



Phil's Tip

Start shopping and claim work-related deductions

Do you buy items that you use specifically for work? You can buy almost any item and claim a deduction for it as long as it is used in your profession. E.g. tradies can claim for tools they purchase and teachers can claim stationery. There has to, however, be a meaningful connection between your purchase and your current work.

What If you have items you need to buy for work, you should seriously consider doing so before the end of the month (i.e. June 2010) as you can obtain the benefit of having the item sooner and can also claiming tax deductions in this year's tax return.

Examples of work-related items you could purchase and claim a deduction for may include the following:

1. Tradies buying their tools
2. New non-slip shoes for hospitality workers
3. Classroom consumables for teachers
4. Moisturisers for airline cabin crew
5. Refrigerators for truck cabins for truckies
6. Seminars or conferences (you don't need to attend these before 30 June, just pay for them!)
7. Hi-visibility safety vests for factory workers or traffic controllers
8. New uniform pieces for security guards
9. New scissors for hairdressers
10. New camping gear for Defence Force members



What You Need to Know

You can generally claim 100% of any item you purchased that was valued under \$300. If you purchase an item that is valued at greater than \$300, we may have to depreciate it for you, unless it is expected to only last for a year.



If you are buying an item that costs more than \$300, you should also consider if you want to buy it outright and claim the depreciation or if you want to lease it or borrow money for the item. You can claim the lease payments on your tax return and if you have a personal loan, you can claim the loan interest on your tax return as well as the depreciation for your work-related item!

Please note that in order for you to be able to claim a work-related tax deduction, the item you purchase must be related to your occupation. For example, while steel-tipped boots are a protective work item for construction workers, they are not for workers in an office in the CBD.

How Can Laura Dean Help You?

If you need assistance in working out whether you can claim certain expenses as work-related deductions, please contact our office and we'll put you in touch with one of our accountants who would be happy to assist you. If you need more information on your tax return, please contact us at reception@lauradean.com.au or call 42961068 and we are happy to help you with any query to help you increase your refund for your 2010 tax return!