



51A Middle Street Newburyport, MA 01950

Phone: 800-588-7039 Fax: 877-902-4284

contact@bhfe.com

www.bhfe.com

Course Information

Course Title: *Guide to Federal Individual and Corporate Taxation #491920*

Recommended CPE credit hours for this course

In accordance with the standards of the CFP Board, the National Registry of CPE Sponsors and the IRS, CPE credits have been granted based on a 50-minute hour.

CFP®: **25.5** (All states) CFP Board Course ID# 257132
CFP Board sponsor number: 1008.

CPA: **35** (All states)
National Registry of CPE Sponsors ID Number: 107615.
Sponsor numbers for states requiring sponsor registration:
Florida Division of Certified Public Accountancy: 4761 (Ethics #11467)
Hawaii Board of Public Accountancy: 14003
New York State Board of Accountancy (ethics): 002146
Ohio State Board of Accountancy: M0021
Pennsylvania Board of Accountancy: PX 178025
Texas State Board of Accountancy: 009349

EA, OTRP **35** IRS: Qualified Sponsor number: FWKKO.

CLU, ChFC: **25.5** (Professional Recertification)

Course Description

Designed to make the practitioner comfortable with "high traffic" issues, this program enables participants to discuss and handle business/personal tax essentials. The course examines and explains the practical aspects of individual & corporate planning, bridging the gap between theory and application. Significant new developments are summarized with emphasis on tax savings ideas. This course examines and explains the practical aspects of using the closely held corporation to maximize after-tax return on business operations. Recent developments giving corporations a competitive edge over other entities are explored and detailed. Practitioners are alerted to often missed fringe benefits, retirement planning opportunities, corporate business deductions, income splitting possibilities and little-known estate planning techniques.

Subject Codes/Field of Study

NASBA (CPA), CFP Board of Standards, Inc.: Taxes.

IRS (EA, OTRP): Federal Tax Law. (ERPA): Qualified Retirement Plan Matters

NAPFA: Taxes

Course Level, Prerequisites, and Advance Preparation Requirements

Program Level: CFP Board: Intermediate; NASBA/CPA, IRS: Overview.

This program is appropriate for professionals at all organizational levels.

Prerequisites: Basic familiarity with federal taxation

Advance Preparation: None

Course Content

Publication/Revision Date: 3/17/20.

Author: Danny Santucci, J.D.

Final exam (online): Two-hundred questions (multiple-choice).

Instructions for taking this course

Note: Downloading the PDF of this course will enable Bookmarks for easier navigation (on the left side of the document window, open the bookmarks pane).

You must complete this course within one year of the date of purchase (if you do not complete the course within one year, contact us to determine whether an updated edition of the course is available, in which case we will provide you with a PDF of the updated course and the online exam at no charge).

A passing grade of at least 70% is required on the final exam for this course. You may retake the exam if you do not pass it on the first attempt (no charge).

Complete the course by following the learning objectives listed on the following pages and at the beginning of each chapter, studying the chapter-text, then studying the review questions at the end of the chapter. Once you have completed each chapter and you are confident that the learning objectives have been met, answer the final exam questions for that chapter online (see exam question numbers for each learning objective on the following pages). As an alternative, you may complete the entire exam after studying the entire text.

Instructions for Taking the Final Exam Online

- Login to your account online at www.bhfe.com.
- Go to "My Account" and view your course.
- Select "Take Exam" for this course and follow instructions.

Additional Information

- The exam may be started, stopped, then resumed at a later date.
- The exam is "open book," it is not timed, and it may be retaken if not passed on the first attempt (no charge).
- Results (correct, incorrect answers) and certificate appear immediately upon passing the exam.
- CFP® and EA credits are reported weekly.

Have a question? Call us at 800-588-7039 or email us at contact@bhfe.com.

Learning Assignments & Objectives

(Table of Contents follows this section)

As a result of studying each assignment, you should be able to meet the objectives listed below each assignment.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 1 Individual Tax Elements	
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At the start of Chapter 1, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Tax rates and tables
- * Filing status
- * Gross income
- * Dividends and distributions
- * Discharge of debt income
- * Exclusions from income
- * Nonbusiness and personal deductions
- * Education and medical expenses
- * Casualty and theft losses
- * Tax credits

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 1, participants will be able to:

1. Identify federal revenue tax sources citing the definitive role of gross income and, determine a client's tax liability using current rates, tables, exemptions, and statutory amounts, and their withholding and/or estimated tax responsibility.
2. Specify the various filing statuses and their filing requirements recognizing the advantages and disadvantages of each.
3. Determine what constitutes gross income under §61 stating the tax treatment of compensation, fringe benefits, rental income, Social Security benefits, alimony, prizes, and awards, identify dividend and distribution types and their tax differences, and specify how debt discharge can result in taxable income.
4. Identify the mechanics of income exclusions such as education-related exclusions, gift and inheritance exclusions, insurance, personal injury awards, interest on state and local obligations, and the foreign earned income exclusion.
5. Recognize income tax deductions and their use to reduce tax liability by:
 - a. Identifying personal, spousal and dependency exemptions and reporting requirements including pre-2005 dependency rules;
 - b. Specifying the deductibility of §163 interest categories, §162 educational expenses, pre-2018 §217 moving expenses, pre-2018 §165 casualty & theft losses, and §164 taxes stating their proper reporting and substantiation;
 - c. Determining variables that impact the deductibility of charitable contributions, and identifying qualified organizations, permissible contributions contribution limitations, their tax treatment, and substantiation requirements;

- d. Identifying the deductibility of medical care expenses including medical insurance, meals and lodging, transportation, home improvements, and lifetime care payments recognizing the impact of Medicare;
 - e. Specifying deductions that are subject to the pre-2018 2% of AGI limitation, deductions not subject to the 2% limit, and nondeductible expenses.
6. Determine distinctions among several types of tax credits identifying the eligibility requirements and citing changes created by recent tax legislation to individual tax returns.

After studying the materials in Chapter 1, answer the exam questions 1 to 43.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 2 Property Transfers & Retirement Plans	

At the start of Chapter 2, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Capital gains & losses
- * Installment sales
- * Repossession
- * Involuntary conversions
- * At-risk rules
- * Like-kind exchanges
- * Qualified deferred compensation
- * Basic requirements of a qualified pension plan
- * Basic types of corporate plans
- * IRAs and SIMPLE plans

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 2, participants will be able to:

1. Specify the differences among property sales, exchanges of property and sales of easements, and determine capital gain and ordinary income tax treatment in property sales.
2. Identify the application elements of the §121 home sale exclusion specifying the associated safe harbor regulations.
3. Recognize the importance of the installment method and §453 requirements, and specify the §453 basic terminology.
4. Identify the variables that determine which §1038 rules apply recognizing distinctions among the rules, calculations, and effects of repossessions of personal property and repossessions of real property, and recognize when a bad debt deduction may be taken on a repossession.
5. Specify the tax treatment of a §1033 involuntary conversion by:
 - a. Determining related terminology and the tax consequences of receiving a condemnation award or severance damages;
 - b. Identifying gain or loss from condemnations recognizing the reporting of payments associated with involuntary conversions; and

- c. Determining whether clients can postpone gain on condemned, damaged, destroyed, or stolen property and specifying the related party rule.
- 6. Recognize the scope of the §465 at-risk rules and their effect on property depreciation, and identify the requirements, mechanics, and types of §1031 like-kind exchange.
- 7. Identify qualified deferred compensation plans and nonqualified plans by:
 - a. Determining the major benefit of the qualified deferred plans and the calculation basis of benefits and contributions; and
 - b. Recognizing the current and deferred advantages and the disadvantages of corporate plans stating fiduciary responsibilities and prohibited transactions.
- 8. Identify the requirements of the basic forms of qualified pension plans permitting clients to compare and contrast such plans.
- 9. Determine the distinctions between defined contribution and defined benefit plans, specify the types of defined contribution plans, and identify their effect on retirement benefits.
- 10. Identify how self-employed plans differ from qualified plans for other business types and owners, and specify the requirements of IRAs and the special requirements of Roth IRAs.
- 11. Determine what constitutes SEPs and SIMPLEs recognizing the mechanics and eligibility requirements of each type of plan.

After studying the materials in Chapter 2, answer the exam questions 44 to 85.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 3 Losses, AMT & Compliance

At the start of Chapter 3, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Passive loss rules
- * Suspension of disallowed losses under §469
- * Computing the alternative minimum tax
- * Minimum AMT tax credit
- * Reporting compliance rules and provisions
- * Accuracy related penalties
- * Information reporting penalty final regulations
- * Penalty for unrealistic position
- * Statute of limitations for assessments
- * Examination of returns

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 3, participants will be able to:

- 1. Identify basic income types and the “buckets” of income and loss under §469 that can influence what can be deducted, determine the suspension of disallowed passive losses, and recognize the special rules for transfers deemed not to be fully taxable dispositions.

2. Specify differences between the regular and alternative minimum tax recognizing the application tax preferences and adjustments, and determine the life of assets under ADS, alternative minimum taxable income, passive losses under the AMT, and what constitutes ACE.

3. Identify the reporting requirements for real estate transactions, independent contractors, and cash reporting.

4. Recognize types of accuracy related and unrealistic position penalties, and specify the IRS's examination of returns policy and assessment process including applicable statute of limitations.

After studying the materials in Chapter 3, answer the exam questions 86 to 106.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 4 Business Forms & Characteristics	
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At the start of Chapter 4, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Sole proprietorships
- * Partnerships
- * Estates & trusts
- * Unincorporated associations
- * Corporation defined
- * Subchapter S corporations
- * Ordinary "C" corporations
- * Personal service corporations
- * Corporate tax rates
- * Alternative minimum tax

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 4, participants will be able to:

1. Specify the advantages and disadvantages of sole proprietorships including self-employed taxes and payment requirements and identify the characterization of sole proprietorship assets upon disposition.
2. Recognize partnerships and their advantages and disadvantages, identify partnership taxation particularly the application of the passive loss (§469) and at-risk rules (§465), and determine correct partnership income or loss reporting stating the role of husband and wife partnerships and limited partnerships.
3. Identify the reporting requirements of estates, trusts, and unincorporated associations, determine what constitutes a "corporation" for a subchapter S or regular corporation, specify the characteristics of a personal service corporation and recognize the repeal of the alternative minimum tax for regular corporations.

After studying the materials in Chapter 4, answer the exam questions 107 to 116.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 5 Corporate Formation & Capitalization	
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At the start of Chapter 5, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Incorporation

- * Start-up & organizational expenses
- * Tax recognition of the corporate entity
- * Capital gains & losses
- * Dividends received deduction
- * Charitable contributions
- * Accumulated earnings tax trap
- * Accounting periods & methods
- * Inventories
- * Multiple corporations

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 5, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the transfer of money, property or both by prospective shareholders and the basic requirements associated with §351.
2. Recognize the requirements of §1244 and the small business stock exclusion, determine the differences between start-up and organizational expenses and, identify the elements of corporate tax recognition including the dangers of corporate ownership and capital gains and losses stating dividends received treatment.
3. Specify the requirements for corporate charitable contributions, identify former §341 collapsible corporations, and determine how to avoid §541 status particularly as to personal service contracts.
4. Identify §531 status and determine accounting periods and methods available to corporations.
5. Specify methods for identifying inventory items including common methods of valuing inventory and, identify multiple corporation tax advantages and the tax consequences of corporate liquidations and distributions.

After studying the materials in Chapter 5, answer the exam questions 117 to 132.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 6 Corporate Principals & Employees

At the start of Chapter 6, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Payroll taxes
- * FICA & FUTA
- * Employee labor laws
- * Employee v. contractor status
- * Unreasonable compensation
- * Income splitting
- * Buy-sell agreements
- * Entity & cross-purchase agreements
- * Sole shareholder planning
- * Recapitalization

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 6, participants will be able to:

1. Determine payroll taxes and the uses of Form 941, Form W-4, Form W-2, and Form W-3, specify the application of FICA and FUTA taxes and how to report them, and identify major employee labor laws.
2. Recognize common-law rules used to determine employee status for FICA and federal income tax withholding, specify the dangers of unreasonable compensation stating how to avoid them, and determine how a corporation can be a valuable income-splitting device.
3. Identify a buy-sell agreement distinguishing an entity purchase from a cross-purchase agreement and recognize business recapitalizations and their potential uses.

After studying the materials in Chapter 6, answer the exam questions 133 to 141.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 7 Basic Fringe Benefits	
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At the start of Chapter 7, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Statutory v. nonstatutory benefits
- * No-additional-cost services & qualified employee discounts
- * Working condition fringes
- * Employee achievement awards
- * Dependent care assistance
- * Cafeteria plans
- * Self-insured medical reimbursement plans
- * Employer-provided automobile
- * Interest-free & below-market loans
- * Fringe benefit plans for S corporations

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 7, participants will be able to:

1. Identify basic fringe benefit planning by determining "income" under §61 and specifying the differences between former nonstatutory and current statutory fringe benefits.
2. Determine "no-additional-cost services" and identify what property or services are excludable from income as qualified employee discounts under §132(c), specify exceptions to working condition fringes and de minimis fringes, recognize a §74 "employee achievement award," and cite the §79 group term life insurance rules.
3. Recognize the requirements and limits of §129 dependent care assistance, identify §125 "cafeteria plans" specifying how they function, specify the §119 meals and lodging exclusion, cite the mechanics of §105 self-insured medical reimbursement plans, and determine the requirements and limits of §127 programs.

4. Identify employer-provided automobiles valuation methods, determine what constitutes interest-free and below-market loans, specify the requirements and limitations of fringe benefits under §§217, 132, 67 212, 132(h)(5) and 280A, cite S corporation fringe benefits, and specify ERISA compliance requirements.

After studying the materials in Chapter 7, answer the exam questions 142 to 149.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 8 Business Entertainment	
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At the start of Chapter 8, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Pre- and post-2018 tests for entertainment expenses
- * Statutory exceptions
- * Former quiet business meals & drinks
- * Pre-2018 ticket purchases
- * Percentage reduction for meals & entertainment
- * Entertainment facilities
- * Substantiation & record keeping
- * Employee expense reimbursement & reporting
- * Self-employed persons
- * Employers

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 8, participants will be able to:

1. Define the key tax term "entertainment" and identify the pre- and post-2018 required §162 & §274 deductibility tests recognizing the importance of the remaining statutory exceptions for entertainment.
2. Determine the former treatment of ticket purchases, recognize the percentage reduction restriction for meals, specify the application of the former 2% deduction limit and determine an "entertainment facility" stating related deductible costs.
3. Identify substantiation, recordkeeping, reimbursement, and reporting requirements recognizing variations in methods and determine how to itemize non-reimbursed employee expenses and specify the special reporting rules for self-employed persons and employers.

After studying the materials in Chapter 8, answer the exam questions 150 to 159.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
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Chapter 9 Insurance	
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At the start of Chapter 9, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Company paid insurance
- * Group term life insurance
- * Regulations
- * Retired lives reserve
- * Split-dollar life insurance

- * Medical & dental insurance
- * Interest limitation on policy loans
- * Key person life insurance
- * COBRA
- * VEBA's - §501(c)(9) Trusts

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 9, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the importance and variety of business insurance by:
 - a. Identifying the popularity and application of business life insurance plans specifying common coverage and premiums;
 - b. Determining corporate uses for life insurance including estate, travel and accident uses and specifying the tax treatment, reporting requirements, and discrimination rules for business insurance particularly the §79 requirements for group insurance;
 - c. Identifying the benefit of not needing a medical examination as a prerequisite to purchasing a plan;
 - d. Recognizing retired lives reserve and split-dollar life insurance stating their mechanics, taxation regulation, and advantages and disadvantages;
 - e. Specifying the mechanics of employer-paid health, medical and disability income insurance including the impact of medical examination requirements.
2. Identify the impact of the disallowance of the interest deduction on purchasers and the insurance industry recognizing the §264 interest limitation on policy loans, specify the benefit of corporate key person life insurance, cite the requirements of COBRA, and determine what constitutes a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under §501(c)(9).

After studying the materials in Chapter 9, answer the exam questions 160 to 167.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 10	Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

At the start of Chapter 10, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Postponement of income
- * Purposes & benefits
- * Constructive receipt
- * Economic benefit
- * Funded company account plan
- * Segregated asset plan
- * Tax consequences
- * Accounting
- * Estate planning considerations
- * Withholding, Social Security & IRAs

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 10, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the postponement of income with a nonqualified plan by:
 - a. Identifying nonqualified plan advantages including ways to design the plans and specifying the IRS's position on such arrangements recognizing the impact of constructive receipt and economic benefit concepts;
 - b. Specifying deferred compensation patterns set forth in R.R. 60-31 stating the taxability of each; and
 - c. Determining unfunded and funded plans and the use of company assets or bookkeeping accounts to avoid employee taxation.
2. Identify the set up of a segregated asset plan where the account is not subject to the claims of the employer's creditors and still avoids employee taxation and specify the tax consequences of establishing a nonqualified plan.

After studying the materials in Chapter 10, answer the exam questions 168 to 176.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 11	S Corporations

At the start of Chapter 11, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Advantages & disadvantages
- * S corporation status
- * Termination
- * Income & expense
- * Built-in gain
- * Passive income
- * Basis of stocks & debts
- * Distributions
- * Form 1120S
- * Fringe benefits

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 11, participants will be able to:

1. Determine what constitutes an S corporation and specify the advantages and list disadvantages associated with them.
2. Identify variables that impact whether a business can choose S corporation status.
3. Cite ways an S corporation may be terminated specifying related procedures to be followed.
4. Recognize the taxation and fringe benefits of S corporations as compared to other entity formats by:
 - a. Determining the tax treatment of S corporation income and expenses, pass-through items, built-in gain, passive income, tax preference items, LIFO recapture tax and capital gains tax and their impact on the taxation of S corporations; and

b. Identifying the benefits available to other entity formats, determining S corporation owner compensation and distribution options recognizing reasonable compensation requirements, related party rules, S corporation distribution taxation, tax year choices, fringe benefits, and specifying when the Form 1120S must be filed.

After studying the materials in Chapter 11, answer the exam questions 177 to 195.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 12	Business Dispositions & Reorganizations

At the start of Chapter 12, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Starting a new business
- * Buying an existing business
- * Type 1 reorganization
- * Type 2 reorganization
- * Type 3 reorganization
- * Type 4 reorganization
- * Type 5 reorganization
- * Type 6 reorganization
- * Type 7 reorganization
- * Carryover of corporate tax attributes

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 12, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize various business disposition and reorganization possibilities by:
 - a. Determining how organizational costs, start-up costs, and syndication costs are incurred and specifying what expenditures they include and how they are treated;
 - b. Identifying advantages of purchasing an existing business over starting a new business, citing ways to find a business that is for sale, and specifying the tax considerations of such an acquisition;
 - c. Specifying a reorganization under §368(a)(1) recognizing the types of transactions that qualify as non-taxable reorganizations; and
 - d. Identifying the factors that determine the corporate tax attributes of an acquired corporation that carry over to the acquiring or successor corporation.

After studying the materials in Chapter 12, answer the exam questions 196 to 200.

Notice

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Guide to Federal Corporate & Individual Taxation



By
Danny C. Santucci

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