facts and circumstances, you participated in the activity on a regular, continuous, and substantial basis during the tax year. But you do not meet this test if you participated in the activity for 100 hours or less during the tax year.

Your participation in managing the activity does not count in determining if you meet this test if any person (except you) (a) received compensation for performing management services in connection with the activity or (b) spent more hours during the tax year than you spent performing management services in connection with the activity (regardless of whether the person was compensated for the services).

Rental of personal property. A rental activity (such as long-term equipment leasing) is a passive activity even if you materially participated in the activity. However, if you met any of the five exceptions listed under Rental Activities in the Instructions for Form 8582, the rental of the property is not treated as a rental activity and the material participation rules above apply.

Exception for oil and gas. If you are filing Schedule C to report income and deductions from an oil or gas well in which you own a working interest directly or through an entity that does not limit your liability, check the "Yes" box. The activity of owning the working interest is not a passive activity regardless of your participation.

Limit on losses. If you checked the "No" box and you have a loss from this business, you may have to use Form 8582 to figure your allowable loss, if any, to enter on Schedule C, line 31. Generally, you can deduct losses from passive activities only to the extent of income from passive activities. For details, see Pub. 925.

Part I. Income

Line H
If you started or acquired this business in 2006, check the box on line H. Also check the "Yes" box if you are reopening or restarting this business after temporarily closing it, and you did not file a 2005 Schedule C or C-EZ for this business.

Part II. Deductions

Line 1
Enter gross receipts from your trade or business. Include amounts you received in your trade or business that were properly shown on Forms 1099-MISC. If the total amounts that were reported in box 7 of Forms 1099-MISC are more than the total you are reporting on line 1, attach a statement explaining the difference.

Statutory employees. If you received a Form W-2 and the "Statutory employee" box in box 13 of that form was checked, report your income and expenses related to that income on Schedule C or C-EZ. Enter your statutory employee income from box 1 of Form W-2 and check the box on that line. Social security and Medicare tax should have been withheld from your earnings; therefore, you do not owe self-employment tax on these earnings. Statutory employees include full-time life insurance agents, certain agent or commission drivers and traveling salespersons, and certain home-workers.

If you had both self-employment income and statutory employee income, you must file two Schedules C. You cannot use Schedule C-EZ or combine these amounts on a single Schedule C.

Installment sales. Generally, the installment method cannot be used to report income from the sale of a personal property regularly sold under the installment method, or (b) real property held for resale to customers. But the installment method can be used to report income from sales of certain residential lots and timeshares if you elect to pay interest on the tax due on that income after the year of sale. See section 453(b)(2)(B) for details. If you make this election, include the sale on line 6 of Form 4797, line 5, and enter "453(b)" and the amount of the interest on the dotted line to the left of line 63.

If you use the installment method, attach a schedule to your return. Show separately for 2006 and the 3 preceding years: gross sales, cost of goods sold, gross profit, percentage of gross profit to gross sales, amounts collected, and gross profit on amounts collected.

Line 6
Report on line 6 amounts from finance receive income, sales, scrap sales, bad debts you recovered, interest (such as on notes and accounts receivable), state gasoline or fuel tax refunds you got in 2006, credit for biodiesel and renewable diesel fuels claimed on Form 8864, credit for alcohol used as fuel claimed on Form 6478, credit for federal excise taxes claimed on your 2005 Form 1040, prizes and awards related to your trade or business, and other kinds of miscellaneous business income. Include amounts you received in your trade or business as shown on Form 1099-PATR. Also, include any recapture of the deduction for clean-fuel vehicles used in your business and clean-fuel vehicle refueling property. For details, see Pub. 535.

If the business use percentage of any listed property (defined in the instructions for line 13 on page C-4) decreased to 50% or less in 2006, report on this line any recapture of excessive depreciation, including any section 179 expense deduction. Use Form 4797 to figure the recapture. Also, if the business use percentage drops to 50% or less on leased listed property (other than a vehicle), include on this line any recapture amount. See Pub. 946 to figure the amount.
Part II. Expenses

Capitalizing costs of property. If you pro-
duced real or tangible personal property or acquired property for resale, certain ex-
enses attributable to the property gener-
ally must be included in inventory costs or capitalized. In addition to direct costs, pro-
ducers of inventory property generally must also include part of certain indirect costs in their inventory. Purchasers of per-
sonal property acquired for resale must in-
clude part of certain indirect costs in inventory only if the average annual gross receipts for the 3 prior tax years exceed $10 million. Also, you must capitalize part of the indirect costs that benefit real or tangi-
ble personal property constructed for use in a trade or business, or noninventory prop-
erty produced for sale to customers. Re-
duce the amounts on lines 8 through 26 and Part V by amounts capitalized. For details, see Pub. 538.

Exception for certain producers. Pro-
ducers who account for inventorable items in the same manner as materials and sup-
plies that are not incidental can currently deduct expenditures for direct labor and all indirect costs that are not otherwise be in-
cluded in inventory costs. See Cost of Goods Sold on page C-7 for more details.

Exception for creative property. If you are an artist, author, or photographer, you may be exempt from the capitalization rules. However, your personal efforts must have created (or reasonably be expected to create) the property. This exception does not apply to any expense related to printing, photographic plates, motion picture films, video tapes, or similar items. These ex-
enses are subject to the capitalization rules. For details, see Pub. 538.

Line 9
You can deduct the actual expenses of run-
in your car or truck or take the standard mile-
age rate. You must use actual expenses if you used your vehicle for hire (such as a taxicab) or you used five or more vehicles simultaneously in your business (such as in fleet operations). You cannot use actual ex-
enses for a leased vehicle if you previously used the standard mileage rate for that vehicle.

You can take the standard mileage rate for 2006 only if you:

• Owned the vehicle and used the stan-

  dard mileage rate for the first year you
  placed the vehicle in service, or

• Leased the vehicle and used the standard
  mileage rate for the entire lease period
  (except the period, if any, before 1998).

If you deduct actual expenses:

• Include on line 9 the business portion of
  expenses for gasoline, oil, repairs, insur-
  ance, tires, license plates, etc., and

• Show depreciation on line 13 and rent or
  lease payments on line 20a.

If you take the standard mileage rate, multiply the number of business miles driven by 44.5 cents.

Add to this amount your parking fees and tolls, and enter the total on line 9. Do not deduct depreciation, rent or lease pay-
ments, or your actual operating expenses.

For details, see Pub. 463.

Information on your vehicle. If you claim any car and truck expenses, you must pro-
vide certain information on the use of your vehicle by completing Schedule C, Part IV, or Schedule C-EZ, Part III, if: (a) you are claiming the standard mileage rate, you lease your vehi-

• You are claiming depreciation on listed property decreased to 50% or less in
  the tax year. Do not include contract labor de-

  ducted elsewhere on your return such as Goods Sold on page C-7 for more details. tion meets the requirements under section 179 to expense part or all of the cost of certain property you bought in 2006 only if you:

• You are claiming depreciation on property placed in service during 2006;

• You are claiming depreciation on listed property (defined below), regardless of the date it was placed in service; or

• You are claiming a section 179 ex-
  pense deduction.

If you acquired depreciable property for the first time in 2006, see Pub. 946.

Listed property generally includes, but is not limited to:

• Passenger automobiles weighing 6,000 pounds or less;

• Any other property used for transpor-

  tation if the nature of the property lends itself to personal use, such as motorcycles, pickup trucks, etc.;

• Any property used for entertainment or recreational purposes (such as photo-
  graphic, phonographic, communication, and video recording equipment);

• Cellular telephones or other similar telecommunications equipment; and

• Computers or peripheral equipment.

Exceptions. Listed property does not in-
clude photographic, phonographic, com-
munication, or video equipment used exclusively in your trade or business or at your regular business establishment. It also does not include any computer or periph-
eral equipment used exclusively at a regu-
lar business establishment and owned or leased by the person operating the estab-
lishment. For purposes of these exceptions, a portion of your home is treated as a regu-
lar business establishment only if the por-
tion meets the requirements under section 280A(c)(1) for deducting expenses for the business use of your home.

See the instructions for line 6 on page C-3 if the business use percentage of any listed property decreased to 50% or less in 2006.

Line 11
Enter the total cost of contract labor for the tax year. Do not include contract labor de-
ducted elsewhere on your return such as Goods Sold on page C-7 for more details. tion meets the requirements under section 179 to expense part or all of the cost of certain property you bought in 2006 only if you:

• You are claiming depreciation on property placed in service during 2006;

• You are claiming depreciation on listed property (defined below), regardless of the date it was placed in service; or

• You are claiming a section 179 ex-
  pense deduction.

If you acquired depreciable property for the first time in 2006, see Pub. 946.

Listed property generally includes, but is not limited to:

• Passenger automobiles weighing 6,000 pounds or less;

• Any other property used for transpor-

  tation if the nature of the property lends itself to personal use, such as motorcycles, pickup trucks, etc.;

• Any property used for entertainment or recreational purposes (such as photo-
  graphic, phonographic, communication, and video recording equipment);

• Cellular telephones or other similar telecommunications equipment; and

• Computers or peripheral equipment.

Exceptions. Listed property does not in-
clude photographic, phonographic, com-
munication, or video equipment used exclusively in your trade or business or at your regular business establishment. It also does not include any computer or periph-
eral equipment used exclusively at a regu-
lar business establishment and owned or leased by the person operating the estab-
lishment. For purposes of these exceptions, a portion of your home is treated as a regu-
lar business establishment only if the por-
tion meets the requirements under section 280A(c)(1) for deducting expenses for the business use of your home.

See the instructions for line 6 on page C-3 if the business use percentage of any listed property decreased to 50% or less in 2006.

Line 14
Deduct contributions to employee benefit programs that are not an incidental part of a pension or profit-sharing plan included on line 19. Examples are accident and health plans, group-term life insurance, and de-
pendent care assistance programs. If you made contributions on your behalf as a self-employed person to a dependent care assistance program, complete Form 2441, Parts I and III, to figure your deductible contributions to that program.

You cannot deduct contributions you made on your behalf as a self-employed person for group-term life insurance.

Do not include on line 14 any contribu-
tions you made on your behalf as a self-em-
ployed person to an accident and health plan. However, you may be able to deduct on Form 1040, line 29, or Form 1040NR, line 28, the amount you paid for health insurance on behalf of yourself, your spouse, and dependents, even if you do not itemize your deductions. See the instruc-
tions for Form 1040, line 29, or Form 1040NR, line 28, for details.

Line 15
Deduct premiums paid for business insur-
ance on line 15. Deduct on line 14 amounts paid for employee accident and health in-
surance. Do not deduct amounts credited to a reserve for self-insurance or premiums paid for a policy that pays for your lost
Lines 16a and 16b

Interest allocation rules. The tax treatment of interest expense differs depending on its type. For example, home mortgage interest and investment interest are treated differently. "Interest allocation" rules require you to allocate (classify) your interest expense so it is deducted (or capitalized) on the correct line of your return and receives the right tax treatment. These rules could affect how much interest you are allowed to deduct on Schedule C or C-EZ.

Generally, you allocate interest expense by tracing how the proceeds of the loan were used. See Pub. 535 for details.

If you paid interest on a debt secured by your main home and any of the proceeds from that debt were used in connection with your trade or business, see Pub. 535 to figure out what is deductible on Schedule C or C-EZ.

How to report. If you have a mortgage on real property used in your business (other than your main home), enter on line 16a the interest you paid for 2006 to banks or other financial institutions for which you received a Form 1098. Do not include expenses for meals, lodging or transportation for your employees. For details, see Pub. 560.

Lines 20a and 20b

If you rented or leased vehicles, machinery, or equipment, enter on line 20a the business portion (other than your personal cost). But if you leased a vehicle for a term of 30 days or more, you may have to reduce your deduction by an amount called the inclusion amount. See Leasing a Car in Pub. 463 to figure your inclusion amount.

Line 21

Deduct the cost of repairs and maintenance. Include labor, supplies, and other items that do not add to the value or increase the life of the property. Do not deduct the value of your own labor. Do not deduct amounts spent to restore or replace property; they must be capitalized.

Line 22

Generally, you can deduct the cost of supplies to the extent you actually consumed and used them in your business during the tax year (unless you deducted them in a prior tax year). However, if you had incidental supplies on hand for which you kept no inventories or records of use, you can deduct the cost of supplies you actually purchased during the tax year, provided that method clearly reflects income.

Line 23

You can deduct the following taxes and licenses on this line.

- State and local sales taxes imposed on you as the seller of goods or services. If you collected this tax from the buyer, you must also include the amount collected in gross receipts or sales on line 1.
- Real estate and personal property taxes on business assets.
- Licenses and regulatory fees for your trade or business paid each year to state or local governments. But some licenses, such as liquor licenses, may have to be amortized. See Pub. 535 for details.
- Social security and Medicare taxes paid to match required withholding from your employees’ wages. Also, federal unemployment tax paid. Reduce your deduction by the amount shown on Form 8846, line 4.
- Federal highway use tax.
- Do not deduct the following.
- Federal income taxes, including your self-employment tax. However, you can deduct one-half of your self-employment tax on Form 1040, line 27.
- Interest
- Taxes assessed to pay for improvements, such as paving and sewers.
- Taxes on your home or personal use property.
- State and local sales taxes on property purchased for use in your business. Instead, treat these taxes as part of the cost of the property.
- State and local sales taxes imposed on the buyer that you were required to collect and pay over to state or local government. These taxes are not included in gross receipts or sales nor are they a deductible expenditures for line 24b.
- State or local government allowed you to retain any part of the sales tax you collected, you must include that amount as income on line 6.
- Other taxes and license fees not related to your business.

Line 24a

Enter your expenses for lodging and transportation connected with overnight travel for business while away from your tax home. Generally, your tax home is your main place of business regardless of where you maintain your family home. You cannot deduct expenses paid or incurred in connection with employment away from home if that period of employment exceeds 1 year. Also, you cannot deduct travel expenses for your spouse, your dependent, or any other individual for whom you are the payor; the travel is for a bona fide business purpose, and the expenses would otherwise be deductible by that person.

Do not include expenses for meals and entertainment on this line. Instead, see the instructions for line 24b on page C-6.

Instead of keeping records of your actual incidental expenses, you can use an optional method for deducting incidental expenses only if you did not pay or incur meal expenses on a day you were traveling away from your tax home. The amount of the deduction is $3 a day. Incidental expenses include fees and tips given to porters, baggage carriers, bellhops, hotel maids, stewards and stewardesses and others on ships, and hotel servants in foreign countries. They do not include expenses for laundry, cleaning and pressing of clothing, lodging taxes, or the costs of telegrams or telephone calls. You cannot use this method on any day that you use the standard meal allowance (as explained in the instructions for line 24b).

You cannot deduct expenses for attending a foreign convention unless it is directly related to your trade or business and it is reasonable for the meeting to be held outside the North American area as within it. These rules apply to both employers and
employees. Other rules apply to luxury water travel.

For details, see Pub. 463.

**Line 24b**

Enter your total deductible business meal and entertainment expenses. Include meal expenses while traveling away from home for business.

**Deductible expenses.** Business meal expenses are deductible only if they are (a) directly related to or associated with the active conduct of your trade or business, (b) not lavish or extravagant, and (c) incurred while you or your employee is present at the meal.

You cannot deduct any expense paid or incurred for a facility (such as a yacht or hunting lodge) used for any activity usually considered entertainment, amusement, or recreation.

Also, you cannot deduct membership dues for any club organized for business, pleasure, recreation, or other social purpose. This includes country clubs, golf and athletic clubs, airline and hotel clubs, and clubs operated to provide meals under conditions favorable to business discussion. But it does not include civic or public service organizations, professional organizations (such as bar and medical associations), business leagues, trade associations, chambers of commerce, boards of trade, and real estate boards, unless a principal purpose of the organization is to entertain, or provide entertainment facilities for, members or their guests.

There are exceptions to these rules as well as other rules that apply to sky-box rentals and tickets to entertainment events. See Pub. 463.

**Standard meal allowance.** Instead of the actual cost of your meals while traveling away from home, you can use the standard meal allowance for your daily meals and incidental expenses. Under this method, you deduct a specified amount, depending on where you travel, instead of keeping records of your actual meal expenses. However, you must still keep records to prove the time, place, and business purpose of your travel.

The standard meal allowance is the federal M&IE rate. You can find these rates on the Internet at www.gsa.gov. Click on “Per Diem Rates” for links to locations inside and outside the continental United States.

See Pub. 463 for details on how to figure your deduction using the standard meal allowance, including special rules for partial days of travel.

**Amount of deduction.** Generally, you can deduct only 50% of your business meal and entertainment expenses, including meals incurred while away from home on business. For individuals subject to the Department of Transportation (DOT) hours of service limits, that percentage is increased to 75% for business meals consumed during, or incident to, any period of duty for which those limits are in effect. Individuals subject to the DOT hours of service limits include the following:

- Certain air transportation workers (such as pilots, crew, dispatchers, mechanics, and control tower operators) who are under Federal Aviation Administration regulations.
- Interstate truck operators who are under DOT regulations.
- Certain merchant mariners who are under Coast Guard regulations.
- Certain ndependent contractors who are not paid under contract, and are reimbursed for expenses incurred for business meals.

However, you can fully deduct meals, incidental expenses, and entertainment furnished to or reimbursed to an employee if you properly treat the expense as wages subject to withholding. You can also fully deduct meals, incidental expenses, and entertainment provided by a nonemployee to the extent the expenses are includible in the gross income of that person and reported on Form 1099-MISC. See Pub. 535 for details and other exceptions.

**Daycare providers.** If you qualify as a family daycare provider, you can use the standard meal and snack rates, instead of actual costs, to compute the deductible cost of meals and snacks provided to eligible children. See Pub. 587 for details, including recordkeeping requirements.

**Line 25**

Deduct utility expenses only for your trade or business.

**Local telephone service.** If you used your home phone for business, do not deduct the base rate (including taxes) for the first phone line into your residence. But you can deduct expenses for any additional costs you incurred for business that are more than the cost of the base rate for the first phone line. For example, if you had a second line, you can deduct the business percentage of the charges for that line, including the base rate charges.

**Line 26**

Enter the total salaries and wages for the tax year. Do not include salaries and wages deducted elsewhere on your return or amounts paid to yourself. Reduce your deduction by the amounts claimed on:

- Form 5884, Work Opportunity Credit, line 2b.
- Form 5884-A, Credits for Employers Affected by Hurricane Katrina, Rita, or Wilma, line 6b.
- Form SS-44, Empowerment Zone and Renewal Community Employment Credit, line 2, and
- Form 8861, Welfare-to-Work Credit, line 2.

If you provided taxable fringe benefits to your employees, such as personal use of a car, do not deduct as wages the amount applicable to depreciation and other expenses claimed elsewhere.

**Line 30**

Business use of your home. You may be able to deduct certain expenses for business use of your home, subject to limitations. You must attach Form 8829 if you claim this deduction. For details, see the Instructions for Form 8829 and Pub. 587.

**Line 31**

If you have a loss, the amount of loss you can deduct this year may be limited. Go to line 32 before entering your loss on line 31. If you answered “No” on Schedule C, line G, also see the Instructions for Form 8829. Enter the net profit or deductible loss here. Combine any amount with any profit or loss from other businesses, and enter the total on both Form 1040, line 12, and Schedule SE, line 2. If you have a loss on Form 1040NR, line 13, enter the loss on line 13. Estates and trusts should enter the total on Form 1041, line 3.

If you have a net profit on line 31, this amount is entered in Schedule SE. See Pub. 587 for details. If you have a net loss, you may qualify for the earned income credit. See the instructions for Form 1040, lines 66a and 66b, for details.

**Statutory employees.** Include your net profit or deductible loss from line 31 with other Schedule C amounts on Form 1040, line 12, or on Form 1040NR, line 13. However, do not report this amount on Schedule SE, line 2. If you are required to file Schedule SE because of other self-employment income, see the instructions for Schedule SE.

**Line 32**

At-risk rules. Generally, if you have a business loss and amounts invested in the business for which you are not at risk, you must complete Form 6198 to figure your allowable loss. The at-risk rules generally limit the amount of loss (including loss on the disposition of assets) you can claim to the amount you could actually lose in the business.

Check box 32b if you have amounts invested in this business for which you are not at risk, such as the following:

- Nonrecourse loans used to finance the business, to acquire property used in the business, or to acquire the business that are not secured by your own property (other than property used in the business); however, there is an exception for certain nonrecourse financing borrowed by you in connection with holding real property.
- Cash, property, or borrowed amounts used in the business (or contributed to the business, or used to acquire the business) that are protected against loss by a guaranty, stop-loss agreement, or other similar arrangement (excluding casualty insurance and insurance against tort liability).
- Amounts borrowed for use in the business from a person who has an interest in the business, other than as a creditor, or who is related under section 465(b)(3) to a person (other than you) having such an interest.

Figuring your deductible loss. If all amounts are at risk in this business, check box 32a. If you answered “Yes” on line G, enter your loss on line 31. But if you answered “No” on line G, you may need to...
complete Form 8582 to figure your allowable loss to enter on line 31. See the Instructions for Form 8582 for details.

If you checked box 32b, see Form 6198 to determine the amount of your deductible loss. If you answered “Yes” on line G, enter that amount on line 31. But if you answered “No” on line G, your loss may be further limited. See the Instructions for Form 8582. If your at-risk amount is zero or less, enter -0- on line 31. Be sure to attach Form 6198 to your return. If you checked box 32b and you do not attach Form 6198, the processing of your tax return may be delayed.

Any loss from this business not allowed for 2006 because of the at-risk rules is treated as a deduction allocable to the business in 2007.

For details, see the Instructions for Form 6198 and Pub. 925.

Part III. Cost of Goods Sold

Generally, if you engaged in a trade or business in which the production, purchase, or sale of merchandise was an income-producing factor, you must take inventories into account at the beginning and end of your tax year.

However, if you are a qualifying taxpayer or a qualifying small business taxpayer, you can account for inventorable items in the same manner as materials and supplies that are not incidental. To change your accounting method, see the instructions for line F on page C-2.

A qualifying taxpayer is a taxpayer (a) whose average annual gross receipts for the 3 prior tax years are $1 million or less, and (b) whose business is not a tax shelter (as defined in section 448(d)(3)), and (c) whose principal business activity is not an ineligible activity as explained in Rev. Proc. 2002-28. You can find Rev. Proc. 2002-28 on page 815 of Internal Revenue Bulletin 2002-18 at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-irbs/irb02-18.pdf

Under this accounting method, inventory costs for raw materials purchased for use in producing finished goods and merchandise purchased for resale are deductible in the year the finished goods or merchandise are sold (but not before the year you paid for the raw materials or merchandise, if you are also using the cash method). Enter amounts paid for all raw materials and merchandise during 2006 on line 36. The amount you can deduct for 2006 is figured on line 42.

Additional information. For additional guidance on this method of accounting for inventorable items, see the following.

• If you are a qualifying taxpayer, see Rev. Proc. 2001-10, on page 272 of Internal Revenue Bulletin 2001-2 at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-irbs/irb01-02.pdf

Part IV. Information on Your Vehicle

Line 44b

Generally, commuting is travel between your home and a work location. If you converted your vehicle during the year from personal to business use (or vice versa), enter your commuting miles only for the period you drove your vehicle for business. For information on certain travel that is considered a business expense rather than commuting, see the Instructions for Form 2106.

Part V. Other Expenses

Include all ordinary and necessary business expenses not deducted elsewhere on Schedule C. List the type and amount of each expense separately in the space provided. Enter the total on lines 48 and 27. Do not include the cost of business equipment or furniture, replacements or permanent improvements to property, or personal, living, and family expenses. Do not include charitable contributions. Also, you cannot deduct fines or penalties paid to a government for violating any law. For details on business expenses, see Pub. 535.

Amortization. Include amortization in this part. For amortization that begins in 2006, you must complete and attach Form 4562.

You can amortize:

• The cost of pollution-control facilities.

• Amounts paid for research and experimentation.

• Qualified revitalization expenditures.

• Amounts paid to acquire, protect, expand, register, or defend trademarks or trade names.

• Goodwill and certain other intangibles.

• Certain expenses paid or incurred to create or acquire a musical composition or its copyright.

In general, you cannot amortize real property construction period interest and taxes. Special rules apply for allocating interest to real or personal property produced in your trade or business.

At-risk loss deduction. Any loss from this business that was not allowed as a deduction last year because of the at-risk rules is treated as a deduction allocable to this business in 2006. For the loss to be deductible, the amount that is “at risk” must be increased.

Bad debts. Include debts and partial debts from sales or services that were included in income and are definitely known to be worthless. If you later collect a debt that you deducted as a bad debt, include it as income in the year collected. For details, see Pub. 535.

Business start-up costs. If your business began in 2006, you can elect to deduct up to $5,000 of certain business start-up costs. This limit is reduced (but not below zero) by the amount by which your total start-up costs exceed $50,000. Your remaining start-up costs can be amortized over a 180-month period, beginning with the month the business began.

For details, see Pub. 535. For amortization that begins in 2006, you must complete and attach Form 4562.

Deduction for removing barriers to individuals with disabilities and the elderly. You may be able to deduct up to $15,000 of costs paid or incurred in 2006 to remove architectural or transportation barriers to individuals with disabilities and the elderly. However, you cannot take both the credit (discussed on page C-1) and the deduction on the same expenditures.

Film and television production expenses. You can elect to deduct costs of certain qualified film and television productions. For details, see Pub. 535.

Forestation and reforestation costs. Re-
These codes for the Principal Business or Professional Activity classify sole proprietorships by the type of business activity (for example, Real Estate). Then select the activity that best identifies the principal source of your sales or receipts (for example, real estate agent). Now find the six-digit code assigned to this activity (for example, 531210, the code for offices of real estate agents and brokers) and enter it on Schedule C or C-EZ, line B. Note. If your principal source of income is from farming activities, you should file Schedule F.

### Principal Business or Professional Activity Codes

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Business support services (including professional services)</td>
<td>Repossession services, court reporting, &amp; stenotype services</td>
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<tr>
<td>561700</td>
<td>Other services to buildings &amp; units</td>
<td>Services to buildings, including janitorial service, parking, &amp; trade show organizers</td>
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<td>562000</td>
<td>Waste management &amp; remediation services</td>
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<td>562120</td>
<td>Hunting &amp; trapping</td>
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<td>Support Activities for Agriculture &amp; Forestry</td>
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<td>Support for crop production</td>
<td>Support for crop production (including cotton ginning, soil preparation, planting, &amp; cultivating)</td>
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<td>Support activities for forestry</td>
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<td>Amusement parks &amp; arcades</td>
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<td>Motion picture &amp; sound recording industries</td>
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<td>Television &amp; video services</td>
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<td>Cable &amp; other subscription television services</td>
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### Educational Services

- 61000: Professional, technical, & associate degree programs
- 61200: Doctoral & higher education programs
- 61400: Nondegree instructional programs
- 61500: Professional training programs
- 61600: Vocational & technical training programs

### Finance & Insurance

- 53200: Credit intermediation & related activities
- 53300: Insurance activities
- 53400: Real estate activities

### Construction

- 34400: Construction of buildings & other structures
- 34500: Construction of heavy, civil engineering structures
- 34600: Construction of roadway, bridge & tunnel structures

### Administrative & Support Services

- 56100: Administrative & support services
- 56200: Professional & auxiliary services
- 56300: Employment services
- 56400: Health services
- 56500: Social services

### Accommodation, Food Services, & Drinking Places

- 72100: Accommodation
- 72200: Food services & drinking places

### Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

We ask qualified timber property located in the GO Zone to elect to amortize reforestation costs over 84 months. For amortization that begins in 2006, you must complete and file Schedule C or C-EZ, line B. Note. If your principal source of income is from farming activities, you should file Schedule F.
## Principal Business or Professional Activity Codes (continued)

### Food & Beverage Stores
- 445101 Beer, wine, & liquor stores
- 445220 Fish & seafood markets
- 445230 Fruit & vegetable markets
- 445500 Grocery stores (including supermarkets & convenience stores without gas)
- 445210 Meat markets
- 445290 Other specialty food stores

### Furniture & Home Furnishing Stores
- 442110 Furniture stores
- 442200 Home furnishings stores

### Gasoline Stations
- 447100 Gasoline stations (including convenience stores with gas)

### General Merchandise Stores
- 452000 General merchandise stores

### Health & Personal Care Stores
- 446120 Cosmetics, beauty supplies, & perfume stores
- 446130 Optical goods stores
- 446110 Pharmacies & drug stores
- 446190 Other health & personal care stores

### Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers
- 441300 Automotive parts, accessories, & tire stores
- 441222 Boat dealers
- 441221 Motorcycle dealers
- 441110 New car dealers
- 441210 Recreational vehicle dealers (including motor home & travel trailer dealers)
- 441120 Used car dealers
- 441229 All other motor vehicle dealers

### Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, & Music Stores
- 451211 Book stores
- 451210 Hobby, toy, & game stores
- 451140 Musical instrument & supplies stores

### Transportation & Warehousing
- 481000 Air transportation
- 485510 Charter bus industry
- 484110 General freight trucking, local
- 484120 General freight trucking, long distance
- 485210 Interurban & rural bus transportation

### Utilities
- 221000 Utilities

### Wholesale Trade
#### Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods
- 423600 Electrical & electronic goods
- 423200 Furniture & home furnishing
- 423700 Hardware, & plumbing & heating equipment & supplies

#### Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods
- 423400 Professional & commercial equipment & supplies
- 423930 Recyclable materials
- 423910 Sporting & recreational goods & supplies
- 423920 Toy & hobby goods & supplies
- 423990 Other miscellaneous durable goods

### Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents & Brokers
- 425110 Business to business electronic markets
- 425120 Wholesale trade agents & brokers

### Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents & Brokers (unable to classify)
- 999999 Unclassified establishments