



Maximize Your Deductions: The Importance of Tracking Mileage

Whether you're a business owner, self-employed professional, or an employee with work-related travel, keeping accurate records of your mileage is becoming essential.

With the IRS increasing its scrutiny on businesses' mileage deductions, it's more important than ever to ensure that your records are accurate and complete.

Here's why tracking your mileage is essential:

1. Maximizing Deductions

Accurate mileage tracking allows you to claim the maximum deduction for your business-related travel. The IRS offers a standard mileage rate deduction, which can add up significantly over time if you're driving frequently for work purposes.

2. IRS Compliance

The IRS has started to more closely examine businesses' mileage deductions, and without proper documentation, they may disallow your claims. Simply estimating your mileage won't suffice. A well-kept mileage log, including dates, locations, business purposes, and odometer readings, can serve as solid evidence in case of an audit.

3. Avoiding Penalties

If the IRS disallows your mileage deduction due to insufficient documentation, it could result in penalties, interest, and additional taxes owed. Keeping detailed records is your best defense against such costly issues.

4. Ease of Use with Mileage Tracking Tools

Tracking your mileage doesn't have to be time-consuming. There are plenty of apps and tools that make it easy to log trips, calculate deductions, and store records digitally, ensuring you always have the proper documentation.

Easy Ways to Track Mileage:

1. Mileage Tracking Apps:

- [MileIQ](#): Automatically detects and logs your drives, making it easy to categorize and report.
- [Everlance](#): Offers mileage and expense tracking with additional features for business expenses.



2. Built-in Smartphone Features:

- Many smartphones have built-in GPS and mileage tracking features. Explore your phone's settings or app store for options.

3. Manual Logs:

- Keep a physical logbook in your vehicle to manually record the date, starting point, destination, and purpose of each trip.

Tips for Effective Mileage Tracking:

- **Consistency is Key:** Record mileage regularly to ensure accuracy and completeness.
- **Categorize Trips:** Clearly distinguish between personal and business-related trips.
- **Retain Documentation:** Keep supporting documentation, such as receipts for tolls or parking fees, to substantiate your mileage claims.

Get Started Today:

Taking control of your mileage tracking doesn't have to be complicated. Choose a method or app that suits your preferences and start logging your miles today to make the most of your eligible deductions.

If you have any questions about mileage tracking, deductions, or need assistance in optimizing your tax strategy, please feel free to reach out to us. We're here to help you navigate the complexities of tax planning and ensure you maximize your potential savings.

Thank you for your attention, and we look forward to assisting you with your tax preparation.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Himmelwright Huguley & Boles, LLC'.

Himmelwright, Huguley & Boles, LLC