## **Employment Expenses**

Includes forms GST370, T777, TL2, and T2200

## **Before You Start**

## Is this guide for you?

Use this guide if you are an employee and your employer requires you to pay expenses to earn your employment income. This guide will help you calculate the expenses you can deduct. It also gives you all the information you need to claim the employee goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) rebate. For details, see Chapter 8 on page 16.

You deduct most of your employment expenses on line 229 of your *General Income Tax and Benefit Return*. If you did not receive a General package in the mail, you can pick one up at your tax services office or tax centre. You can also get a package for the province or territory where you resided on December 31, 2000, from any postal outlet in that province or territory.

# Where can you get the forms you need?

In the middle of this guide, you will find copies of some of the forms you may have to complete. The following explains which forms you will need to complete:

- **Form T777, Statement of Employment Expenses**Use Form T777 to calculate your allowable employment expenses. Please **include** Form T777 with your return.
- Form TL2, Claim for Meals and Lodging Expenses
  Form TL2 is used by transport employees, such as
  employees of airline, railway, bus, trucking, or other
  transport companies. You will have to complete
  Form TL2 if you are deducting expenses and your
  employer's principal business is transporting goods,
  passengers, or both. Your employer has to sign the form.
  Most transport employees will complete Form TL2. You
  do not have to submit this form with your return.
  However, keep it in case we ask to see it.
- Form T2200, Declaration of Conditions of Employment You will have to complete Form T2200 if you are deducting employment expenses. Your employer also has to complete and sign Part B of the form. If you have

more than one employer, have each employer complete and sign a form. You do not have to submit this form with your return. However, keep it in case we ask to see it.

# ■ Form GST370, Employee and Partner GST/HST Rebate Application

If you are an employee of a GST/HST registrant and you are deducting expenses from your employment income on your return, you may be able to claim a rebate of the GST/HST you paid on these expenses. To claim the rebate, you must complete Form GST370. See Chapter 8 for details.

## What if you need help?

In this guide, we use plain language to explain the most common situations. If you need more help after reading this guide, please contact us. The telephone numbers, and address of your tax services office are listed in the government section of your telephone book.

Throughout this guide, we mention guides, forms, interpretation bulletins, and information circulars that give more detailed information on specific topics. You can get from us any of the publications mentioned in this guide by calling 1-800-959-2221.

### Internet

You can find most of our publications at our www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca Web site.

## What's new for 2000?

Capital cost ceiling – The ceiling on the capital cost of passenger vehicles acquired after 1999 on which capital cost allowance may be claimed has increased from \$26,000 to \$27,000, plus the applicable federal and provincial sales taxes.

Leasing cost limit – For leases entered into after 1999, the limit on the amount of deductible leasing costs of passenger vehicles has been increased from \$650 per month to \$700 per month, plus the applicable federal and provincial sales taxes.

Visually impaired persons can get information on services available to them, and can order publications in braille or large print, or on audio cassette or computer diskette, by calling 1-800-267-1267 weekdays from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).

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## Chapter 1 - Keeping Records

 $\mathbf{Y}$ ou have to keep records for each year you claim expenses. These records must include **all** the following:

- a daily record of your expenses, together with your receipts and any cancelled cheques;
- any ticket stubs for travel;
- invoices:
- any monthly credit card statements; and
- a record of each motor vehicle you used for employment. This record must show both the total kilometres you drove and the kilometres you drove for employment purposes in the year.

Your receipts for the purchase of merchandise or services have to show the following:

- the date you made the purchase;
- the name and address of the seller or supplier;
- your name and address; and
- a full description of the goods or services you bought.

Keep a record of the motor vehicles or musical instruments you bought and sold. This record has to show who sold you the motor vehicle or musical instrument, the cost, and the date you bought it.

If you sell or trade a motor vehicle or musical instrument, show the date you sold or traded it on your bill of sale. Also, show the amount you received from the sale or trade-in.

Do not send in your records or receipts with your return. However, keep them in case we ask to see them. If you do not keep the necessary information, we may have to reduce your claim.

Generally, you have to keep your records (whether paper or electronic) for at least six years from the end of the taxation year to which they apply. If you want to destroy your records before the six-year period is up, you must first get written permission from the Director of your tax services office or tax centre. To do this, either use Form T137, *Request for Destruction of Books and Records*, or make your own written request. If you need more details, get Information Circular 78-10, *Books and Records Retention/Destruction*.

# Chapter 2 – Employees Earning Commission Income

Employees who sell goods or negotiate contracts for an employer can deduct some of the amounts they paid to earn commission income.

However, except for interest and capital cost allowance on your vehicle, the total of the expenses you can deduct cannot be more than the commissions or similar amounts you received in the year.

If your total commission expenses (except interest and capital cost allowance on your vehicle) are more than your

commissions or similar amounts you received, there is another method you can use to claim expenses. For example, it might be to your advantage to claim only travelling expenses (food and lodging) plus motor vehicle expenses (including interest and capital cost allowance on your vehicle). If you deduct expenses this way, your claim is not limited to the amount of commissions you received in the year. However, to do so, you have to meet the conditions for claiming travelling expenses and motor vehicle expenses. We discuss these conditions in Chapter 3.

#### **Example**

Evan works for a company that sells video equipment. During 2000, he recorded the following information:

Salary he received\$25,000
Commissions he received
Total employment income $\underline{\$30,000}$
Expenses:
Advertising and promotion \$1,000
Travelling expenses
Capital cost allowance
Interest on car loan
Total expenses

Evan's total expenses of \$9,000 are more than his commissions of \$5,000. Therefore, his claim for expenses is limited to \$5,000 plus the capital cost allowance of \$1,500 and interest of \$500, for a total claim of \$7,000. However, he may choose to claim only the travelling expenses of \$6,000. Using this method, Evan also claims the capital cost allowance of \$1,500 and interest of \$500, for a total claim of \$8,000.

## **Employment conditions**

To deduct the expenses you paid to earn commission income, you have to meet **all** the following conditions:

- Under your contract of employment, you had to pay your own expenses.
- You were normally required to work away from your employer's place of business.
- You were paid in whole or in part by commissions or similar amounts. These payments were based on the volume of sales you made or the contracts you negotiated.
- You did not receive a non-taxable allowance for travelling expenses. Generally, an allowance is non-taxable as long as it is a reasonable amount. For example, an allowance for a motor vehicle is usually non-taxable when it is based solely on a reasonable per-kilometre rate.
- You keep with your records a completed copy of Form T2200, Declaration of Conditions of Employment.

If you need more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-522, *Vehicle, Travel and Sales Expenses of Employees*, or contact us.

## **Deductible expenses**

This guide includes Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*. Use it to calculate your total employment expenses. Once you calculate the employment expenses you can deduct, enter the amount on line 229 of your return. Include Form T777 with your return.

Your employment expenses include any GST and provincial sales tax, or HST, you paid on these expenses. You may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid. We discuss this rebate in Chapter 8 on page 16.

The following describes the types of deductible expenses in the order they appear on Form T777.

## Accounting and legal fees

You can deduct legal fees you paid in the year to collect salary, wages, or commissions your employer or former employer owed you. You can also deduct legal fees you paid to establish your right to salary, wages, or commissions your employer or former employer owed you. However, you have to reduce your claim by any amount awarded to you, or any reimbursement you received for your legal expenses. You do not have to meet the conditions listed in the section called "Employment conditions", on page 4, to deduct legal and accounting fees.

See Interpretation Bulletin IT-99, *Legal and Accounting Fees*, for more details.

## Advertising and promotion

You can deduct expenses for advertising and promotion, including amounts you paid for business cards, promotional gifts, and advertisements.

# Allowable motor vehicle expenses (including capital cost allowance)

Chapter 6 explains motor vehicle expenses. Chapter 7 covers capital cost allowance in detail.

### **Entertainment for clients**

You can deduct the cost of entertaining clients. Expenses you can deduct include food, tickets, and entrance fees to entertainment or sporting events. You can also deduct tips, cover charges, room rentals to provide entertainment, such as hospitality suites, and the cost of private boxes at sports facilities.

The most you can deduct is 50% of the lower of:

- the amount you actually paid; or
- an amount that is reasonable in the circumstances.

If you need more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-518, *Food, Beverages and Entertainment Expenses.* 

#### Food, beverages, and lodging

**Food and beverages** – You can deduct food and beverage expenses as long as your employer requires you to be away for at least 12 hours. To qualify, you must be away from the municipality and the metropolitan area (if there is one) of your employer's location where you normally report for work.

Amounts you paid for food and beverages to earn employment income are subject to the 50% limit discussed earlier on this page in the section called "Entertainment for clients."

The 50% limit also applies to the cost of food, beverages, and entertainment you paid for when you travelled on an airplane, train, or bus, as long as the ticket price did not include such amounts.

If you need more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-518, Food, Beverages and Entertainment Expenses.

**Lodging** – You can deduct lodging expenses if your work conditions require you to travel away from your employer's place of business and pay your own lodging expenses.

## **Parking**

You can deduct parking costs related to earning your commission income. Generally, you cannot deduct the cost of parking at your employer's office, such as monthly or daily parking fees. These are personal costs.

Do not include parking costs as part of your allowable motor vehicle expenses. Enter them on the "Parking" line on Form T777.

## **Supplies**

You can deduct the cost of supplies. Supplies are only those materials you use directly in your work, and for nothing else.

Supplies include items such as pens, pencils, paper clips, stationery, stamps, street maps, and directories. Supplies do not include items such as briefcases or calculators.

You can deduct expenses you paid for telegrams and long-distance telephone calls, as long as you paid them to earn commission income. However, you cannot deduct the monthly basic rate for your home telephone.

You cannot deduct the cost of special clothing you wear or have to wear for your work. Also, you cannot deduct the cost of any tools that are considered as equipment.

For more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-352, Employee's Expenses, Including Work Space in Home Expenses.

#### Other expenses

**Licences** – Deduct annual licence fees if you must have a licence to perform your work. For example, real estate and insurance salespeople can deduct the cost of their annual licences.

**Bonding premiums** – You can deduct payments for bonding and liability insurance premiums.

**Medical underwriting fees** – You can deduct expenses you paid for items such as X-rays and heart diagrams related to underwriting your customers' risks.

Computers and other equipment – If you lease computers, cellular telephones, fax machines, and other equipment, you can deduct the percentage of the lease costs that reasonably relates to earning your commission income.

You can also deduct the percentage of airtime expenses for a cellular telephone that reasonably relates to earning your

commission income. However, you cannot deduct amounts you paid to connect or license the cellular telephone.

If you buy a computer, cellular telephone, fax machine, or other such equipment, you cannot deduct the cost. Also, you cannot deduct capital cost allowance or interest you paid on money you borrowed to buy this equipment.

**Salaries** – You can deduct the salary you paid to your substitute or assistant.

You may have to withhold income tax, Canada Pension Plan (CPP) or Quebec Pension Plan (QPP) contributions, and Employment Insurance (EI) premiums from the salary you paid. Report, on a T4 slip, the salary and amounts you withheld. For more information, get the employers' guide called *Payroll Deductions (Basic Information)*.

As the employer, you can also deduct as an expense your share of the CPP or QPP contributions and the EI premiums.

Office rent – You can deduct office rent you paid to earn your commission income. Do not confuse office rent with work-space-in-the-home expenses, which we discuss below.

**Training costs** – You can deduct the cost of a training course as an employment expense. The course has to maintain, upgrade, or update your existing skills or qualifications that relate to your employment.

You cannot deduct the cost of a training course as an employment expense if the course is for personal reasons, the cost is unreasonable, or you receive a lasting benefit from the course. For example, you receive a lasting benefit when you take a course to get a credit for a degree, diploma, professional qualification, or similar certificate.

If you cannot deduct the cost of a training course as an employment expense, you can claim it as a tuition amount as long as you meet the conditions described in the pamphlet called *Students and Income Tax*.

For more details, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-357, *Expenses of Training*.

**Travel fare** – You can deduct the full amount you paid for travel fare, such as your airline, bus, or train ticket, as long as you paid it solely to earn commission income.

#### Work-space-in-the-home expenses

You can deduct expenses you paid in 2000 for the employment use of a work space in your home, as long as you meet **one** of the following conditions:

- The work space is where you mainly do your work.
- You use the work space only to earn your employment income. You also have to use it on a regular and continuous basis for meeting clients or customers.

You can deduct a portion of your maintenance costs, such as the cost of electricity, heating, cleaning materials, property taxes, and home insurance. However, you **cannot** deduct mortgage interest or capital cost allowance. To calculate the percentage you can deduct, use a reasonable basis, such as the area of the work space divided by the total area.

If your office space is in a rented house or apartment where you live, deduct the percentage of the rent and any maintenance costs you paid that relates to the work space.

The amount you can deduct for work-space-in-the-home expenses cannot be more than your employment income after you deduct all employment expenses except work-space expenses. You cannot use work-space expenses to increase or create a loss from employment.

You can only deduct work-space expenses from the income to which the expenses relate, and not from any other income.

If you cannot deduct all your work-space expenses in the year, you can carry forward the expenses. You can deduct these expenses in the following year as long as you are reporting income from the same employer. However, you cannot increase or create a loss from employment by carrying forward work-space expenses.

If you need more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-352, *Employee's Expenses, Including Work Space in Home Expenses.* 

# Chapter 3 – Employees Earning a Salary

T his chapter describes the expenses you can deduct if you earn a salary. If you earn commission income, see Chapter 2.

## **Deductible expenses**

This guide includes Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*. Use it to calculate your total employment expenses. Once you calculate the employment expenses you can deduct, enter the amount on line 229 of your return. Include Form T777 with your return.

Your employment expenses include any GST and provincial sales tax, or HST, you paid on these expenses. You may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid. See Chapter 8 for details.

The following describes the types of deductible expenses in the order they appear on Form T777.

## Accounting and legal fees

On Form T777, enter any legal fees you paid in the year to collect salary or wages your employer or former employer owed you. Also include legal fees you paid to establish your right to salary or wages your employer or former employer owed you. However, you have to reduce your claim by any amount awarded to you or reimbursement you received for your legal expenses.

See Interpretation Bulletin IT-99, *Legal and Accounting Fees*, for more details.

# Allowable motor vehicle expenses (including capital cost allowance)

You can deduct your motor vehicle expenses if you meet **all** the following conditions:

 You were normally required to work away from your employer's place of business or in different places.

- Under your contract of employment, you had to pay your own motor vehicle expenses.
- You did not receive a non-taxable allowance for motor vehicle expenses. Generally, an allowance is non-taxable when it is based solely on a reasonable per-kilometre rate.
- You keep with your records a completed copy of Form T2200, *Declaration of Conditions of Employment*.

Sometimes, your employer will include an unreasonably low allowance as income on your T4 slip even though you do not want to claim any expenses. When this happens, have your employer complete and sign Part B of Form T2200, or get a letter from your employer stating that the allowance was unreasonably low. On line 229, deduct as an expense an amount equal to the allowance.

For more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-522, *Vehicle, Travel and Sales Expenses of Employees.* 

Chapter 6 explains motor vehicle expenses. Chapter 7 covers capital cost allowance in detail.

### **Travelling expenses**

Travelling expenses include food, beverage, and lodging expenses but not motor vehicle expenses. You can deduct travelling expenses as long as you meet **all** the following conditions:

- You were normally required to work away from your employer's place of business or in different places.
- Under your contract of employment, you had to pay your own travelling expenses.
- You did not receive a non-taxable allowance for travelling expenses. Generally, an allowance is non-taxable as long as it is a reasonable amount and is for travelling away from the municipality and metropolitan area (if there is one) of your employer's location where you normally work, or to which you normally report.
- You keep with your records a completed copy of Form T2200, *Declaration of Conditions of Employment*.

You can deduct food and beverage expenses if you have to be away for at least 12 hours from the municipality and the metropolitan area (if there is one) of your employer's location where you normally report for work.

The most you can deduct for food and beverage expenses is 50% of the lower of:

- the amount you actually paid; or
- an amount that is reasonable in the circumstances.

The 50% limit also applies to the cost of food and beverages you paid for when you travelled on an airplane, train, or bus, as long as the ticket price did not include such amounts.

If you are a transport employee claiming a deduction for meals and lodging, please see Form TL2 included with this guide.

If you want more information about travelling expenses, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-522, *Vehicle, Travel and Sales Expenses of Employees,* or Interpretation Bulletin IT-518, *Food, Beverages and Entertainment Expenses.* 

## **Parking**

You can deduct parking costs related to earning your employment income as long as you meet all the conditions listed in the section called "Allowable motor vehicle expenses (including capital cost allowance)" on page 6. Generally, you cannot deduct the cost of parking at your employer's office, such as monthly or daily parking fees. These are personal costs.

Do not include parking costs as part of your allowable motor vehicle expenses. Enter them on the "Parking" line on Form T777.

## **Supplies**

You can deduct the cost of supplies if you meet **all** the following conditions:

- Under your contract of employment, you had to provide and pay for the supplies.
- You used the supplies directly in your work.
- Your employer has not repaid and will not repay you for these expenses.
- You keep with your records a completed copy of Form T2200, Declaration of Conditions of Employment.

Supplies are only those materials you use directly in your work, and for nothing else.

Supplies include items such as pens, pencils, paper clips, stationery, stamps, street maps, and directories. Supplies do not include items such as briefcases or calculators.

You can deduct expenses you paid for telegrams and long-distance telephone calls, as long as you paid them to earn employment income. However, you cannot deduct the monthly basic rate for a telephone.

You can also deduct the percentage of the airtime expenses for a cellular telephone that reasonably relates to earning your employment income. However, you cannot deduct amounts you paid to connect or license the cellular telephone.

If you buy or lease a cellular telephone, fax machine, computer, or other such equipment, you cannot deduct the cost. Also, you cannot deduct capital cost allowance or interest you paid on money borrowed to buy this equipment.

You cannot deduct the cost of special clothing you wear or have to wear for your work. Also, you cannot deduct the cost of any tools that are considered as equipment.

Interpretation Bulletin IT-352, *Employee's Expenses, Including Work Space in Home Expenses*, has more details.

## Other expenses

**Salaries** – You can deduct the salary you paid to your substitute or assistant if you meet **all** the following conditions:

- Under your contract of employment, you had to pay for extra help.
- Your employer has not repaid and will not repay you for these expenses.

 You keep with your records a completed copy of Form T2200, Declaration of Conditions of Employment.

You may have to withhold income tax, Canada Pension Plan (CPP) or Quebec Pension Plan (QPP) contributions, and Employment Insurance (EI) premiums from the salary you paid. Report, on a T4 slip, the salary and amounts you withheld. For more information, get the employers' guide called *Payroll Deductions (Basic Information)*.

As the employer, you can also deduct as an expense your share of the CPP or QPP contributions and the EI premiums.

**Office rent** – You can deduct office rent if you meet **all** the following conditions:

- Under your contract of employment, you had to rent an office and pay the expenses.
- Your employer has not repaid and will not repay you for these expenses.
- You keep with your records a completed copy of Form T2200, Declaration of Conditions of Employment.

You can deduct office rent you paid if you paid it to earn your employment income. Do not confuse office rent with work-space-in-the-home expenses, which we discuss below.

### Work-space-in-the-home expenses

You can deduct expenses you paid in 2000 for the employment use of a work space in your home, as long as you had to pay for them under your contract of employment. These expenses must be used directly in your work and your employer has not reimbursed and will not reimburse you. Also, you must meet **one** of the following conditions:

- The work space is where you mainly do your work.
- You use the work space only to earn your employment income, and you use it on a regular and continuous basis for meeting clients or customers.

You can deduct a part of your maintenance costs, such as the cost of electricity, heating, and cleaning materials. However, you **cannot** deduct mortgage interest, property taxes, home insurance, or capital cost allowance. To calculate the percentage you can deduct, use a reasonable basis, such as the area of the work space divided by the total area.

If your office space is in a rented house or apartment where you live, deduct the percentage of the rent and any maintenance costs you paid that relates to the work space.

The amount you can deduct for work-space-in-the-home expenses cannot be more than your employment income after you deduct all employment expenses except work-space expenses. You cannot use work-space expenses to increase or create a loss from employment.

You can only deduct work-space expenses from the income to which the expenses relate, and not from any other income.

If you cannot deduct all your work-space expenses in the year, you can carry forward the expenses to the following year, as long as you are reporting income from the same employer. However, you cannot increase or create a loss from employment by carrying forward work-space expenses.

Interpretation Bulletin IT-352, Employee's Expenses, Including Work Space in Home Expenses, has more information.

# Chapter 4 – Employees Working in Forestry Operations

You can deduct expenses for running a chain saw if you had to pay for them under your contract of employment and if your employer will not be reimbursing you. Also, you have to meet **both** of the following conditions:

- you work in forestry operations; and
- you use the chain saw to earn your employment income.

You can deduct the cost of a chain saw in the year you buy it. However, you have to subtract from the purchase price of the new chain saw the value of any trade-in or any amount you received from the sale of any chain saw during the year.

When you file your return, attach a statement that breaks down the cost of running the chain saw. Also, complete Form T2200, *Declaration of Conditions of Employment*, have your employer complete and sign Part B, and keep it with your records.

Expenses to run a chain saw include any GST and provincial sales tax, or HST, you paid. Enter your chain saw expenses on line 229 of your return. You may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid. See Chapter 8 for details.

You cannot deduct expenses for travelling from your home to either the cutting site or a woods camp, or from a woods camp to the cutting site. These expenses are personal. You cannot deduct the cost of horses and harnesses, snowmobiles, or all-terrain vehicles because these are capital expenditures. Also, you cannot deduct capital cost allowance or interest you paid on money borrowed to buy them.

For more details, get Information Circular 74-6, *Power Saw Expenses*.

## **Chapter 5 - Employed Artists**

This chapter has two parts. Part 1 deals with employed artists' expenses in general. Part 2 deals with musical instrument costs.

## Part 1 – Artists' employment expenses

You can deduct expenses you paid in 2000 to earn employment income from an artistic activity if you did **any** of the following:

- composed a dramatic, musical, or literary work;
- performed as an actor, dancer, singer, or musician in a dramatic or musical work;
- performed an artistic activity as a member of a professional artists' association that the Minister of Canadian Heritage has certified; or

 created a painting, print, etching, drawing, sculpture, or similar work of art. For income tax purposes, it is not an artistic activity when you reproduce these items.

These expenses include any GST and provincial sales tax, or HST, you paid. You may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid. We discuss this rebate in Chapter 8.

The amount you can claim is limited to the **lesser** of:

- a) the expenses you actually paid in 2000; or
- b) the lesser of:
  - \$1,000; or
  - 20% of your employment income from artistic activities;

**minus** the following amounts you deducted from your income from an artistic activity:

- allowable musical instrument costs (see Part 2 of this chapter);
- interest for your motor vehicle (see Chapter 6); and
- capital cost allowance for your motor vehicle (see Chapter 7).

If you have expenses you cannot claim because of the 20% or \$1,000 limit, you can deduct them from artistic income you earn in a future year. Also, you can deduct amounts you carry forward from previous years from your artistic income earned in 2000, as long as the total expenses are within the above-noted limits for 2000.

Enter the amount you can deduct on the "Artists' employment expenses" line of Form T777.

If you earn artistic income from more than one employer, total your income and expenses before you calculate your claim. In other words, you cannot make a separate claim for each employer.

#### Note

As an employed artist, you can deduct expenses described in Chapter 3 if you meet the required conditions. If you can deduct expenses described in Chapter 3, you can choose to deduct these expenses separately from the other expenses you paid to earn artistic income. However, choose the option that gives you the greatest deduction in 2000, since you cannot carry forward expenses that you can deduct in 2000.

For example, Eric's 2000 employment income from artistic activities was \$20,000. During 2000, he paid expenses of \$950 for advertising, \$1,550 for travelling, and \$350 for musical instrument costs to earn this income. Eric meets the requirements for deducting his travelling expenses as explained in Chapter 3, and his musical instrument costs as discussed in Part 2 below. He should deduct these expenses separately, since this gives him a greater deduction for 2000. Eric calculates his artists' employment expenses as follows:

- a) \$950 (advertising expenses); or
- b) the lesser of:
  - \$1,000; or
  - \$4,000 (20% of \$20,000);

minus \$350 (musical instrument costs).

Amount b) is \$1.000 minus \$350 = \$650.

The lesser of a) or b) is \$650.

Eric calculates the amount to enter on line 229 of his return as follows:

Travelling expenses	\$1,550
Artists' employment expenses	650
Allowable musical instrument costs	350
Total to enter on line 229	\$2,550

### Part 2 – Musical instrument costs

If you are an employed musician, your employer may require you to provide your own musical instrument. If this is the case, you can deduct expenses you paid that relate to the musical instrument. Your musical instrument expenses include any GST and provincial sales tax, or HST, you paid on these expenses. You may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid. See Chapter 8 for details.

### **Deductible** expenses

The amounts you can deduct for your musical instrument are:

- maintenance costs;
- rental fees;
- insurance costs; and
- capital cost allowance (if you own the instrument).

However, the amount you deduct cannot be more than your income for the year from your employment as a musician, after deducting all employment expenses (except musical instrument expenses).

#### How to calculate your expenses

When you use your musical instrument for both employment and other purposes, divide the total instrument costs among the different uses. For example, if you are using your instrument for employment, self-employment, and personal purposes, separate all three uses. You cannot deduct personal expenses.

Enter your total expenses related to your employment income on line 229 of your return.

Use your self-employment expenses to calculate the net self-employment income you report on line 137 of your return. For more information, get the guide called *Business and Professional Income*.

#### Capital cost allowance

Use the back of Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*, to calculate the amount of capital cost allowance you can claim for your musical instrument. See Chapter 7 for more information.

#### Change in use

There are special rules for calculating the capital cost of depreciable property. These rules can apply when there is a change in use of the property from an income-earning purpose to some other purpose, or vice versa. We discuss this in more detail in Chapter 7.

For more information, get Interpretation Bulletin IT-525, *Performing Artists*.

# Chapter 6 – Motor Vehicle Expenses

You can deduct expenses you paid to run a motor vehicle you use to earn employment income. Your motor vehicle expenses include any GST and provincial sales tax, or HST, you paid on these expenses. You may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid. See Chapter 8 for details.

If you are an employee earning **commission income**, you can deduct expenses for your vehicle as long as you meet the conditions outlined in the section called "Employment conditions" on page 4.

If you are an employee earning a **salary**, you can deduct expenses for your vehicle as long as you meet the conditions outlined in the section called "Allowable motor vehicle expenses (including capital cost allowance)" on page 6.

## Keeping records

Since you can deduct motor vehicle expenses only when they are reasonable and you have receipts to support them, keep a record for each vehicle you used. The record should include the total kilometres you drove as well as the kilometres you drove to earn employment income. The record for each trip you took to earn employment income should list the date, destination, purpose, and number of kilometres. Be sure to record the odometer reading of each vehicle at the beginning and again at the end of the year.

If you change motor vehicles during the year, record the odometer reading of each vehicle at the time you buy, sell, or trade it. Be sure to write down the dates as well.

## **Deductible expenses**

The types of expenses you can deduct include:

- fuel and oil;
- maintenance and repairs;
- insurance;
- licence and registration fees;
- capital cost allowance (see Chapter 7);
- interest you paid on a loan used to buy the motor vehicle; and
- leasing costs.

Enter these amounts in the "Calculation of Allowable Motor Vehicle Expenses" area of Form T777.

## What kind of vehicle do you own?

For tax purposes, there are three types of vehicles you should know about. They are **motor vehicles**, **automobiles**, and **passenger vehicles**.

The kind of vehicle you use may affect the expenses you can deduct. If you own or lease a passenger vehicle, there may be a limit on the amounts you can deduct for capital cost allowance, interest, and leasing costs. We explain the limits for capital cost allowance on page 14, and interest expense and leasing costs on page 11.

#### Motor vehicle

An automotive vehicle designed or adapted for use on highways and streets, but not a trolley bus, or a vehicle designed or adapted to be operated exclusively on rails.

#### **Automobile**

A motor vehicle designed or adapted primarily to carry people on highways and streets, that seats a driver and no more than eight passengers.

An automobile does not include:

- an ambulance;
- a motor vehicle you bought to use mainly (more than 50%) as a taxi, a bus to transport passengers, or a hearse in a funeral business;
- a motor vehicle you bought to sell, rent, or lease in a motor vehicle sales, rental, or leasing business;
- a motor vehicle (except a hearse) you bought to use in a funeral business to transport passengers; or
- certain vans, pick-up trucks, or similar vehicles (see the "Vehicle definitions chart" on page 11 for details).

#### Passenger vehicle

A passenger vehicle is an automobile you bought after June 17, 1987, or leased under a lease you entered into, extended, or renewed after June 17, 1987.

An automobile you bought or leased under the terms of a written agreement entered into before June 18, 1987, is not a passenger vehicle.

Most cars, station wagons, vans, and some pick-up trucks are passenger vehicles. They are subject to the limits for capital cost allowance, interest, and leasing costs.

The "Vehicle definitions chart" on page 11 should help you determine what type of vehicle you have. It does not cover every situation, but should give you some idea of how the definitions work for vehicles bought or leased after June 17, 1987.

## Joint ownership

If you and somebody else own or lease the same passenger vehicle, the limits on capital cost allowance, interest, and leasing costs still apply. The total amount the joint owners can claim cannot be more than the amount that would be allowed if only one person had owned or leased the vehicle.

## Employment use of a motor vehicle

If you use a motor vehicle for both employment and personal use, you can deduct only the percentage of expenses related to earning income. To support the amount you can deduct, keep a record of both the total kilometres

you drove and the kilometres you drove to earn employment income. We consider driving back and forth between home and work as personal use.

If you use more than one motor vehicle to earn employment income, calculate each vehicle's expenses separately.

## Interest expense

You can deduct interest you paid on money you borrowed to buy a motor vehicle, automobile, or passenger vehicle that you use to earn employment income. Include the interest you paid when you calculate your allowable motor vehicle expenses.

If you use a **passenger vehicle** to earn employment income, there is a **limit** on the amount of interest you can deduct.

Use the "Available interest expense for passenger vehicles chart" to calculate the amount you can deduct. Enter your available interest expense amount on line 10 of Form T777.

Available interest expense for passenger vehicles chart		
Total interest paid in the year	\$A	
\$8.33* × the number of days for which interest was paid	\$B	
The available interest expense is the <b>lo</b> amount A or amount B.	wer of	
*Note For passenger vehicles bought <b>after</b> August 31, 1989, and <b>before</b> January 1, 1997, use \$10.00. Use \$8.33 in all		

Vehicle definitions chart				
Type of vehicle	Seating (includes driver)	Business use in year bought or leased	Vehicle definition	
Coupe, sedan, station wagon, sports, or luxury car	1 to 9	1% to 100%	passenger	
Pick-up truck used to transport goods or equipment	1 to 3	more than 50%	motor	
Pick-up truck (other than above)	1 to 3	1% to 100%	passenger	
Pick-up truck with extended cab used to transport goods, equipment, or passengers	4 to 9	90% or more	motor	
Pick-up truck with extended cab (other than above)	4 to 9	1% to 100%	passenger	
Sport-utility used to transport goods, equipment, or passengers	4 to 9	90% or more	motor	
Sport-utility (other than above)	4 to 9	1% to 100%	passenger	
Van or minivan used to transport goods or equipment	1 to 3	more than 50%	motor	
Van or minivan (other than above)	1 to 3	1% to 100%	passenger	
Van or minivan used to transport goods, equipment, or passengers	4 to 9	90% or more	motor	
Van or minivan (other than above)	4 to 9	1% to 100%	passenger	

other cases.

## Leasing costs

You can deduct amounts you paid to lease a motor vehicle you used to earn employment income. Include the leasing costs you paid when you calculate your allowable motor vehicle expenses.

If you use a passenger vehicle to earn employment income, there is a limit on the amount of the leasing costs you can deduct. Use one of the charts below to calculate your eligible leasing costs. The chart you use will depend on when you leased your vehicle. Choose the chart that applies to you. Please note that if you are still using a passenger vehicle to earn employment income that was leased before January 1, 1991, contact us. Enter your eligible leasing costs on line 11 of Form T777.

#### Note

Most leases do not include items such as insurance, maintenance, and taxes. You have to pay these amounts separately. Therefore, list these expenses separately on Form T777. Do not include them on line 1 when you complete the applicable chart below.

If the lease agreement for your passenger vehicle includes items such as insurance, maintenance, and taxes, include them as part of the lease charges on line 1 when you complete the applicable chart below.

Chart A Eligible leasing costs for passenger vehicles leased after December 31, 19	99	
Enter the total lease charges paid for the vehicle in 2000	\$	1
Enter the total lease payments deducted for the vehicle before 2000	\$	2
Enter the total number of days the vehicle was leased in 2000 and previous years		3
Enter the manufacturer's list price	\$	4
\$31,765 + GST and PST, or HST on \$31,765	= \$	5
Enter the amount from line 4 or line 5, whichever is more: \$ × 85%	= \$	6
(\$700 + GST and PST, or HST on \$700) × line 3 = \$ ÷ 30 = \$ line 2	= \$	7
(\$27,000 + GST and PST, or HST on \$27,000) × line 1 = \$ ÷ line 6	= \$	8
Your eligible leasing cost is the lower of the amounts on line 7 or line 8.		

Chart B Eligible leasing costs for passenger vehicles leased after December 31, 1997, and before January 1, 2000			
Enter the total lease charges paid for the vehicle in 2000	\$	1	
Enter the total lease payments deducted for the vehicle before 2000	\$	2	
Enter the total number of days the vehicle was leased in 2000 and previous years		3	
Enter the manufacturer's list price	\$	4	
\$30,588 + GST and PST, or HST on \$30,588	= \$	5	
Enter the amount from line 4 or line 5, whichever is more: \$ × 85%	= \$	6	
(\$650 + GST and PST, or HST on \$650) × line 3 = \$ ÷ 30 = \$ – line 2	= \$	7	
(\$26,000 + GST and PST, or HST on \$ 26,000) × line 1 = \$ ÷ line 6	= \$	8	
Your eligible leasing cost is the lower of the amounts on line 7 or line 8.	•		

Chart C Eligible leasing costs for passenger vehicles leased after December 31, 1996, and bef	ore January 1, 199	98
Enter the total lease charges paid for the vehicle in 2000	\$	1
Enter the total lease payments deducted for the vehicle before 2000	\$	2
Enter the total number of days the vehicle was leased in 2000 and previous years		3
Enter the manufacturer's list price	\$	4
\$29,412 + GST and PST, or HST on \$29,412	= \$	5
Enter the amount from line 4 or line 5, whichever is more: \$ × 85%	= \$	6
(\$550 + GST and PST, or HST on \$550) × line 3 = \$ ÷ 30 = \$ – line 2	= \$	7
(\$25,000 + GST and PST, or HST on \$25,000) × line 1 = \$ ÷ line 6	= \$	8
Your eligible leasing cost is the lower of the amounts on line 7 or line 8.		

Chart D Eligible leasing costs for passenger vehicles leased after December 31, 1990, and before January 1, 1997			
Enter the total lease charges paid for the vehicle in 2000	\$	1	
Enter the total lease payments deducted for the vehicle before 2000	\$	2	
Enter the total number of days the vehicle was leased in 2000 and previous years		3	
Enter the manufacturer's list price	\$	4	
\$28,235 + GST and PST, or HST on \$28,235	= \$	5	
Enter the amount from line 4 or line 5, whichever is more: \$ × 85%	= \$	6	
(\$650 + GST and PST, or HST on \$650) × line 3 = \$ ÷ 30 = \$ line 2	= \$	7	
(\$24,000 + GST and PST, or HST on \$24,000) × line 1 = \$ ÷ line 6	= \$	8	
Your eligible leasing cost is the lower of the amounts on line 7 or line 8.			

#### Example

On February 1, 2000, Vivian, a resident of Ontario, began leasing a car that meets the definition of a passenger vehicle. She used the car to earn employment income. Vivian will complete Chart A using the following information for 2000:

■ Monthly lease payment\$	500
■ Lease payments for 2000\$	5,500
■ Manufacturer's suggested list price	3,000
■ Number of days the car was leased in 2000	335
■ GST (\$27,000 × 7% GST = \$1,890) and PST (\$27,000 × 8% = \$2,160)\$	1,050
■ GST (\$31,765 × 7% = \$2,224) and PST (\$31,765 × 8% = \$2,541)\$	1,765
■ GST (\$700 × 7% = \$49) and PST (\$700 × 8% = \$56)	105

Chart A - Example	
Total lease charges paid for the vehicle in 2000	\$ <u>5,500</u> 1
Total lease payments deducted for the vehicle before 2000	\$ <u> </u>
Total number of days the vehicle was leased in 2000 and previous years	<u>335</u> 3
The manufacturer's list price	\$ <u>28,000</u> 4
\$31,765 + GST and PST, or HST on \$31,765	= \$ <u>36,530</u> 5
Enter the amount from line 4 or line 5, whichever is more: \$36,530 × 85%	= \$ <u>31,050</u> 6
$(\$700 + 49 + 56 = \$805) \times \text{line } 3 = 269,675 \div 30 = 8,989 - \text{line } 2$	= \$ <u>8,989</u> 7
(\$27,000 + 4,050 = \$31,050) × line 1 = 170,775,000 ÷ line 6	= \$ <u>5,500</u> 8
Vivian would enter \$5,500 (the lower of the amounts on line 7 or line 8) on line 11 of Form T777.	

## Repayments and imputed interest

When you lease a passenger vehicle, you may have either a repayment owing to you, or you may have **imputed interest**. If this is your situation, you cannot use the preceding leasing charts. Instead, contact us.

Imputed interest is interest that would be owing to you if you were paid interest on money you deposited to lease a passenger vehicle. You can only calculate imputed interest for leasing costs on a passenger vehicle if **all** the following apply:

- you made one or more deposits for the leased passenger vehicle:
- all deposits are refundable; and
- the deposits total more than \$1,000.

# Chapter 7 - Capital Cost Allowance (Depreciation)

You cannot deduct the cost of a property such as a vehicle or musical instrument that you use to earn your income. However, you can deduct a percentage of the property's cost. The portion of the cost you can deduct or claim is called **depreciation** or, for income tax purposes, **capital cost allowance** (CCA).

#### **Definitions**

You may need to know the meaning of certain terms before you can determine your claim for CCA.

**Capital cost** is the amount on which you first claim CCA. Generally, the capital cost of the property is what you pay for it. Capital cost also includes items such as delivery charges, the GST and provincial sales tax, or HST.

**Depreciable property** is any property on which you can claim CCA. Depreciable properties are usually grouped into classes. Your CCA claim is based on the class of your property.

**Fair market value** is usually the highest dollar value you can get for your property in an open and unrestricted market between a willing buyer and a willing seller who are acting independently of each other.

**Proceeds of disposition** is usually the amount you received or will receive for your property. In most cases, it refers to the sale price of the property. When you trade in a property to buy a new one, your proceeds of disposition are the amount you receive for the trade-in.

**Undepreciated capital cost (UCC)** is the balance of the capital cost left for further depreciation at any given time. The amount of CCA you claim each year will lower the UCC of the property.

## Can you claim CCA?

If you are an employee earning **commission income**, you can claim CCA on your vehicle if you meet the conditions outlined in the section called "Employment conditions" on page 4 in Chapter 2.

If you are an employee earning a **salary**, you can claim CCA on your vehicle if you meet the conditions outlined in the section called "Allowable motor vehicle expenses (including capital cost allowance)" on page 6 in Chapter 3.

If you are an **employed musician**, you can claim CCA on a musical instrument if you had to provide the musical instrument as a term of employment.

You do not have to claim the maximum amount of CCA in any given year. You can claim any amount you wish, from zero up to the maximum allowed for the year.

Use the back of Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*, to calculate your CCA claim. You will find two copies of Form T777 in this guide.

Interpretation Bulletin IT-522, *Vehicle, Travel and Sales Expenses of Employees*, has more details about CCA.

## Classes of depreciable properties

Depreciable properties are usually grouped into classes. To claim CCA, you should know about the following classes:

#### Class 8

The maximum CCA rate for this class is 20%. Musical instruments are included in Class 8.

#### Class 10

The maximum CCA rate for this class is 30%.

You include motor vehicles, automobiles, and some passenger vehicles in Class 10. We define motor vehicles, automobiles, and passenger vehicles in the section called "What kind of vehicle do you own?" on page 10.

Your passenger vehicle can belong to either Class 10 or Class 10.1. You only include a passenger vehicle in Class 10.1 if it meets certain conditions. We explain these conditions below.

## **Class 10.1**

The maximum CCA rate for this class is 30%.

The maximum capital cost of each vehicle that may be included in Class 10.1 is \$27,000 plus GST and provincial sales tax (PST), or HST.

Include your passenger vehicle in Class 10.1 if it meets **one** of the following conditions:

- you acquired it before September 1, 1989, and it cost you more than \$20,000;
- you acquired it after August 31, 1989, and before January 1, 1997, and it cost you more than \$24,000;
- you acquired it after December 31, 1996, and before January 1, 1998, and it cost you more than \$25,000;

- you acquired it after December 31, 1997, and before January 1, 2000, and it cost you more than \$26,000; or
- you acquired it after December 31, 1999, and it cost you more than \$27,000.

If your passenger vehicle does not meet any of the above conditions, then it belongs in Class 10.

To determine what class your passenger vehicle belongs to, **do not** include the GST and PST, or HST, when calculating the vehicle's cost. This applies to all passenger vehicles bought after December 31, 1990.

The following compares the two CCA classes for vehicles:

	Class 10	<b>Class 10.1</b>
CCA rate	30%	30%
Group all vehicles in one class	yes	no
List each vehicle separately	no	yes
Maximum capital cost	no	yes
50% rule on acquisitions	yes	yes
Half-year rule on sale	no	yes
Recapture on sale or trade-in	yes	no
Terminal loss on sale or trade-in	no	no

Because of the differences between Class 10 and Class 10.1, there are two separate parts (Part A and Part B) on the capital cost allowance schedule on the back of Form T777.

Use **Part A** to calculate CCA for both Class 8 and Class 10 property, since the rules for these two classes are similar.

Use **Part B** to calculate CCA on Class 10.1 property only. List each vehicle that belongs in Class 10.1 on a separate line. Calculate CCA separately for each vehicle listed.

# How to calculate capital cost allowance

The following information will help you complete Part A and Part B of the capital cost allowance schedule.

If this is the first year you are claiming CCA, skip column 2 and start with column 3. If this is not the first year you are claiming CCA, start with column 2. Then complete the rest of the columns as they apply.

#### Part A - Classes 8 and 10 property

**Column 2** – Undepreciated capital cost at the beginning of the year

If you claimed CCA in any previous year, record in this column the undepreciated capital cost (UCC) of the property at the end of last year. For instance, if you completed Part A in 1999, you would have recorded this amount in column 10. However, if you received a GST/HST rebate for a vehicle or musical instrument in 2000, you have to reduce your opening UCC by the amount of the rebate.

**Column 3** – Cost of acquisitions during the year If you acquired depreciable property in 2000, enter the total capital cost of the property on the appropriate line.

If you owned property for personal use and then started using it for employment in 2000, there is a change in use. In most cases when this happens, the amount you will enter in column 3 is the fair market value of the property.

For example, Ernest bought a car in 1996 for \$19,000. In 2000, he started using it for employment. By checking car dealerships and the newspapers, Ernest determines its fair market value is \$11,000. Therefore, he enters \$11,000 in column 3.

To determine what class your passenger vehicle belongs to, use the price of the car before you add the GST and any provincial sales tax (PST), or HST. However, once you determine that your vehicle belongs to Class 10, add the GST and PST, or HST, you paid in the vehicle's capital cost.

For example, on June 21, 2000, you bought a passenger vehicle for \$24,000 plus GST of \$1,680 and PST of \$1,920. Your vehicle belongs in Class 10 even though its capital cost is \$27,600 (\$24,000 + \$1,680 + \$1,920), since your cost before the GST and PST was \$24,000. You would enter \$27,600 in column 3 for Class 10 property.

For information on Class 10.1 property, see the section called "Part B – Class 10.1 property" on this page.

**Column 4** – Proceeds of disposition during the year For depreciable property you disposed of in 2000, enter the **lesser** of:

- the proceeds of disposition of the property, minus the related outlays and expenses; or
- the capital cost of the property.

**Column 5** – Undepreciated capital cost after acquisitions and dispositions

Enter the amount you get after you add column 2 to column 3, and subtract column 4.

You cannot claim CCA when the amount in column 5 is:

- negative; or
- positive, and you do not have any property in the class at the end of the year.

**Recapture of capital cost allowance** – If the amount in column 5 is negative, you have a recapture of CCA. Include the amount in your income for 2000.

**Terminal loss** – If the amount in column 5 is positive and you no longer own any property in that class, you have a terminal loss. You cannot deduct the terminal loss from income.

Column 6 – Adjustments for current-year acquisitions You can only claim CCA on 50% of your net acquisitions (acquisitions minus dispositions) of Class 8 or Class 10 properties in 2000. This is known as the 50% rule. In column 6, enter 50% of the amount you get when you subtract column 4 from column 3. If column 4 is more than column 3, enter "nil" in column 6.

**Column 7** – Base amount for capital cost allowance claim

Enter the amount you get when you subtract column 6 from column 5. Base your CCA claim, if any, on the amount in this column. You can only claim CCA on the balance remaining in column 7 when the amount is positive and you still have property in the class at the end of the year.

Column 9 – Capital cost allowance for the year You can only claim CCA if you were still using the property for employment at the end of 2000. If you started using a property for employment part way through the year, you can claim CCA on the property for the full year. You do not have to limit your CCA claim to the part of the year you used the property for employment. If you stopped using the property for employment during the year, you cannot claim any CCA on the property for the year.

Enter the CCA you want to claim for 2000. The most you can claim for a Class 10 property is 30% of the amount in column 7. The most you can claim for a Class 8 property is 20% of the amount in column 7.

**Column 10** – Undepreciated capital cost at the end of the year

Enter the amount you get when you subtract column 9 from column 5. This is your undepreciated capital cost at the end of 2000.

Part B - Class 10.1 property

List each vehicle that belongs in Class 10.1 on a separate line.

**Column 2** – Undepreciated capital cost at the beginning of the year

If you claimed CCA in any previous year for a Class 10.1 vehicle, record in this column the undepreciated capital cost (UCC) of that vehicle at the end of last year. For instance, if you completed Part B in 1999, you would have recorded this amount in column 8. However, if you received a GST/HST rebate for that vehicle in 2000, you have to reduce your opening UCC by the amount of the rebate.

Column 3 – Cost of acquisitions during the year To determine what class your passenger vehicle belongs to, use the price of the car before you add the GST and any PST, or HST. However, include the GST and PST, or HST, in the vehicle's capital cost.

For a passenger vehicle you acquired in 2000 that cost you more than \$27,000 before GST and PST, or HST, the amount you record is \$27,000 plus the GST and PST, or HST, you would have paid on \$27,000.

For example, if you bought a passenger vehicle on July 24, 2000, that cost \$27,500 before the GST and PST, or HST, your vehicle belongs in Class 10.1. Assume the GST on \$27,000 is \$1,890 and the PST is \$2,160. Your capital cost is \$31,050 (\$27,000 + \$1,890 + \$2,160). You enter \$31,050 in column 3.

There is a limit on the capital cost of a Class 10.1 vehicle you acquire from a person with whom you have a non-arm's-length relationship. Generally, such a relationship happens when the person from whom you acquire the vehicle is a relative. A non-arm's-length relationship can also happen in certain business relationships.

In this case, the capital cost is the **least** of the following three amounts:

- the fair market value of the vehicle at the time you acquired it;
- \$27,000 plus the GST and PST, or HST, you would have paid on \$27,000 if you had acquired the vehicle in 2000; and
- the seller's cost amount of the vehicle immediately before you acquired it. The cost amount can vary depending on what the seller used the vehicle for before you acquired it. If the seller used the vehicle to earn income, the cost amount will be the undepreciated capital cost of the vehicle immediately before you acquired it. When the seller was not using the vehicle to earn income, the cost amount will usually be the original cost of the vehicle.

**Column 4** – Proceeds of disposition during the year For a Class 10.1 vehicle you disposed of in 2000, record the **lesser** of:

- the proceeds of disposition of the property, **minus** the related outlays and expenses; or
- the capital cost of the vehicle.

**Column 5** – Base amount for capital cost allowance claim

Base your CCA claim, if any, on the amount in this column.

If you owned the vehicle in 2000 and still owned it at the end of 2000, enter in column 5 the same amount you entered in column 2.

You can only claim CCA on 50% of the capital cost of a Class 10.1 vehicle you acquired in 2000. This is known as the **50% rule**. Therefore, in column 5, enter 50% of the amount in column 3, as long as you still owned the vehicle at the end of 2000. If you acquired and disposed of the same Class 10.1 vehicle in 2000, enter "nil" in column 5.

For a Class 10.1 vehicle you disposed of in 2000, you may be able to claim 50% of the CCA that would be allowed if you still owned the vehicle at the end of the year. This is known as the **half-year rule on sale**.

You can use the half-year rule if you owned, at the end of your 1999 tax year, the class 10.1 vehicle you sold in 2000. If you meet this condition, enter 50% of the amount from column 2 in column 5.

Column 7 – Capital cost allowance for the year Claim CCA if you were still using the vehicle for employment at the end of 2000. If you started using a vehicle for employment part way through the year, you can claim CCA on the vehicle for the full year. You do not have to limit your CCA claim to the part of the year that you used the vehicle for employment.

Record the CCA you want to claim for 2000. The most you can claim is 30% of the amount in column 5.

**Column 8** - Undepreciated capital cost at the end of the year

Calculate the undepreciated capital cost at the end of 2000 as follows:

- For a Class 10.1 vehicle you owned in 1999 and still owned at the end of 2000, enter the amount you get after you subtract the amount in column 7 from the amount in column 2.
- For a Class 10.1 vehicle you acquired during 2000 and still owned at the end of 2000, enter the amount you get after you subtract the amount in column 7 from the amount in column 3.
- For a Class 10.1 vehicle you disposed of during 2000, enter "nil" in column 8. The recapture and terminal loss rules do not apply to a Class 10.1 vehicle.

# Chapter 8 – Employee Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax (GST/HST) Rebate

On April 1, 1997, the provincial sales taxes in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and New Brunswick were harmonized with the goods and services tax (GST) to create the harmonized sales tax (HST). For the rest of this chapter, we call these the participating provinces.

As an employee, you may have incurred expenses in the course of your employment duties. Some of these expenses you paid may have included the GST/HST. If you deducted these expenses from your employment income, you may be able to get a rebate of the GST/HST you paid on these expenses. Claim the rebate on line 457 of your income tax return.

If the GST/HST rebate is for your expenses, include the rebate in your income for the year you received it. Report the amount on line 104 of your income tax return.

If the GST/HST rebate is for a vehicle or musical instrument you bought, it will affect your claim for capital cost allowance in the year you receive the rebate. If this applies to you, reduce the capital cost of your vehicle or musical instrument by the amount of the rebate. See Chapter 7 for details. Do not include the rebate on line 104 of your income tax return.

It is important for you to keep proper records so you can identify the expenses that included the GST/HST. See Chapter 1 for more information on keeping records.

## Do you qualify for the rebate?

As an employee, you may qualify for a rebate if:

- you paid GST/HST on certain employment-related expenses and deducted those expenses on your income tax return; and
- your employer is a GST/HST registrant.

You do not qualify for a GST/HST rebate if your employer:

- is not a GST/HST registrant; or
- is a listed financial institution as defined in the Excise Tax Act (for example, an entity that was at any time during the year a bank, an investment dealer, a trust company, an insurance company, a credit union, or a corporation whose principal business is lending money).

## Expenses that qualify for the rebate

You can only apply for a rebate for the GST/HST you paid on expenses that you deducted on your income tax return. You must have paid the GST/HST before claiming the rebate. Common examples of eligible expenses are described in Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 5 of this guide.

### Non-eligible expenses

Non-eligible expenses include the following:

- Expenses on which you did not pay GST/HST, such as:
  - most goods and services you acquired before 1991;
  - most expenses you incurred outside Canada (e.g., gasoline, accommodation, meals, and entertainment);
  - certain expenses such as basic groceries; and
  - expenses that are not subject to GST/HST including medical underwriting fees, insurance premiums, bonding premiums, mortgage interest, residential rents, interest, motor vehicle licence and registration fees, and salaries.
- Expenses you incurred when your employer was not a GST/HST registrant.
- Expenses that relate to an allowance you received from your employer that is not reported in Area C of the GST/HST rebate application for example, an allowance that was not included in your income as a taxable benefit because it was a reasonable allowance.
- Any personal-use portion of an eligible expense.
- An expense or part of an expense for which you were reimbursed or are entitled to be reimbursed by your employer.

#### Capital cost allowance

You can claim a GST/HST rebate based on the amount of capital cost allowance (CCA) you claimed on motor vehicles and musical instruments on which you paid GST/HST. If you claim CCA on more than one property of the same class, you have to calculate the portion of CCA that relates to the property that qualifies for a rebate.

You cannot claim a rebate for CCA claimed on motor vehicles and musical instruments you bought before 1991, since you did not pay GST/HST on them.

In most cases, you cannot claim a GST/HST rebate on the CCA claimed on motor vehicles and musical instruments that relates to any allowance your employer paid you on those properties. However, you can claim a rebate if it relates to an allowance your employer reports in Area C of

the rebate application form. You cannot claim a rebate on CCA claimed on property for which you received a non-taxable allowance.

If you paid 7% GST when you bought your motor vehicle or musical instrument, you can claim a rebate of 7/107 of the CCA you claimed on your return. If you paid 15% HST, you can claim a rebate of 15/115 of the CCA you claimed on your return.

In certain cases, you may have to do an additional calculation if you bought your motor vehicle or musical instrument outside a participating province and brought the property into a participating province. For more information, read the section called "Situation 5 – Property and services brought into a participating province" on page 19.

## Filing deadline

You should file your rebate application with your income tax return for the year in which you deduct the expenses.

However, if you do not file your application when you file your income tax return, you have up to four years from the end of the year to which the expenses relate to file an application. We use the calendar year in which you incur the expense to determine the four-year period for employees.

If you file your application late, send in a letter with it. In this letter, include details such as your social insurance number, and the tax year to which the application relates.

## Rebate restriction

You can only file one GST/HST rebate application for each tax year.

You cannot get a rebate if:

- we previously refunded, remitted, or credited the tax to you;
- you have claimed or are entitled to claim an input tax credit for the amount; or
- you received or are entitled to receive a rebate, refund, or remission under any other section of the Excise Tax Act or any other act of Parliament for the same expense.

## Overpayment of a rebate

If you receive an overpayment of a rebate, you have to repay the excess. We charge interest on any balance you owe.

# How to complete your rebate application

You must complete areas A, B, and D of Form GST370, *Employee and Partner GST/HST Rebate Application*. If applicable, your employer has to complete Area C. Use a separate form for each tax year.

#### Area A - Identification

The "taxation year of claim" should be the same year as the return for which you are claiming the rebate.

#### Area B - Rebate calculation

Calculate your rebate based on the expenses you deducted on your income tax return. These expenses include GST/HST, provincial sales tax, and tips.

For eligible expenses on which you paid 7% GST, you can claim a rebate of 7/107 of those expenses. For eligible expenses on which you paid 15% HST, you can claim a rebate of 15/115 of those expenses.

In certain cases, you may have to do an additional calculation if you bought property and services outside a participating province and brought them into a participating province. For more information, see the section called "Situation 5 – Property and services brought into a participating province" on page 19.

Refer to the following situations to determine how to calculate your rebate based on your particular case. When you calculate your rebate, use only the expenses deducted on your return.

# Situation 1 – The only expenses you deducted are union, professional, or similar dues

Not all union, professional, or similar dues that you claimed on line 212 of your return are subject to GST/HST. Your receipt for these dues should indicate whether GST/HST was charged. If these dues are the only expense you deducted, do not complete the charts on the back of the form.

If you paid 7% GST, enter on lines 1 and 3 of Area B, the amount of the expense minus any amount you were directly reimbursed. Multiply the amount on line 3 by 7/107 and enter the result on line 4.

If you paid 15% HST, enter on lines 5 and 7 of Area B, the amount of the expense minus any amount you were directly reimbursed. Multiply the amount on line 7 by 15/115 and enter the result on line 8.

Add lines 4 and 8, then enter the result on line 13. The amount on line 13 is your total rebate claim. Enter this amount on line 457 of your income tax return. Do not forget to complete Area D.

Situation 2 – You deducted only 7% GST expenses Before completing Area B, complete Chart 1 on the back of the form to determine your total expenses eligible for the GST rebate. Do not complete Chart 2, since you did not pay 15% HST on any of your expenses.

Enter in column 1 of Chart 1, the employment expenses you deducted on your return. You calculated these amounts on Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*, or on Form TL2, *Claim for Meals and Lodging Expenses*.

Also, if applicable, enter in column 1 of Chart 1, the union, professional, or similar dues you claimed on line 212 of your return and on which you paid 7% GST minus any amount you were directly reimbursed. Your receipt for these dues should indicate whether GST was charged.

Do not enter any amount in the black areas of Chart 1, since these expenses are not eligible for the rebate. Enter in column 2, the portion of any expenses included in column 1 that is not eligible for the rebate. You will find a list of non-eligible expenses on page 17. For each expense, subtract the amount in column 2 from the amount in column 1. Enter the result in column 3. Total the expenses other than CCA in column 3. Enter the result in box A of column 3. If you claimed CCA, subtract any non-eligible CCA in column 2 from your total CCA in column 1. Enter the result in box B of column 3.

Copy the amounts from boxes A and B of Chart 1 to lines 1 and 2 respectively of Area B on the front of the form. Add line 1 and line 2 in Area B and enter the result on line 3. Multiply line 3 by 7/107 and enter the result on line 4.

If Situation 5 described on page 19 does not apply to you, copy the amount from line 4 to line 13. This is your total rebate claim. Enter this amount on line 457 of your income tax return.

Situation 3 – You deducted only 15% HST expenses Before completing Area B, complete Chart 2 on the back of the form to determine your total expenses eligible for the HST rebate. Do not complete Chart 1, since you did not pay 7% GST on any of your expenses.

Enter in column 1 of Chart 2, the employment expenses you deducted on your return. You calculated these amounts on Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*, or on Form TL2, *Claim for Meals and Lodging Expenses*.

Also, if applicable, enter in column 1 of Chart 2 the union, professional, or similar dues you claimed on line 212 of your return and for which you paid 15% HST minus any amount you were directly reimbursed. Your receipt for these dues should indicate whether HST was charged.

Do not enter any amount in the black areas of Chart 2, since these expenses are not eligible for the rebate.

Enter in column 2, the portion of any expenses included in column 1 that is not eligible for the rebate. You will find a list of non-eligible expenses on page 17. For each expense, subtract the amount in column 2 from the amount in column 1. Enter the result in column 3. Total the expenses other than CCA in column 3. Enter the result in box C of column 3. If you claimed CCA, subtract any non-eligible CCA in column 2 from your total CCA in column 1. Enter the result in box D of column 3.

Copy the amounts from boxes C and D of Chart 2 to lines 5 and 6 respectively of Area B on the front of the form. Add line 5 and line 6 of Area B and enter the result on line 7. Multiply line 7 by 15/115 and enter the result on line 8.

If Situation 5 described on page 19 does not apply to you, copy the amount from line 8 to line 13. This is your total rebate claim. Enter this amount on line 457 of your income tax return.

# Situation 4 – You deducted both 7% GST and 15% HST expenses

Before completing Area B, complete Chart 1 and Chart 2 on the other side of the form to determine the total expenses eligible for the GST and HST rebate. Use Chart 1 to calculate the total eligible expenses on which you paid 7% GST. Use Chart 2 to calculate the total eligible expenses on which you paid 15% HST.

You calculated your employment expenses using Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*, or Form TL2, *Claim for Meals and Lodging Expenses*. Separate the expenses on which you paid 7% GST from those expenses on which you paid 15% HST. Enter the 7% GST expenses in column 1 of Chart 1, and the 15% HST expenses in column 1 of Chart 2.

Also, if applicable, enter in column 1 of Chart 1 and Chart 2 respectively the union, professional, or similar dues that you claimed on line 212 of your return and on which you paid the 7% GST or 15% HST minus any amount you were directly reimbursed. Your receipt for these dues should indicate whether GST or HST was charged.

Do not enter any amount in the black areas, since these expenses are not eligible for the rebate.

Enter in column 2 of each chart, the portion of any expenses included in column 1 that is not eligible for the rebate. You will find a list of non-eligible expenses on page 17. For each expense, subtract the amount in column 2 from the amount in column 1. Enter the result in column 3. Total the expenses other than CCA in column 3. Enter the result in boxes A and C in column 3 of Charts 1 and 2. If you claimed CCA, subtract any non-eligible CCA in column 2 from your total CCA in column 1. Enter the result in boxes B and D in column 3 of Charts 1 and 2.

Copy the amount from boxes A and B of Chart 1 to lines 1 and 2 respectively of Area B on the front of the form. Copy the amount from boxes C and D of Chart 2 to lines 5 and 6 respectively of Area B. Add line 1 and line 2 of Area B and enter the result on line 3. Multiply the amount on line 3 by 7/107 and enter the result on line 4. Add line 5 and line 6 of Area B and enter the result on line 7. Multiply the amount on line 7 by 15/115 and enter the result on line 8.

If Situation 5 described on this page does not apply to you, add lines 4 and 8 and enter the result on line 13. This is your total rebate claim. Enter this amount on line 457 of your income tax return.

# Situation 5 - Property and services brought into a participating province

You may be able to claim a rebate of 8/108 for eligible expenses deducted on your income tax return for which you paid the 8% provincial component of HST separately. This **excludes** any expenses for which you paid 15% HST. You may have paid the 8% provincial component of HST separately in situations where:

- you purchased goods in a non-participating province and brought them into a participating province;
- you imported commercial goods into a participating province from outside Canada; or

you had goods delivered or made available to you in a participating province, or sent by mail or courier to you at an address in a participating province from a non-registered non-resident of Canada.

If Situation 5 applies to you, contact Business Enquiries at 1-800-959-5525.

## Area C - Declaration by claimant's employer

You may want to claim a rebate for expenses that relate to a taxable allowance. A taxable allowance will be included in box 40 of your T4 slip. If so, your employer or an authorized officer has to complete Area C. An authorized officer includes an immediate supervisor, controller, or office manager.

You cannot claim a rebate for expenses for which you received a non-taxable allowance. A non-taxable allowance is an allowance that was considered reasonable at the time it was paid.

#### Area D - Certification

Sign the certification area. If you don't, it may delay or invalidate your GST/HST rebate claim.

## After completing your rebate application

After completing Form GST370, attach a copy to your income tax return and enter the amount of your claim on line 457 of your income tax return. Keep a copy of the form for your records.

#### Quebec sales tax rebate

Some of the expenses you paid to earn your employment income may have included the Quebec provincial sales tax (QST). If you deducted these expenses from your employment income, you may be able to receive a rebate of the QST you paid. This rebate also applies to the QST you paid on a musical instrument you use to earn employment income. Claim the QST rebate on line 459 of your Quebec provincial return.

If the QST rebate is for your expenses, include the rebate in your income for the year you received it. Report the amount on line 104 of your federal return.

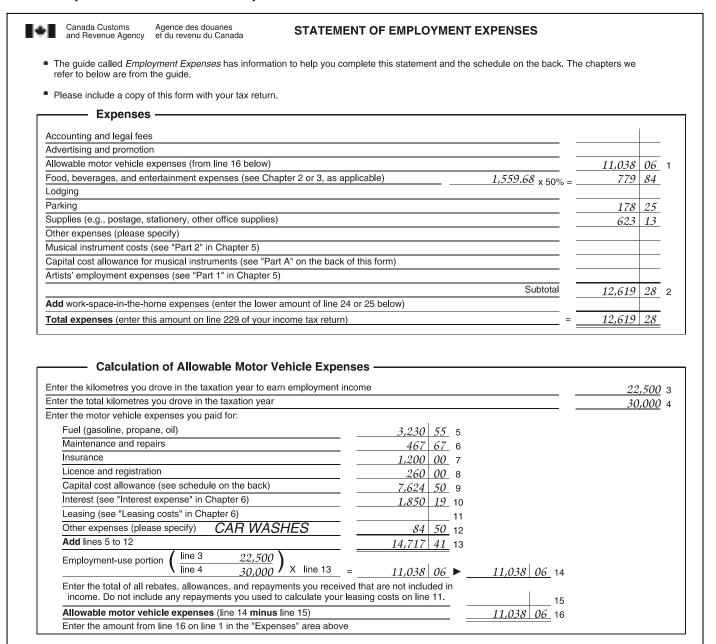
If the QST rebate is for a musical instrument you bought, it will affect your claim for capital cost allowance in the year you receive the rebate. If this applies to you, reduce the capital cost of your musical instrument by the amount of the rebate. Do not include the rebate on line 104 of your federal return.

For more information about the QST rebate and Form VD-358-V, *Québec Sales Tax Rebate Application for Employees and Partners*, contact the ministère du Revenu du Québec.

#### **Example**

Karsten is a commissioned salesperson who negotiates contracts for his employer in British Columbia. Under his contract of employment, he is required to pay his own expenses and is normally required to work away from his employer's place of business. His employer is a GST/HST registrant. Karsten received a taxable allowance for his motor vehicle that is included on his T4 slip for 2000. Since the allowance is taxable, he can claim a rebate on expenses related to that allowance.

To calculate his employment expenses, he completed Form T777, *Statement of Employment Expenses*, as shown below. Because of space limitations, we have not reproduced the entire form.



Date acquired	Cost of vehicle	1 Class no.	2 Undepreciated capital cost at the beginning of the year	3 Cost of acquisitions during the year	4 Proceeds of disposition during the year	5 Base amount for capital cost allowance claim**	6 Rate %	7 Capital cost allowance for the year (Col. 5 X 6, or a lesser amount)	8 Undepreciated capits cost at the end of the year (Col. 2 - 7, or Col. 3 - 7) ***
06/98	30,000	10.1	25,415.00			25,415.00	30%	7,624.50	17,790.50
		10.1					30%		
		10.1					30%		

Karsten is now ready to calculate his GST/HST rebate. To claim the rebate, he has to complete Form GST370, *Employee and Partner GST/HST Rebate Application*. Before Karsten can complete Area B, he completes Chart 1 on the back of Form GST370, to calculate his 7% GST eligible expenses. Since he did not pay HST on any of his expenses, he does not complete Chart 2. Using the information in this guide, he calculates and reports the expenses not eligible for the rebate in column 2. To calculate the **personal-use portion** of his motor vehicle expenses, Karsten uses the fraction 7,500/30,000. This is the personal kilometres driven (30,000 – 22,500) over the total kilometres driven. He completes Chart 1 as follows:

Type of expenses	(1) Total expenses	(2) Non-eligible portion of expenses	(3) Eligible expenses (col. 1 minus col. 2)	
Accounting and legal fees				
Advertising and promotion				
Food, beverages, and entertainment	779.84	_	779.84	
Lodging				
Parking	178.25	_	178.25	
Supplies	623.13	_	623.13	
Other expenses (please specify)				
Musical instrument expenses other than CCA				
Artists' employment expenses				
Union, professional, or similar dues				
Motor vehicle expenses				
Fuel	3,230.55	<i>807.64</i> <b>†</b>	2,422.91	
Maintenance and repairs Insurance, licence, registration, and interest Leasing	467.67	116.92 <b>††</b>	350.75	
Insurance, licence, registration, and interest				
Leasing				
Other expenses (please specify)	84.50	21.13 †††	63.37	
Work space in home				
Electricity, heat, and water				
Maintenance				
Insurance and property taxes				
Other expenses (please specify)				
	Total eligible expense	s other than CCA 🕨	4,418.25	
pital cost allowance (CCA) on motor hicles, musical instruments, and aircraft	7,624,50	1,906.13 ††††	5,718.37	

†  $\$3,230.55 \times 7,500/30,000 = \$807.64$ 

†††  $\$84.50 \times 7,500/30,000 = \$21.13$ 

†† \$467.67 × 7,500/30,000 = \$116.92

††††  $\$7,624.50 \times 7,500/30,000 = \$1,906.13$ 

Karsten did not enter any amounts in the black areas, since these expenses are not eligible for the rebate.

Karsten copies the amounts from boxes A and B of Chart 1 to lines 1 and 2 in Area B of Form GST370, and completes it as follows:

Area B - Rebate calculation (to be completed by claimant)		
GST rebate for eligible expenses on which you paid 7% GST		
Eligible expenses other than CCA on which you paid 7% GST (from box A of Chart 1 on the back of this form, or, enter the amount of union, professional, or similar dues eligible for the GST rebate)	4,418 25 1	
Eligible CCA on motor vehicles, musical instruments, and aircraft for which you paid 7% GST (from box B of Chart 1 on the back of this form)	<i>5,718</i> 37 <b>2</b>	
Total expenses eligible for the GST rebate (line 1 plus line 2)	10,136 <sub>62</sub> 3	
_Multiply line 3 by 7/107		663 14 4
HST rebate for eligible expenses on which you paid 15% HST		
Eligible expenses other than CCA on which you paid 15% HST (from box C of Chart 2 on the back of this form, or, enter the amount of union, professional, or similar dues eligible for the HST rebate)	5	
Eligible CCA on motor vehicles, musical instruments, and aircraft for which you paid 15% HST (from box D of Chart 2 on the back of this form)	6	
Total expenses eligible for the HST rebate (line 5 plus line 6)	7	
Multiply line 7 by 15/115		8
Rebate for property and services brought into a participating province (i.e., Nova Scotia, Ne Do not include any expenses for which you paid 15% HST. Read Situation 5 of the applicable gui	ew Brunswick, Newfoundlide for more details.	and)
Eligible expenses other than CCA on which you paid the provincial part of HST separately	9	
Eligible CCA on motor vehicles, musical instruments, and aircraft for which you paid the provincial part of HST separately	10	
Total expenses eligible for the rebate (line 9 plus line 10)	11	
Multiply line 11 by 8/108		12
Employee and Partner GST/HST Rebate (add lines 4, 8, and 12)		663 14 13
Enter the amount from line 13 on line 457 of your income tax return.		663 14

Since Karsten is claiming a rebate for his motor vehicle expenses for which he received a taxable allowance, an authorized officer of Karsten's employer has to complete and sign Area C.

Karsten enters \$663.14 on line 457 of his 2000 return. He also attaches Form GST370 to his return.

On his 2001 return, Karsten will include \$289.04 (\$4,418.25  $\times$  7/107) on line 104. This amount is the part of the rebate he will receive in 2001 that relates to eligible expenses other than CCA. He will then reduce his undepreciated capital cost (UCC) for the beginning of 2001 by \$374.10 (\$5,718.37  $\times$  7/107).

# Your opinion counts!

We review our publications every year. If you have any comments or suggestions that would help us improve them, we would like to hear from you.



Please send your comments to:

Client Services Directorate Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Place Vanier, Tower A Ottawa ON K1A 0L5

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