

# WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO? BUDGET EXERCISE

## INTRODUCTION

**Instructions:** For each of the items below, enter the average amount you pay in a month. Please note that these are expenses you currently do not deduct in a business. Do not include business expenses. Note: You can substitute a personal expense list from a software package, if applicable.

Once you've completed this sheet, compare it against the 1,000+ Business Deductions handout. You might find it surprising how many expenses you have right now that can become legitimate business deductions!

<b>Auto &amp; Truck Expenses</b>		<b>Entertainment Expenses</b>	
Auto insurance*		Computer games	
Auto lease		Event tickets	
Gas/oil/tires		Hotel	
Insurance deduction		Music	
Payments		Other games	
Registration		RV	
Repairs		Travel	
Security		Vacations	
TOTAL		Videos	
<b>Charities/Donations</b>		Wine/liquor	
Church		TOTAL	
Other		<b>Equipment Expenses</b>	
TOTAL		Art/sculpture	
<b>Children Expenses</b>		Computer	
Child care		Computer software	
Child support		Furniture	
Clothing		Home entertainment center	
Education/tuition		Home office	
Education savings		TOTAL	
Private school		<b>Gift Expenses</b>	
Religious training		Birthday	
Toys		Holiday	
Sports		Weddings/anniversary	
Wedding		Other	
TOTAL		TOTAL	

<b>Clothing Expenses</b>		<b>Hobby Expenses</b>	
Altering/repair		Boat	
Cleaning		Collectibles	
Purchasing		Hobbies/classes	
TOTAL		Pet food	
<b>Education Expenses</b>		Pets	
Books & tapes		Vacation homes	
Dues & subscriptions		Vet bills	
School loans		TOTAL	
Seminars		<b>Personal Care Expenses</b>	
Travel		Hair/nails	
Tuition		Personal items	
TOTAL		TOTAL	
<b>Housing Expenses</b>		<b>Supply Expenses</b>	
Assessments		Cleaning	
Garden tools		Home supplies	
Home Owner Association Dues		Laundry	
Home security		Lawn & garden	
Insurance		Linen	
Janitorial/supplies		Office supplies	
Lawn services		Personal hygiene	
Mortgage		Postage	
Mortgage insurance		TOTAL	
Pool service		<b>Taxes</b>	
Rent		Federal	
Repairs/improvements		Payroll	
Snow removal		Property	
TOTAL		State	
<b>Legal Expenses</b>		Other	
Wills & Trust		TOTAL	
Other		<b>Utility Expenses</b>	
TOTAL		Telephone	
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>		Cable TV	
Alimony		Cell phone	
Bank fees		Utilities	
Gambling		Internet	
TOTAL		TOTAL	
<b>Personal Health Expenses</b>		Massage	
Dental work		Medical co-pays	
Exercise equipment		Medical insurance	
Glasses/eye-exam		Prescriptions	
Health club dues		Therapy	
Hearing aids		Vitamins	
TOTAL			

\* If your business pays for your auto insurance, it would not be listed in this chart.

What other personal expenses do you foresee in the next 12 months?

Item	Amount \$

### Next Steps

1. Go through the 1,000 Deductions handout. Cross reference the costs in your budget. Are there things you can move to the business, and take advantage of paying them with pre-tax dollars?
2. Show your budget and the 1,000 Deductions list to your CPA or tax advisor. Discuss both with them and see if your advisor has ideas on how to find more deductions.