



## **2026 TAX AND FINANCIAL PLANNING INFORMATION**

An overview of important changes, rates, rules and deadlines to assist your 2026 tax planning.

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## **RAYMOND JAMES**

The information contained herein is based upon IRS guidance in Rev. Proc. 2025-32 and Notice 2025-67, official IRS Publications and other reliable IRS and Social Security Administration sources.

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This piece contains tax and financial planning information as of February 5, 2026.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF TAX PLANNING

This guide provides an overview of tax rates, credits, deductions and related considerations that may apply to you.

Tax planning should not be done in isolation, but instead should be integrated with your total financial plan. By developing and implementing strategies to help lessen or shift current and future tax liabilities, you can improve your prospects of meeting long and short-term goals.

Keep in mind that tax laws are often complex and frequently change. Consequently, you should consult your tax, legal and financial advisors before making investment and tax decisions.

## 2026 TAX RATES

Taxable income is income after all deductions, including either itemized deductions or the standard deduction.

**Standard deduction** – single and married filing separately \$16,100; head of household \$24,150; joint \$32,200; Dependent cannot exceed the greater of \$1,350 or \$450 + earned income.

**Extra deduction if blind or 65 or over** – single \$2,050; head of household \$2,050; all others \$1,650. Individuals age 65 or over who meet income requirements may qualify for an additional \$6,000 deduction.

## 2026 Ordinary Income Tax Rates

SINGLE	
If taxable income is:	Your tax is:
Not over \$12,400	10% of taxable income
Over \$12,400 – \$50,400	\$1,240 + 12% of the excess over \$12,400
Over \$50,400 – \$105,700	\$5,800 + 22% of the excess over \$50,400
Over \$105,700 – \$201,775	\$17,966 + 24% of the excess over \$105,700
Over \$201,775 – \$256,225	\$41,024 + 32% of the excess over \$201,775
Over \$256,225 – \$640,600	\$58,448 + 35% of the excess over \$256,225
Over \$640,600	\$192,979.25 + 37% of the excess over \$640,600

MARRIED FILING JOINTLY/SURVIVING SPOUSE	
If taxable income is:	Your tax is:
Not over \$24,800	10% of taxable income
Over \$24,800 – \$100,800	\$2,480 + 12% of the excess over \$24,800
Over \$100,800 – \$211,400	\$11,600 + 22% of the excess over \$100,800
Over \$211,400 – \$403,550	\$35,932 + 24% of the excess over \$211,400
Over \$403,550 – \$512,450	\$82,048 + 32% of the excess over \$403,550
Over \$512,450 – \$768,700	\$116,896 + 35% of the excess over \$512,450
Over \$768,700	\$206,583.50 + 37% of the excess over \$768,700

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	
If taxable income is:	Your tax is:
Not over \$17,700	10% of taxable income
Over \$17,700 – \$67,450	\$1,770 + 12% of the excess over \$17,700
Over \$67,450 – \$105,700	\$7,740 + 22% of the excess over \$67,450
Over \$105,700 – \$201,750	\$16,155 + 24% of the excess over \$105,700
Over \$201,750 – \$256,200	\$39,207 + 32% of the excess over \$201,750
Over \$256,200 – \$640,600	\$56,631 + 35% of the excess over \$256,200
Over \$640,600	\$191,171 + 37% of the excess over \$640,600

MARRIED FILING SEPARATELY	
If taxable income is:	Your tax is:
Not over \$12,400	10% of taxable income
Over \$12,400 – \$50,400	\$1,240 + 12% of the excess over \$12,400
Over \$50,400 – \$105,700	\$5,800 + 22% of the excess over \$50,400
Over \$105,700 – \$201,775	\$17,966 + 24% of the excess over \$105,700
Over \$201,775 – \$256,225	\$41,024 + 32% of the excess over \$201,775
Over \$256,225 – \$384,350	\$58,448 + 35% of the excess over \$256,225
Over \$384,350	\$103,291.75 + 37% of the excess over \$384,350

## 2026 Alternative Minimum Tax Rates

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX (AMT) RATES		
FILING STATUS	ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAXABLE INCOME	AMT RATE
Single, married filing jointly, and head of household	\$0 - \$244,500	26%
	\$244,501 or more	28%
Married filing separately	\$0 – \$122,250	26%
	\$122,251 or more	28%

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX EXEMPTION		
FILING STATUS	AMT EXEMPTION AMOUNT	AMT EXEMPTION PHASEOUT THRESHOLD
Single filers and head of household	\$90,100	\$500,000
Married filing jointly and surviving spouses	\$140,200	\$1,000,000
Married filing separately	\$70,100	\$500,000

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## 2026 CAPITAL GAINS RATES

**Short-term capital gains:** Assets held for one year or less are taxed at an individual's ordinary tax rate.

**Long-term capital gains:** Assets held for more than one year are taxed at favorable rates outlined in the chart below.

Determine your capital gain bracket by adding your net long-term capital gains and/or qualified dividends to your other taxable ordinary income.

Long-term capital gains rate	Single	Married filing jointly	Married filing separately	Head of household	Trusts and estates
0%	\$0 – \$49,450	\$0 – \$98,900	\$0 – \$49,450	\$0 – \$66,200	\$0 – \$3,300
15%	\$49,451 – \$545,500	\$98,901 – \$613,700	\$49,451 – \$306,850	\$66,201 – \$579,600	\$3,301 – \$16,250
20%	Over \$545,500	Over \$613,700	Over \$306,850	Over \$579,600	Over \$16,250

Long-term capital gains will stack on top of ordinary income and short-term capital gains when determining which rate to use.

### NETTING PROCESS

1. Determine whether you have a net short-term or net long-term capital gain or loss.
2. Net your short-term gains and short-term losses to determine a net short term position for the year.
3. Net your long-term gains and long-term losses to determine a net long term position for the year.
4. If you have the same position (long-term gain and long-term loss for example) for each holding period they are reported separately on Schedule D.

5. If one holding period results in a gain and the other in a loss, they are then netted against each other.
6. For gains, you must pay tax on all gains each year. For losses, you may only deduct up to \$3,000 of excess losses against ordinary income per year.
7. Carry over any remaining losses to future tax years.



### A note about wash sales

Selling a security at a loss and purchasing another “substantially identical” security – within 30 days before or after the sale date – triggers what the IRS considers a **wash sale**, an action that disallows the loss deduction. The IRS looks at all of your accounts to determine whether a wash sale has occurred, so selling the stock at a loss in a taxable account and buying it within that 61-day window in your 401(k) or IRA will trigger a wash sale.

#### SALE DATE



## MEDICARE TAX

Higher-income taxpayers are subject to two additional Medicare taxes – an additional 0.9% Medicare payroll tax and a 3.8% Medicare surtax on net investment income.

### 3.8% SURTAX ON UNEARNED INCOME

The 3.8% surtax on “unearned income” applies to individuals, trusts and estates. “Unearned income” is defined as investment income such as income from interest, dividends, annuities, royalties, capital gains and other passive income.

Two conditions must be met for the 3.8% surtax to apply. First, the taxpayer must have investment income, and second, the taxpayer’s modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) must exceed the limits below, which are not indexed for inflation.

FILING STATUS	3.8% SURTAX APPLIES TO THE LESSER OF:	
Married filing jointly	Investment income	MAGI minus \$250,000
Married filing separately	Investment income	MAGI minus \$125,000
All others	Investment income	MAGI minus \$200,000

For purposes of the 3.8% surtax, MAGI is simply the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI) plus any excluded net foreign income. AGI can be found on the first page of a taxpayer's form 1040 (Line 11 on 2025 returns).

If those two conditions are met, then the 3.8% surtax applies to the lesser of net investment income or the spread between a taxpayer's MAGI and the thresholds listed above. For example, if a single taxpayer has \$10,000 of dividend income and MAGI of \$205,000, then the 3.8% surtax applies to \$5,000. If the same taxpayer had MAGI of \$211,000, the 3.8% surtax would apply to \$10,000.

The 3.8% surtax does not apply to distributions from tax-favored retirement plans such as IRAs or qualified plans, although distributions from tax-favored retirement plans may increase a taxpayer's MAGI over the limits discussed above and thereby potentially expose net investment income to the 3.8% surtax. In general terms, the 3.8% surtax does not apply to active trades or businesses conducted by a sole proprietor, S corporation or partnership, or to the gains and losses on the sale of active trades or businesses. However, working capital is not treated as being part of an active trade or business for purposes of the 3.8% surtax.

## 0.9% TAX ON WAGES

An additional 0.9% Medicare tax is imposed on wages of employees and on earnings of self-employed individuals. The 0.9% Medicare tax applies to wages and self-employment earnings above the limits below, which are not indexed for inflation:

- \$250,000 for taxpayers filing jointly
- \$125,000 for married taxpayers filing separately
- \$200,000 for other taxpayers

The 0.9% Medicare tax applies to employees, but not to employers. For joint filers, the tax applies to the spouses' combined wages. For self-employed individuals, the 0.9% tax is not deductible.

## RETIREMENT

### INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS (IRAs)

Taxpayers, including spouses, may each contribute \$7,500 (\$8,600 if age 50 or older) to a traditional or Roth IRA provided they have enough taxable compensation to support the contributed amount.

### TRADITIONAL IRAs

In addition to the earned income requirement, the ability to make a deductible contribution to a traditional IRA is also dictated by your tax filing status, MAGI, and whether or not you or your spouse is covered by an employer retirement plan. If neither is covered by an employer plan, the full contribution can be deducted, regardless of MAGI. If either spouse is covered by an employer plan, phaseouts will apply to how much can be deducted. If a taxpayer is above the MAGI phaseout limit, he or she may still make the contribution, but will not be able to deduct it on their tax return. There is no age cap on making contributions to a traditional IRA.

## TRADITIONAL IRA CHART

TRADITIONAL IRA: DEDUCTIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTIONS (2026)		
Status	Modified Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction Allowed
Single filers and head of household	\$0 – \$81,000	\$7,500 maximum
	\$81,001 – \$91,000	Partial
	More than \$91,000	None
Married filing jointly and surviving spouses	\$0 – \$129,000	\$7,500 maximum
	\$129,001 – \$149,000	Partial
	More than \$149,000	None
Married non-covered spouses*	\$0 – \$242,000	\$7,500 maximum
	\$242,001 – \$252,000	Partial
	More than \$252,000	None

\* Applies to individuals whose spouses are covered by a workplace plan but who are not covered themselves.

## ROTH IRAs

Contributions made to a Roth IRA are not deductible, unlike contributions made to a traditional IRA, and there is no age restriction on making contributions. An individual may contribute up to \$7,500 to the Roth IRA (\$8,600 if age 50 or older), provided they have earned income to support the contribution, subject to income phaseout limits.

ROTH IRA: ELIGIBILITY OF CONTRIBUTIONS (2026)		
Status	Modified Adjusted Gross Income	Contribution
Single filers and head of household	\$0 – \$153,000	\$7,500 maximum
	\$153,001 – \$168,000	Partial
	More than \$168,000	None
Married filing jointly and surviving spouses	\$0 – \$242,000	\$7,500 maximum
	\$242,001 – \$252,000	Partial
	More than \$252,000	None

## CATCH-UP CONTRIBUTIONS

If you have either a traditional or Roth IRA and are age 50 or older during the tax year, an additional \$1,100 may be contributed in 2026. Participants who turn 60, 61, 62, or 63 in 2026 may make a catch-up contribution of \$11,250 to a 401(k), 403(b), 457 or SARSEP plan or \$5,250 to a SIMPLE IRA or SIMPLE 401(k) plan.

TRADITIONAL & ROTH IRA CONTRIBUTIONS (2026)	
Individual maximum contribution	Catch-up contribution if age 50 or older
\$7,500	\$1,100
401(k), 403(b), 457 AND SARSEP CONTRIBUTIONS (2026)	
Employee maximum deferral contribution	Catch-up contribution if age 50 or older
\$24,500	\$8,000
SIMPLE IRA CONTRIBUTION & SIMPLE 401(k) CONTRIBUTIONS (2026)	
Employee maximum deferral contribution	Catch-up contribution if age 50 or older
\$17,000*	\$4,000*

\* In 2026, employers with up to 25 employees and larger employers who elect to provide higher employer contributions may permit employee deferral contributions of \$18,100 and catch-up contributions of \$3,850.

**2026 Individual annual limit (Section 415 for defined contribution plans):** \$72,000

**2026 Annual compensation taken into account for qualified plans:** \$360,000

**2026 Key employee limit:** \$235,000 for officers; \$150,000 for more than 1% owners; any compensation for a 5% owner of the employer

**Highly compensated employee limit:** \$160,000  
(when 2025 is the lookback year)

## IRA ROLLOVERS

Retirement plan and IRA funds can be transferred through a rollover. Rollovers can be done via an indirect rollover, direct rollover, or a trustee-to-trustee transfer. An indirect rollover occurs when a check is made out to the

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account owner who receives those funds. They then have 60 days from receipt to redeposit those funds without incurring any negative tax consequences. Indirect rollovers between IRAs can be completed once every 365 days. A direct rollover and trustee-to-trustee transfer move money directly from one retirement account to another. There are no annual limits to the number of direct rollovers or trustee-to-trustee transfers.

### IRS RULES FOR LATE 60-DAY ROLLOVERS

When redepositing funds from your IRA, Roth IRA or other plan, individuals receive a check and have a 60-day period in which to roll over those funds into a new IRA, 401(k) or other qualified retirement account.

Under Revenue Procedure 2020-46 (released in October 2020), individuals who miss the 60-day rollover period can self-certify that they qualify for a waiver, so long as they meet a few criteria:

1. There is no prior denial by the IRS for a waiver.
2. The late rollover must be attributed to one of the 12 reasons listed in the form provided by the IRS in Revenue Procedure 2020-46.
3. The funds must be redeposited into an IRA account “as soon as practical after the reason or reasons no longer prevent the taxpayer from making the contribution.” This guideline does include a 30-day safe harbor window.

### AFTER-TAX 401(K) TO ROTH IRA

If you have after-tax dollars in a plan and are able to take a rollover eligible distribution, you may direct those after-tax dollars to a Roth IRA as a tax-free transaction. There are two critical elements to the distributions. First, you must tell the plan administrator how you are allocating the pre-tax and after-tax dollars beforehand. Second, any distribution from a 401(k) plan must include a proportionate amount

of pre-tax and after-tax dollars. The benefits of moving after-tax dollars to a Roth IRA (or Roth 401(k) if available) is that any earnings will be considered part of the Roth balance. Earnings associated with an after-tax contribution that are left in a 401(k) are considered pre-tax.

If those after-tax contributions grow inside a Roth IRA instead, the growth is potentially tax-free.

## 2026 SOCIAL SECURITY

Maximum monthly benefit for retirees at full retirement age (FRA) in 2026 is \$4,152.

If an individual files for Social Security prior to FRA, they are subject to the earnings test. Benefits will be withheld until full retirement age, when benefits are increased permanently to account for withheld benefits.

**For those under full retirement age for the entire year: \$24,480\***

**For months before reaching full retirement age in the year full retirement age will be reached: \$65,160\*\***

**Beginning with month reaching full retirement age:**

No reduction in benefit associated with earnings

SOCIAL SECURITY TAXATION THRESHOLDS		
	Up to 50% taxed	Up to 85% taxed
Single	\$25,000 – \$34,000	More than \$34,000
Married Filing Jointly	\$32,000 – \$44,000	More than \$44,000

Taxation is based on combined income, which is defined as AGI + nontaxable interest + 1/2 Social Security Benefits

\* If your earnings exceed this, then \$1 of benefits is withheld for every \$2 you earn above \$24,480

\*\* If your earnings exceed this, then \$1 of benefits is withheld for every \$3 you earn above \$65,160

**Taxable wage base: \$184,500**

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## REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

Most IRA owners will use the following uniform life table to calculate required minimum distributions (RMDs). There is an exception when a spousal beneficiary is more than 10 years younger than the participant and the sole beneficiary of the IRA. In this case, a different table is used.

To calculate your RMD, first find the age on your birthday in 2026 and the corresponding applicable divisor. Then divide the prior year-end balance of your IRA account by the divisor.

As an example, using the uniform life table, if you are 82 in 2026, your applicable divisor is 18.5. If the balance in your IRA as of December 31, 2025, was \$235,000, divide that amount by 18.5. The result is \$12,702.70. This is the amount of your RMD for the current year.

### Uniform Life Table

AGE	APPLICABLE DIVISOR	AGE	APPLICABLE DIVISOR	AGE	APPLICABLE DIVISOR
<b>72</b>	27.4	<b>89</b>	12.9	<b>106</b>	4.3
<b>73</b>	26.5	<b>90</b>	12.2	<b>107</b>	4.1
<b>74</b>	25.5	<b>91</b>	11.5	<b>108</b>	3.9
<b>75</b>	24.6	<b>92</b>	10.8	<b>109</b>	3.7
<b>76</b>	23.7	<b>93</b>	10.1	<b>110</b>	3.5
<b>77</b>	22.9	<b>94</b>	9.5	<b>111</b>	3.4
<b>78</b>	22	<b>95</b>	8.9	<b>112</b>	3.3
<b>79</b>	21.1	<b>96</b>	8.4	<b>113</b>	3.1
<b>80</b>	20.2	<b>97</b>	7.8	<b>114</b>	3
<b>81</b>	19.4	<b>98</b>	7.3	<b>115</b>	2.9
<b>82</b>	18.5	<b>99</b>	6.8	<b>116</b>	2.8
<b>83</b>	17.7	<b>100</b>	6.4	<b>117</b>	2.7
<b>84</b>	16.8	<b>101</b>	6	<b>118</b>	2.5
<b>85</b>	16	<b>102</b>	5.6	<b>119</b>	2.3
<b>86</b>	15.2	<b>103</b>	5.2	<b>120+</b>	2
<b>87</b>	14.4	<b>104</b>	4.9		
<b>88</b>	13.7	<b>105</b>	4.6		

## RMD DEADLINES

The original SECURE Act and SECURE Act 2.0 both changed the age for which RMDs must begin for traditional IRAs and other qualified plans. IRA owners born between July 1, 1949 and December 31, 1950 must begin taking RMDs for the year they turn 72. Individuals born between 1951 and 1959 must begin taking RMDs for the year they turn 73. Individuals who are born in 1960 and later have an RMD start age of 75. However, there is no lifetime RMD requirement for owners of Roth IRAs and Roth 401(k) accounts. The RMD deadline is December 31 each year. For the first year you have to take an RMD, you have until April 1 of the following year to take it. This April 1st deadline is called the required beginning date.

If you are still working, you can generally delay your RMDs from your current employer's 401(k) or other employer-based retirement plans until the year you retire (a delay is not available if you own 5% or more of the company). This is known as the still working exception and is retirement plan specific. Check with your plan administrator to see if you may delay. For all subsequent years, distributions must be made annually by December 31.

Beginning in 2020 pursuant to changes made by the original SECURE Act, when an IRA account owner dies, most nonspousal beneficiaries lose the ability to stretch distributions over their life expectancy. Rather, they will have to fully distribute the beneficiary IRA by December 31 of the 10-year anniversary of death. Where the death occurs prior to the required beginning date for distributions, there are no annual distribution requirements, only that the account is totally distributed by December 31 of the 10th year. For example, if a father passes away in July of 2026 and names his adult son as beneficiary, the son would have until December 31, 2036 to fully distribute the account. However, the IRS

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interprets the 10-year rule to require annual distributions to the beneficiary if the employee died after their required beginning date, beginning in the first calendar year *after* the calendar year of the employee's death.

There are several exceptions to the 10-year rule for IRA beneficiaries known as eligible designated beneficiaries. They may still take distributions over their life expectancy (stretch):

- spouses
- disabled or chronically ill individuals (as defined by the IRS)
- beneficiaries that are not more than 10 years younger than the deceased account owner

Minor children of the deceased account owner can also take RMDs using their single life expectancy until they reach the age of majority (final regulations define age of majority as the age of 21), and then they will have to start the 10-year clock.

## HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (HSAs)

Created as part of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 and rapidly growing in popularity, health savings accounts (HSAs) are a tax-advantaged way for individuals to save for health care expenses.

### **Eligibility**

- Anyone with a High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP), including a qualifying Marketplace plan, that only covers preventive services before the deductible. For plan year 2026, the minimum deductible for an HDHP is \$1,700 for an individual and \$3,400 for a family.

- There are no income limits affecting eligibility.
- The HSA belongs to the individual not the employer.
- An HSA can be set up with any qualified trustee or custodian.
- Earned income is not a requirement. As long as an individual has not enrolled in Medicare Part A or B, they are eligible and may contribute to an HSA. Once an individual enrolls in Medicare, they may no longer contribute to an HSA.
- There is also a requirement that they not have any other health coverage or an FSA, and they can't be claimed as a tax dependent on anyone else's tax return. See IRS Publication 969 for full requirements.

### **Contributions**

- In 2026, individuals can contribute \$4,400 to an HSA and families can contribute \$8,750.
- An individual age 55 or older can contribute an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution each year.
- If a spouse is also 55, they can contribute an additional \$1,000 to their respective HSA.
- Anyone can make a contribution to an HSA on another person's behalf and, per IRS HSA rules, the account holder is the one who claims the deduction.
- There are no limits on HSA account balances that can be carried forward each year.
- For eligible individuals, HSAs are the only type of tax-preferenced investment account that enjoys the benefits of tax-deductible contributions, tax-deferred growth of earnings and tax-free distributions (for qualified medical expenses).

## 2026 ESTATE, GIFT AND GST TAX

ESTATE, GIFT AND GENERATION SKIPPING TAX	
Gift and estate tax applicable exclusion amount	\$15,000,000
GST tax exemption	\$15,000,000
Annual gift tax exclusion amount	\$19,000
Non-citizen spouse annual exclusion	\$194,000
Unified credit amount	\$5,945,800

The annual gift  
tax exclusion

**\$19,000**



allows married couples to gift a combined \$38,000

NON-GRANTOR TRUSTS AND ESTATES INCOME TAX RATES	
If taxable income is:	Your tax is:
Not over \$3,300	10% of taxable income
Over \$3,300 to \$11,700	\$330 + 24% of the excess over \$3,300
Over \$11,700 to \$16,000	\$2,346 + 35% of the excess over \$11,700
Over \$16,000	\$3,851 + 37% of the excess over \$16,000

ESTATE AND GIFT TAX RATES				
Taxable gift/estate			Percentage	Of amount
Over	Not over	Pay	On excess	Above
\$0	\$10,000	\$0	18%	\$0
\$10,000	\$20,000	\$1,800	20%	\$10,000
\$20,000	\$40,000	\$3,800	22%	\$20,000
\$40,000	\$60,000	\$8,200	24%	\$40,000
\$60,000	\$80,000	\$13,000	26%	\$60,000
\$80,000	\$100,000	\$18,200	28%	\$80,000
\$100,000	\$150,000	\$23,800	30%	\$100,000
\$150,000	\$250,000	\$38,800	32%	\$150,000
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$70,800	34%	\$250,000
\$500,000	\$750,000	\$155,800	37%	\$500,000
\$750,000	\$1,000,000	\$248,300	39%	\$750,000
\$1,000,000		\$345,800	40%	\$1,000,000

## EDUCATION

### CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS TO COVERDELL

\$2,000 per beneficiary. This amount is phased out from \$190,000 to \$220,000 MAGI for married couples filing jointly, and \$95,000 to \$110,000 MAGI for single filers.

### GIFTS TO 529 PLANS

For 2026, gifts can be front-loaded up to \$95,000 (5 years x \$19,000 annual exclusion) per individual or \$190,000 for married couples who split gifts. Front-loading uses the annual gift tax exclusion for the current year and the next four years (for a total of five years).

The use of 529 plans can cover expenses for tuition in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private or religious school. Check with your state of residence to see if it conforms to the Federal Tax Code on qualified tuition expenses for K-12. These expenses for a single beneficiary during any taxable year should not exceed \$20,000 incurred during that year.

### AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY CREDIT

Up to 100% of the first \$2,000, and 25% of the next \$2,000, for a total of \$2,500 maximum credit per eligible student per year, with reduction for MAGI between \$80,000 and \$90,000 for single filers, and \$160,000 and \$180,000 for joint filers.

### LIFETIME LEARNING CREDIT

Increased under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, up to 20% of the first \$10,000 (per taxpayer) of qualified expenses can be paid in 2026 with reduction for MAGI from \$80,000 to \$90,000 for single filers and \$160,000 to \$180,000 for joint filers.

### STUDENT LOAN TAX RELIEF

For student loans forgiven or cancelled after December 31, 2025 due to the student's death or total and permanent disability, discharged amounts are not included in taxable income.

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## STUDENT LOAN INTEREST DEDUCTION

For 2026, \$2,500 “above-the-line” deduction, with reduction for MAGI from \$85,000 to \$100,000 for single filers and \$175,000 to \$205,000 for married filing jointly.

## MODIFIED AGI – U.S. SAVINGS BOND

### *Interest exclusion*

For 2026, the phaseout range for taxpayers to exclude income from U.S. savings bonds used to pay qualified higher education expenses is \$101,800 to \$116,800 for single filers and \$152,650 to \$182,650 for married filing jointly. In addition to MAGI thresholds, to qualify for the interest exclusion, bond purchasers must be age 24 or older and bonds must be titled in their name (or their spouse’s name). A bond bought by a parent and issued in the name of a child under age 24 does not qualify for the interest exclusion. Proceeds must be used for qualified postsecondary education expenses of the taxpayer, the taxpayer’s spouse or the taxpayer’s dependent.

## 2026 KIDDIE TAX RULES

Kiddie Tax refers to investment and unearned income tax for minor children and some dependent children. It requires the unearned income of a child or young adult be taxed at the child’s parents’ marginal tax rate once the unearned income exceeds \$2,700. Under the Kiddie Tax rules, the first \$1,350 in unearned income is not subject to tax. The next \$1,350 of unearned income is taxed at the child’s rate. Then, any unearned income of more than \$2,700 is taxed at the parents’ marginal tax rate. The Kiddie Tax rules apply to unearned income of the following:

- A child age 17 or under at the end of the tax year
- An individual who is 18 (at the end of the tax year) whose earned income (excluding scholarships, if a full-time student) does not exceed half of his or her support costs during the year

- A 19- to 23-year-old full-time student whose earned income (excluding scholarships) does not exceed half of his or her support during the year (a student is considered full-time if he or she is a full-time student during any part of at least five months during the year)

Please note, your child would not be subject to the Kiddie Tax if:

- He or she only had earned income
- He or she is not required to file because their income is below the filing threshold
- He or she is filing jointly

#### CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT

For 2026, the child and dependent care credit is equal to 50% of qualified expenses, up to a limit, for taxpayers with an AGI of \$15,000 or less. The credit percentage is reduced by one percentage point for every \$2,000 or fraction thereof, in excess of \$15,000 until the credit percentage reaches 35%. It is then reduced further, but not below 20%, by one percentage point for each \$2,000 (\$4,000 if filing jointly) or fraction thereof of AGI over \$75,000 (\$150,000 if filing jointly). The amount of creditable child and dependent care expenses is capped at \$3,000 for taxpayers with one qualifying individual, or \$6,000 for taxpayers with two or more qualifying individuals. The credit is not refundable.

#### CHILD TAX CREDIT

Taxpayers may claim a partially refundable tax credit of up to \$2,200 per qualifying child. A qualifying child must be the taxpayer's qualifying child for purposes of the dependency exemption, and also must be under age 17 at the end of the calendar year in which the taxpayer's tax year begins.

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The \$2,200 per child credit is reduced by \$50 for each \$1,000, or fraction thereof, by which the taxpayers MAGI exceeds \$200,000, or \$400,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly. For 2026, up to \$1,700 of the \$2,200 is refundable, subject to limitations based on the amount of earned income and the number of qualifying children.

## BUSINESS

### CORPORATE TAX RATES

Flat 21%

### STANDARD MILEAGE RATE

72.5 cents per mile

### CHARITABLE MILEAGE RATE

14 cents per mile

## CONSIDERATIONS

### PRESENT VALUE OF A LUMP SUM

What if you know you will need \$10,000 accumulated 10 years from now? How much money do you need to invest today at an average interest rate of 8% to obtain your goal? Looking at the table below, go to 10 years and then across to 8%. You see that \$0.463 invested today at 8% should yield \$1 in 10 years. Since you want \$10,000, multiply \$0.463 by \$10,000 to arrive at \$4,630.

YEARS	5%	6%	8%	10%	12%
<b>10</b>	.614	.558	.463	.386	.322
<b>20</b>	.377	.312	.215	.149	.104
<b>30</b>	.231	.174	.099	.057	.033
<b>40</b>	.142	.097	.046	.022	.011

### FUTURE VALUE OF A LUMP SUM

If you invest \$10,000 at an interest rate of 8%, how much will your investment be worth in 10 years? By referring to the table, you find that \$1 invested today at 8% would grow to \$2.159 in 10 years. Since you invested \$10,000, multiply \$2.159 by \$10,000, giving you \$21,590.

YEARS	5%	6%	8%	10%	12%
<b>10</b>	1.629	1.791	2.159	2.594	3.106
<b>20</b>	2.653	3.207	4.661	6.727	9.646
<b>30</b>	4.322	5.743	10.063	17.449	29.960
<b>40</b>	7.040	10.286	21.725	45.259	93.051

### PRESENT VALUE OF A SERIES OF ANNUAL PAYMENTS

How much money would you need to invest today at an interest rate of 8% to provide \$10,000 per year for 10 years? Looking at the chart below, to receive \$1 per year for 10 years at 8%, you would need to invest \$6.710. Multiply that figure by \$10,000 to get \$67,100, the amount that you would need to invest.

YEARS	5%	6%	8%	10%	12%
<b>10</b>	7.722	7.360	6.710	6.145	5.650
<b>20</b>	12.462	11.470	9.818	8.514	7.469
<b>30</b>	15.372	13.765	11.258	9.427	8.055
<b>40</b>	17.159	15.046	11.925	9.779	8.244

### FUTURE VALUE OF A SERIES OF ANNUAL PAYMENTS

If you deposit \$5,000 in an annuity at the end of each year for 10 years at an 8% interest rate, you would have \$72,435 (\$5,000 x \$14.487) in your account at the end of the 10th year.

YEARS	5%	6%	8%	10%	12%
<b>10</b>	12.578	13.181	14.487	15.937	17.549
<b>20</b>	33.066	36.786	45.762	57.275	72.052
<b>30</b>	66.439	79.058	113.283	164.494	241.333
<b>40</b>	120.800	154.762	259.057	442.593	767.091

## TAXABLE EQUIVALENT YIELDS

Taxable equivalent yield is the return that is required on a taxable investment to make it equal to the return on a tax-exempt investment. The taxable equivalent yield is commonly used when evaluating municipal bond returns.

TAX EXEMPT YIELDS	TAX BRACKET						
	10%	12%	22%	24%	32%	35%	37%
<b>1.00%</b>	1.11%	1.14%	1.28%	1.32%	1.47%	1.54%	1.59%
<b>1.50%</b>	1.67%	1.70%	1.92%	1.97%	2.21%	2.31%	2.38%
<b>2.00%</b>	2.22%	2.27%	2.56%	2.63%	2.94%	3.08%	3.17%
<b>2.50%</b>	2.78%	2.84%	3.21%	3.29%	3.68%	3.85%	3.97%
<b>3.00%</b>	3.33%	3.41%	3.85%	3.95%	4.41%	4.62%	4.76%
<b>3.50%</b>	3.89%	3.98%	4.49%	4.61%	5.15%	5.38%	5.56%
<b>4.00%</b>	4.44%	4.55%	5.13%	5.26%	5.88%	6.15%	6.35%
<b>4.50%</b>	5.00%	5.11%	5.77%	5.92%	6.62%	6.92%	7.14%
<b>5.00%</b>	5.56%	5.68%	6.41%	6.58%	7.35%	7.69%	7.94%
<b>5.50%</b>	6.11%	6.25%	7.05%	7.24%	8.09%	8.46%	8.73%
<b>6.00%</b>	6.67%	6.82%	7.69%	7.89%	8.82%	9.23%	9.52%
<b>6.50%</b>	7.22%	7.39%	8.33%	8.55%	9.56%	10.00%	10.32%
<b>7.00%</b>	7.78%	7.95%	8.97%	9.21%	10.29%	10.77%	11.11%
<b>7.50%</b>	8.33%	8.52%	9.62%	9.87%	11.03%	11.54%	11.90%

These are hypothetical illustrations and are not intended to reflect the actual performance of any particular security. Actual investor results will vary. Investments involve risk and you may incur a profit or a loss.

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

### TAX DEADLINES

April 15, 2026, for 2025 returns

October 15, 2026, for extensions

### 2026 QUARTERLY TAX PAYMENT DEADLINES

2026 first quarter payment due April 15, 2026

2026 second quarter payment due June 15, 2026

2026 third quarter payment due September 15, 2026

2026 fourth quarter payment due January 15, 2027

### CORPORATE RETURN DEADLINE

April 15, 2026 for calendar year C corporation returns

March 16, 2026, for calendar year partnership and S-corporation returns

### LOCK IN GAINS/LOSSES, MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO 529 PLANS, GIFT

December 31, 2026

### DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHING A SIMPLE IRA

October 1, 2026\*

You can set up a SIMPLE IRA plan effective on any date from January 1 through October 1 of a year, provided you did not previously maintain a SIMPLE IRA plan. This requirement does not apply if you are a new employer that comes into existence after October 1 of the year the SIMPLE IRA plan is set up and you set up a SIMPLE

\* Deadline does not apply to new businesses/employers that are established after October 1st.

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IRA plan as soon as administratively feasible after your business comes into existence. If you previously maintained a SIMPLE IRA plan, you can set up a SIMPLE IRA plan effective only on January 1 of a year. A SIMPLE IRA plan cannot have an effective date that is before the date you actually adopt the plan.

#### DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHING A QUALIFIED PLAN

The deadline for filing the employer's 2026 tax return (including extensions). A sole proprietor who is the only employee of his trade or business can make elective deferrals for the initial plan year until the time for filing his tax return (not including extensions).

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**LIFE WELL PLANNED.**

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THE RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL CENTER  
880 CARILLON PARKWAY // ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716  
800.248.8863 // [RAYMONDJAMES.COM](http://RAYMONDJAMES.COM)

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