

Tax Deductions for Real Estate Investors/Rental Properties

Income

Gross receipts from sales and/or services	Copies of checks and statements from sales, service, commissions, and/or bonuses
Other Income	Income from ownership in another business (K1 forms) interest on bank accounts or loans made to someone else

Expenses

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Accounting	Receipts for accounting, computer programs, tax preparation, and phone apps, accountant fees
Advertising	Any money spent in order to find renters. Also business cards, Online advertising, flyers, and social media
Bad Debt	Money loaned or invested that there is no hope of recapturing
Bank Charges	Fees charged by banks to maintain an account, wire fees, ATM withdraw, or other bank services
Children Paid	Money paid to children for helping with such things as delivering flyers and/ or product, stuffing envelopes, cleaning office and/or car, modeling. Must keep a detailed log of tasks and how paid.
Cleaning	Supplies a person or company paid to clean. Equipment purchased such as carpet cleaners or pressure washers. General cleaning supplies
Cleaning Deposit	Money returned to the renter when they move out of the property
Computer, Internet, and Tech	Software, Online services, Internet expense, computer maintenance
Contract Labor	Services paid to individuals and sub-contractors. You must issue a form 1099 MISC to any individual that is paid over \$600 in a year.
Dues and Subscriptions	Dues to professional organizations and magazines that have to do with your trade or business
Educational Expense	Classes or seminars that you take to improve your business, maintain licensing, and improve skills. Includes classes, conventions, books, seminars, trade shows, etc.
Gifts	Gifts to clients and associates limited to \$25 per person per year
Home Office	A separate room in your home to do business and accounting. A percentage of utility bills, home owners or renters insurance, property tax, mortgage interest, refinance fees, repairs and maintenance, cleaning supplies, office decor, etc may be taken. It is determined by square footage of office space vs square footage of the entire house

Improvements and Remodeling	Any major work to property must be reported separately. Includes materials, labor, supplies, appliances, etc.
Insurance	Hazard, renters, mortgage, vehicle, and property insurances
Interest	Interest paid on loans for equipment, mortgages, business buildings, business loans, lines of credit, credit cards, etc.
Legal and Professional Services	Attorneys, accountants, inspectors, appraisers, consultants, and/or investment advice and fees
Loan & Refinance Fees	Closing costs from the settlement statement
Management Fees	Fees paid to a company to find renters, collect rent, make repairs, etc.
Meals	Meals with clients, potential clients, and associates. Note: entertainment is no longer deductible
Mileage	There are two ways to take a vehicle expense. If you choose mileage, you take the mileage used when picking up product, supplies, office supplies, meetings, handing out advertising or business cards, meals with clients, etc. The second option is Vehicle (see Vehicle deduction).
Office Expense	Office supplies, computer supplies, Internet, postage, phone apps, beverage services
Office Space Rent	Rent for a separate office outside your home, rental fees for equipment booths for shows, technical equipment, storage of equipment, and records
Postage	Cost to mail letters, contracts, bills, etc.
Purchases	Any equipment, office furniture, computers, vehicles that cost over \$500
Repairs/Maintenance	Supplies, materials, and labor paid to fix or maintain property
Supplies	Things you use to rent and maintain the property: keys, locks, small tools, etc.
Taxes and Licenses	Business, professional, state and city licenses. Taxes on personal property, real estate, payroll
Telephone	Cell phone, extra phone lines into home for business, fax, office land line
Travel	Hotels, airfare, cab fare (ex. Uber or Lyft), public transit, parking, cleaning while away from home, business trip log, bus, train, etc.
Utilities	Electricity, gas, water, sewer, trash, HOA fees for office, shop or any other facility. See Home Office deduction for deductibility of home utilities
Vehicle	There are two ways to take a vehicle expense. If you choose vehicle, you take the expense using the vehicle: fuel, parts, mechanics, oil changes, car washes, insurance, etc. Along with taking the vehicle expense you can also depreciate the vehicle. Note that unless the vehicle is used solely for the business you must track business use vs. personal use. The second option is Mileage (see Mileage deduction).
Wages	Salaries, wages, bonuses, and commissions paid to employees. An Employee is an individual who an employer controls where, when, and how the work is done, hours worked and use of equipment.

Website Expense	Internet hosting and services, website design, and maintenance
	Lawn services, chemicals and treatments, lawn mowers, weed eaters, plants, shrubs, trees, etc.