

Trucking Careers of America  
[www.bigtrucksbigbucks.com](http://www.bigtrucksbigbucks.com)

Long Haul Trucker/OTR Driver  
Worksheet for Tax Deductible Expenses

Not filing your income tax return can get you into serious trouble with the IRS. If you don't file for one year, the odds are you are not going to file for the next year, the next year, and so on. Suddenly you haven't filed for several years, and now you are afraid to contact the IRS and resolve this. In extreme cases, you are afraid to answer the phone or check your mailbox—you know it's only a matter of time before they come after you.

The good news is that typically, the IRS is more interested in getting delinquent taxpayers back into the habit of filing their returns and getting past due returns filed. Non-filers usually do not have to worry about going to jail—that is generally not the objective of the IRS. They simply want your returns and want their money, and usually they will work with you on a payment plan to pay your back taxes or penalties, if any are due them.

But, it is best to file the omitted returns before the IRS contacts you. Even if you cannot pay back taxes, filing is much better than not filing. Once you have filed your past due returns, the IRS will gladly set up payment options for you. You might even find that they are surprisingly lenient. If you feel you have a reasonable reason for not filing your past due returns, discuss this with them and try to get any penalties waived. However, the interest cannot be waived and you will have to pay that.

This worksheet is to help you organize your tax deductible business expenses. For an expense to be deductible, it must be considered an "ordinary and necessary" expense. You may include other applicable expenses. Do not include expenses for which you have been reimbursed, such as by your employer, expect to be reimbursed, or that are reimbursable.

This information has been made available to assist you in keeping and organizing records of your allowable deductible expenses. **Trucking Careers of America LLC does not proclaim to be tax experts nor are we in the business of tax preparation.** Information provided is intended only to present examples of the types of deductions OTR drivers are allowed and to provide you with a worksheet to record the costs of these items.

You may wish to change or add categories to customize this worksheet for your individual purposes and needs. We recommend that you keep all of your receipts, record the appropriate information on your worksheet and include your worksheet with your other documents that you give to your Tax Preparer. Remember, that the fees you pay to your Tax Preparer are also a tax deduction.

Click on the link at the bottom of this worksheet for an explanation of many of the categories listed on the worksheet.

Out of Town Travel Expenses		Miscellaneous Expenses	
Shipping/Postage		Business Cards/Stationary	
Bath/Shower		Shipping/Delivery/Postage	
Car Rental & Gas		Testing-Job Related	
Laundry/Laundry Supplies/Cleaning		Insurance-Business	
Locker Fees		Legal & Professional Services	
Lodging		Secretarial Services	
Meals (Actual Cost)		Office Expenses/Supplies	
Meals & Entertainment		Safety Glasses	
Parking & Tolls		Equipment Repairs (Office)	
Transportation/Air Fare/Bus/Train		Rent-Equipment/Office/Etc.	
Mileage		Home Office Expense	
Gifts		Contract Labor	
Taxi/Commuter Bus/Shuttles		Mileage (other than OTR)	
Telephone/Fax		Other	
Tips		Other	
Toiletries			
Other			
Other			

Owner Operator Truck Expenses		Dues * Fees * Subscriptions	
Description of Truck		Union Dues	
Date Placed in Service		Travel Card Fees (Discount Programs)	
Odometer-Beginning of Year		Trade Association Dues	
Odometer-End of Year		Security Bond	
Interest Paid		License/Permits/Fees	
Gas/Lube/Oil		Educational Expenses	
Repairs & Maintenance		Gifts	
Tires		Trade Magazines	
Insurance		Tolls & Scales	
License/Registration Fee		Broker Fees	
Other		Factoring Fees	
Other		Other	
		Other	

Supplies			
Back Supporter			Other
Flashlight & Batteries			Other
Cellular Phone			Other
Appliances			Other
Citizens Band Radio			
Weather Receiver			
Uniforms & Maintenance			
Cold Weather Clothing/Boots			
Compass/GPS			
Fire Extinguisher			
First Aid Kit			
Cleaning Materials			
Safety Boots/Shoes			
Radio			
Internet Card/DSL/Satellite			
Flares			
Glasses-Safety & Sun			
Tools & Equipment			
Seat Cushion			
Ice Chest/Thermos			
Map/Map Book			
Bedding			
Cell Phone			
Computer			
Other			

Note: Mileage to and from pick-up of truck and drop-off of truck may be deductible, so you should record that mileage. Mileage to pick up supplies or other items related to your job may also be deductible, so you should record that mileage as well.

For further information and explanation about many of the categories shown above, please go to <http://www.bigtrucksbigbucks.com/Reports/OTRDeductionsExplan.pdf>.

**Trucking Careers of America LLC does not proclaim to be tax experts nor are we in the business of tax preparation.** Information provided is intended only to present examples of the types of deductions OTR drivers are allowed and to provide you with a worksheet to record the costs of these items.