

Cleaner



Are you a cleaner? You should know what you can claim, as well as what you cannot. Here are all the details you need



Cleaners who want to claim a deduction at tax time have a few things to bear in mind:

- ✓ The claimable deduction applies to work-related expenses.
 - ✓ The money should come from the worker's own pocket.
 - ✓ The worker did not get reimbursed by the employer.
 - ✓ There is a record that proves the transaction took place.
- ✗ Any expense for personal use will not be deducted during tax time.

Car Expenses

- ✓ You can claim car expenses if you have at least two jobs and you will drive from one workplace to another. It applies whether you have the same or different employers.

However, you cannot claim deductions on the following:

- ✗ Driving and fuel costs from your home to work or vice versa
 - ✗ Driving to work outside your regular hours, such as night shifts
- ✓ If your employer required you to carry an extension ladder or any heavy equipment or tool for work. The trip costs are deductible in this case.

Meal Expenses

Food that you have paid for can be claimed provided that you meet the following requirements:

- ✓ You worked overtime and ate a meal during your break
 - ✓ Your employer gave you a meal allowance for working overtime in accordance with the law or a prior agreement
- ✗ Meals that you cannot claim are those that you have bought during your regular working day. They are considered a personal expense. The same applies to those who receive an allowance for their daily meal expense.

Tools and Equipment

- ✓ Any device or equipment that you purchased out of your own pocket can be claimed. It should, however, be related to your job, and you did not receive a reimbursement for it.

If the purchase fits the following descriptions, you cannot claim a deduction:

- ✗ The equipment is for personal use.
 - ✗ If you bought a vacuum cleaner or any equipment and you use it at home 50% of the time, you can only claim 50% of its cost.
 - ✗ Your employer or supplier has provided the tool for you.
- ✓ Any piece of equipment that costs \$300 or less can be claimed for the whole cost right away. However, if it is more than \$300, depreciation applies. The total cost will be divided, and you can claim a certain amount over a number of years.

Clothing Expenses

For your clothing expenses, you can request a deduction for the following:

- ✓ Cost of purchasing a new uniform
 - ✓ Hiring cost of a uniform
 - ✓ Cleaning and repairing of work uniform
 - ✓ The uniform can also be a protective type of clothing. For instance, cleaners typically wear overalls and aprons, which will help keep them safe from hazards at work.
- ✗ Meanwhile, you cannot claim any amount you have paid for plain clothing. There are no exceptions, even if your employer instructs you to wear jeans, shirts, and other types of everyday clothes.

Others

Deductions are claimable for work-related expenses, such as:

- ✓ Union fees
- ✓ Phone calls
- ✓ Texting.

