

BUSINESS MEAL, ENTERTAINMENT AND TRAVEL DEDUCTIBILITY

TAX YEAR 2019 CHECKLIST

Business Meals

Percentage Deductible	100%	50%	0%	Comments
Lavish and extravagant meal			X	
Meal with employee, business discussed		X		
Meal with employee, no business discussed			X	
Meal with customer, business discussed		X		
Meal with customer, no business discussed			X	
Meal with customer on a business trip, no business discussed:				
Customer's meal			X	
Your meal		X		
Dinner for employees working overtime (if deemed de minimus)		X		
Lunch ordered in for staff meeting (if deemed de minimus)		X		
Lunch or dinner provided at or near cost to employees at employer-operated cafeteria		X		50% deductible through 2025, 0% starting in 2026
Dinner for customer and spouse, no one else present			X	
Transportation to/from restaurant for business meal	X			
Company holiday parties and picnics for employees	X			
Cost of meals provided to employees for convenience of employer on the premises		X		50% deductible through 2025, 0% starting in 2026
Meals taken alone while away from home (employees only)		X		Must meet IRS "away from home" rules
Meals provided at entertainment facility if separately stated		X		For example, food and beverages consumed in a suite at a sporting facility are 50% deductible if separately stated/ invoiced

Entertainment

Percentage Deductible	100%	50%	0%	Comments
Transportation to/from sporting event	X			Parking at event: no deduction
Ticket price for sporting event associated with business discussion			X	
Scalper's premium for ticket			X	
Cover charge, taxes and tips			X	
Country club dues and fees			X	
Luncheon club dues			X	
Tickets for charitable fundraising sports event			X	
Tickets to nonprofit high school or college sporting events with paid coaches and referees			X	
Charitable contribution in exchange for right to purchase tickets to sporting events			X	

Travel

Percentage Deductible	100%	50%	0%	Comments
Transportation and lodging expenses	X			Provided not lavish or extravagant
Transportation, lodging and attendance expenses for investment seminar			X	No longer deductible on Schedule A
Expenses for travel as form of education			X	No longer deductible on Schedule A
Travel for charitable purposes with some personal pleasure			X	Directly related transportation expenses still qualify for charitable deduction
Nonemployee spouse's travel costs			X	
Employee spouse's travel costs			X	Unless attendance meets bona fide business purpose test

This chart is for general guidance only. It is not a substitute for consultation with your tax advisor. Deductibility of expenses requires careful consideration of the facts and law. This chart is based on the tax law in effect for the 2019 tax year. Wipfli LLP does not undertake any obligation to update the chart for subsequent changes to the law.