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COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title: *Small Business Tax Planning*

#495324

Number of continuing education credit hours recommended for this course

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

CFP®: **19** (All States) CFP Board Course ID# 268603
CFP Board sponsor number: 1008.

CPA: **24** (All States)
National Registry of CPE Sponsors ID Number: 107615.
Sponsor numbers for states requiring sponsor registration:
Florida Division of Certified Public Accountancy: Sponsor: 0004761 (Ethics #0011467)
Hawaii Board of Public Accountancy: 14003
New York State Board of Accountancy (for ethics): 002146
Ohio State Board of Accountancy: CPE .51 PSR
Pennsylvania Board of Accountancy: PX 178025
Texas State Board of Accountancy: 009349

EA/OTRP: **24** (All States) IRS: Qualified Sponsor number: *FWKKO*.

CLU, ChFC: **24** (Professional Recertification)

Course Description

Americans who want to be their own boss are not entirely on their own. They have a rich uncle - Uncle Sam - who is there to help, as well as to make demands. The nation's tax laws are intended to encourage people to start new businesses and are chock full of incentives and tax breaks, as well as sometimes onerous reporting requirements.

This course is a fast-paced and entertaining guide through tax issues affecting business entities and their owners. The focus of this class is on tax devices and techniques available to the small-business owner. Emphasis will be given to operational deductions, fringe benefits, compensation, family income splitting, retirement plans, and estate planning.

Course Content

Publication/Revision Date: 6/12/2024.

Author: Danny Santucci, J.D.

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

Program Delivery Method: Self-Study (NASBA QAS Self-Study / Interactive)

Subject Codes/Field of Study

NASBA (CPA), CFP Board of Standards, Inc.; "D" Taxes.

IRS (EA, OTRP): Federal Tax Law.

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

Instructions for Taking This Course

- Log in to your secure account at www.bhfe.com. Go to "My Account."
- You must complete this course within one year of purchase (If the course is "Expired," contact us and we will add the latest edition of the course to your account (no charge)).
- To retain the course-PDF after completion (for future reference) and to enable enhanced navigation: From "My Account," Download and save the course-PDF to your computer. This will enable the search function (Menu: Edit>Find) and bookmarks (icon on left side of document window).
- Complete the course by following the learning objectives listed for the course, studying the text, and, if included, studying the review questions at the end of each major section (or at the end of the course).
- Once you have completed studying the course and you are confident that the learning objectives have been met, answer the final exam questions (online).

Instructions for Taking the Online Exam

- Log in to your secure account at www.bhfe.com. Go to "My Account."
- A passing grade of at least 70% is required on the exam for this course.
- You will have three attempts to pass the exam (call or email us after three unsuccessful attempts for instructions).
- The exam is not timed, and it does not need to be completed in one session.
- For a printed copy of the exam questions, open the exam and press "Print Exam."
- Once you pass the exam, the results (correct/incorrect answers) and certificate of completion appear in "My Account." A confirmation email is also sent.
- CFP Board and IRS credit hours, if applicable, are reported on Tuesdays and at the end of the month.

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

LEARNING ASSIGNMENTS & OBJECTIVES

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

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 1	Structure, Reporting & Accounting

At the start of Chapter 1, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Sole proprietorships
- * Partnerships
- * Regular corporations
- * Recordkeeping
- * Kinds of records to keep
- * Business transactions
- * Bookkeeping systems
- * How long to keep records
- * Accounting periods & methods
- * Inventories

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 1, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations as organizational formats for new and existing businesses.
2. Identify how choice of entity relates to the type of records to keep, listing issues related to substantiation and documentation.
3. Specify available accounting periods and methods and the methods for identifying and valuing inventory items.

After studying the materials in Chapter 1, answer exam questions 1 to 11.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 2	Business Income, Credits & Assets

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

- * Rental income
- * Interest
- * Discharge of debt income
- * Dividends
- * Recoveries
- * Depreciation recapture
- * Partnership income
- * Business & investment credits
- * Asset types

- * Non-recognition transfers

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 2, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the various types of income and their implications, including the hidden income tax dangers of cancellation of indebtedness income, tax recoveries, and depreciation recapture.
2. Specify the existing basic business and investment tax credits, naming their tax requirements, and business asset types that affect the character of gain or loss, and recognize the tax treatment on the disposition of business assets, including non-recognition transfers and §1231 assets.

After studying the materials in Chapter 2, answer exam questions 12 to 18.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 3	Selected Business Expenses

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

- * Section 162
- * Expenses of not-for-profit activities
- * Rent expenses
- * Interest expense
- * Deductible taxes
- * Other selected deductible costs
- * Amortization
- * Depletion -§613
- * Business bad debts
- * Depreciation

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 3, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the importance of §162 in deducting and substantiating business expenses and costs and specify the implications of the deduction timing and limits specifying the treatment of not-for-profit activities.
2. Identify conditional sales contracts, leveraged leases, and true leases, and determine how to qualify for rent expense deductions including through leasehold improvements.
3. Specify the various forms of interest expense under §163(a) recognizing related reporting and filing issues, and identify the distinctions between deductible and nondeductible interest.
4. Recognize deductions for real estate, state, and local taxes and list deductions for home office use, research and experimentation costs, barrier removal, and mine development.
5. Identify the various forms of tax treatment under the concepts of depreciation and amortization, including the effect on amortization of §197.

6. Determine the differences between cost depletion and percentage depletion as a means of accounting for the reduction of a product's reserves.
7. Specify the types of bad debt and their effect on accounting and the various methods for dealing with bad debt.
8. Recall MACRS classifications, cite the recapture provisions and exceptions, and identify the alternative depreciation system.

After studying the materials in Chapter 3, answer exam questions 19 to 51.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 4	Employee Compensation & Benefits

At the start of Chapter 4, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Wages, salary & pay
- * Tests for deducting pay to employees
- * Selected types of compensation
- * Payroll taxes
- * Selected fringe benefits
- * Interest-free & below-market loans
- * Equity participation
- * Advantages of nonqualified deferred compensation
- * Funded company account plans
- * Segregated asset plans

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 4, participants will be able to:

1. Specify the common-law rules used by the IRS to determine whether a person is an employee for purposes of FICA, FUTA, and federal income tax withholding.
2. Identify the tests for wages to be deductible and how excluded fringe benefits can result in more employer deductions and incentive-based compensation to employees.
3. Recognize the use of deferred compensation agreements including the basic types of nonqualified deferred compensation, and the tax consequences related to these plans.

After studying the materials in Chapter 4, answer exam questions 52 to 64.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 5	Automobiles

At the start of Chapter 5, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Apportionment of personal & business use
- * Deduction limitations using the actual cost method
- * Expensing - §179
- * Predominate business use rule
- * Auto leasing
- * Standard mileage method

- * Auto trade-in vs. sale
- * Employer-provided automobile
- * Nonpersonal use vehicle
- * Reporting of an employer-provided automobile

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 5, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the apportionment of business and personal use of an automobile, including deduction limitations, and specify the various depreciation methods such as MACRS and §179 expensing.
2. Recognize personal auto leasing, its advantages and disadvantages, and the various kinds of leasing arrangements that can be used, such as closed-end or open-end leases.
3. Recall the standard mileage method listing its limitations and identify the various working condition fringe benefits including their impact on the gross income of employees.
4. Identify the various valuation methods used in determining the actual value of an employee's personal use of an automobile specifying the reporting options available to the employer.

After studying the materials in Chapter 5, answer exam questions 65 to 78.

ASSIGNMENT

Chapter 6

SUBJECT

Business Travel & Entertainment

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

- * Transportation & travel distinguished
- * Definition of "tax home"
- * Temporary & indefinite assignments
- * Business purpose requirement for business travel
- * Conventions & meetings
- * Statutory exceptions of the ordinary & necessary requirement
- * Restrictions on entertainment & facilities
- * Employee expense reimbursement & reporting
- * Self-employed persons
- * Employers

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 6, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the "away from home" requirement and related deductions, specifying the tests for tax home and recognize the differences between temporary and indefinite work assignments.
2. Differentiate the requirement of domestic and foreign travel including North American area and cruise ship conventions.
3. Determine what constitutes business entertainment, identify business entertainment activity disallowance and specify the §274(e) exceptions.

- 4.** Recognize the necessity of expense substantiation, and determine accountable and non-accountable plans stating the impact on deductions.

After studying the materials in Chapter 6, answer exam questions 79 to 89.

ASSIGNMENT**Chapter 7****SUBJECT****Retirement Plans**

At the start of Chapter 7, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Qualified deferred compensation
- * Basic requirements of a qualified pension plan
- * Basic types of corporate plans
- * Types of defined contribution plans
- * Self-employed plans – Keogh
- * Distribution & settlement options of IRAs
- * Tax-free rollovers for IRAs
- * Roth IRAs
- * Simplified employee pension plans (SEPs)
- * SIMPLE Plans

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 7, participants will be able to:

- 1.** Recognize the requirements and characteristics of qualified retirement plans by:
 - a.** Citing the limitations imposed by ERISA and TEFRA;
 - b.** Specifying trust requirements and tests associated with these requirements, such as the ratio test; and
 - c.** Identifying three classes of vesting listing how the vesting standards affect retirement plans.
- 2.** Determine the differences between defined contribution and defined benefit plans recognizing the different types of plans and their effect on retirement benefits.
- 3.** Identify Keogh Plans, traditional and Roth IRAs, and SIMPLE 401(k) plans by specifying their characteristics and determining how and when they may and may not be appropriate.

After studying the materials in Chapter 7, answer exam questions 90 to 104.

ASSIGNMENT**Chapter 8****SUBJECT****Insurance**

At the start of Chapter 8, participants should identify the following topics for study:

- * Company paid insurance
- * Group term life insurance
- * Retired lives reserve
- * Split-dollar life insurance
- * Medical & dental insurance

- * Disability income insurance
- * Interest limitation on policy loans
- * Self-employed health insurance deduction
- * Capitalized insurance
- * Health savings account

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 8, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the benefits of company-provided insurance policies by identifying how to qualify for group term life insurance and citing the requirements of retired lives reserve funds and split-life insurance policies.
2. Identify the §264 interest disallowance rule and specify the COBRA continuation of group health benefits.

After studying the materials in Chapter 8, answer exam questions 105 to 109.

ASSIGNMENT	SUBJECT
Chapter 9	Estate Planning

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

- * Unlimited marital deduction
- * Simple will
- * Types of trusts
- * Charitable trusts
- * Family documents
- * Private annuities
- * Business valuation
- * Redemptions
- * Lifetime dispositions
- * Installment payment of federal estate taxes

Learning Objectives

After reading Chapter 9, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the elements of general estate planning such as the unlimited marital deduction, including the qualified terminable interest property trust, stepped-up basis, and former modified carryover basis rules.
2. Identify the primary dispositive plans, such as simple wills, the various types of trusts, annuities, related family documents, and conservatorships.
3. Specify the various special business issues related to estate planning, such as methods of business valuation, the implications of important revenue rulings, the use of estate planning tools recognizing buy-sell agreements, and deferred compensation agreements.

After studying the materials in Chapter 9, answer exam questions 110 to 120.

Notice

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Small Business Tax Planning



By
Danny C. Santucci

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