

# Tax Deductions for Job Searchers

**Q:**

I heard on a radio talk show that individuals can deduct expenses incurred in the search for a new job? Is this true?

It depends on your personal situation.

**A:**

Job-searching expenses are not deductible if one is seeking a new job in a field different than his/ her current or most recent employment. Just what constitutes a "new field" is not necessarily intuitive. The IRS has held that different types of jobs in the same employment sector are jobs in different fields; and in those cases, job search expenses were not deductible.

Retired servicemen and women searching for new jobs may claim job-search expenses. College students entering the job market for the first time cannot deduct their job-search expenses; however, if they have worked in their chosen fields while attending college, the post-college job search expenses may be deductible. Further, if a job seeker has been out of the workforce for a long period of time (for example, leaving the workforce to raise children), the costs of searching for a job when re-entering the job market are not deductible.

Regardless of whether a job search is successful, people seeking a new job in the same field of employment generally may deduct the following job-search expenses: costs for typing and printing resumes; postage; long-distance phone calls; automobile mileage, tolls or fare for travel to/from a job interview; and costs for employment agency services, job counseling and referral services.

For more information on this or other income tax issues, please contact:



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## PROOF

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**THIS AD HAS NOT YET BEEN PROOFREAD. YOU HAVE ONE AND ONLY ONE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE CHANGES.**

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#### THIS IS NOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO RE-DESIGN YOUR AD.

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**NO CHANGE, PRINT AS IS** Advertiser's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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