

# SORED I 2018 Moss Adams Tax Seminar: How will the New Tax Law Effect Your Business?

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A silhouette of a person running on a dark, rocky mound against a light, hazy sky. The person is captured in mid-stride, moving from left to right. The background is a soft gradient of light colors, suggesting a sunrise or sunset.

# Agenda

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- Background – How we got here
- Business Provisions
  - General provisions
  - New Pass-through deduction
  - Interest deduction
  - Accounting methods
- Individual Provisions
  - Tax Rates
  - Deductions
  - Other Provisions



# Background

## How we got here



### House & Senate

Introduced bills in November

House passed its bill Nov 9

Senate passed its bill Dec 2

### Conference

Conferees released Conference

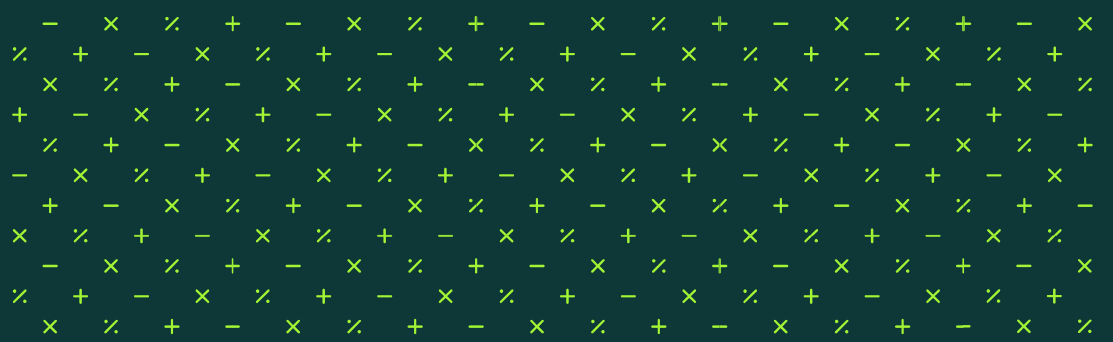
Agreement Dec 15

Senate and House voted and passed on Dec 20

### President

President Trump signed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) into law on Dec 22





# Business Provisions

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# Business Provisions

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Corporate Income Tax Rate</b>	35% top rate	21% flat rate; effective 1/1/2018; blended rate for fiscal taxpayers
<b>Corporate AMT</b>	Applies	Repealed
<b>Dividends Received Deduction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 70% if own &lt;20%</li><li>• 80% if own between 20% and 80%</li><li>• 100% if own more than 80%</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 50% if own &lt;20%</li><li>• 65% if own between 20% and 80%</li><li>• 100% if own more than 80%</li></ul>



# Net Operating Loss

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Limited to 80% - Carried Forward Indefinitely

Limited to 80% of taxable income for NOLs arising in years beginning after December 31, 2017

Carryforward period made indefinite, no carryback (except farms) for years ending after December 31, 2017



# Business Interest Deduction

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Limited to sum of:

- 1) 30% of “adjusted taxable income”
- 2) Business interest income
- 3) Floor plan financing interest

- Interest limited is carried forward indefinitely
- Adjusted taxable income:
  - Cannot be below zero
  - Computed without regard to:
    - Non-business income or expenses
    - Business interest expense or income
    - NOL deduction
    - Pass-through deduction
    - For years before 2022, deductions for depreciation, amortization, and depletion
- Businesses with average gross receipts of \$25M or less would be exempt
- Real property trade or business may elect out, but must use ADS recovery periods for real property



# Pass-Through Changes – Interest Deduction Limitation Example

Gross Revenue	\$10,000,000	Interest Deduction Calculation:	
Interest Income	<u>300,000</u>	Adjusted Taxable Income (Gross Revenue less Operating Expenses)	\$5,000,000
Gross Income	<u>10,300,000</u>	30% of ATI	1,500,000
Interest Expense	2,500,000	Deductible Interest (lesser of Interest Expense or 30% ATI)	1,500,000
Depreciation	2,000,000	Suspended Interest Expense (carried forward)	1,000,000
Operating Expenses	<u>5,000,000</u>	Taxable Income (Net Income plus suspended interest)	\$1,800,000
Total Expenses	<u>9,500,000</u>		
Net Income	<u>\$ 800,000</u>		





# Accounting Methods

Expanded access to simplified accounting methods for businesses with average gross receipts for prior three years of less than \$25M

May use the cash method

Exempt from requirement to maintain inventories (Sec. 471) – may follow financial statement method or treat as non-incidentals materials and supplies

Exempt from uniform capitalization rules (Sec. 263A)

Exempt from percentage-of-completion method for long-term contracts expected to be completed within two years



# Accrual Income Recognition

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- An accrual method taxpayer must include an item in income no later than when it is taken into account as a revenue in an applicable financial statement (AFS)
- An AFS is:
  - Form 10-K
  - Certified audited financial statement
  - Financial statement provided to fed/state government or agency (not a tax return)



# Bonus Depreciation

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Bonus depreciation is increased to 100% for qualified property acquired and placed in service after Sept 27, 2017 but before Jan 1, 2023

- **Pre-reform law:** Bonus depreciation set at 50% for 2017 – 40% for 2018 – 30% for 2019
- **Qualified property includes:**
  - New *and used* property, but must be in an arm's length transaction
  - Film, television, and live theatrical productions
- **Phase-outs:** Bonus percentage decreases to 80% for 2023 – 60% for 2024 – 40% for 2025 – 20% for 2027 – None for 2027



# Improvement Property

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Qualified leasehold improvement, qualified restaurant, and qualified retail improvement property categories eliminated – qualified improvement property (QIP) retained

- **Pre-reform law**: QIP with a 39-year recovery period, but eligible for bonus depreciation
- Conference Agreement indicates intention was for QIP to have a 15-year recovery period and be eligible for bonus depreciation
- Actual statute language did not alter QIP's prior 39-year recovery period – and it did eliminate its qualification for bonus depreciation effective with new changes to bonus depreciation rules



# Section 179

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## Section 179 Deduction Expanded

- Increases the amount a taxpayer may expense to \$1,000,000 (from \$510,000 for 2017) and increases the phase-out threshold to \$2,500,000 (from \$2,030,000 for 2017)
- Expands eligibility of Section 179 to include:
  - Qualified improvement property (QIP)
  - Certain nonresidential real property improvements – specifically, roofs; heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) property; fire protection and alarm systems; and security systems
  - Personal property used predominantly in lodging



# Like-Kind Exchanges

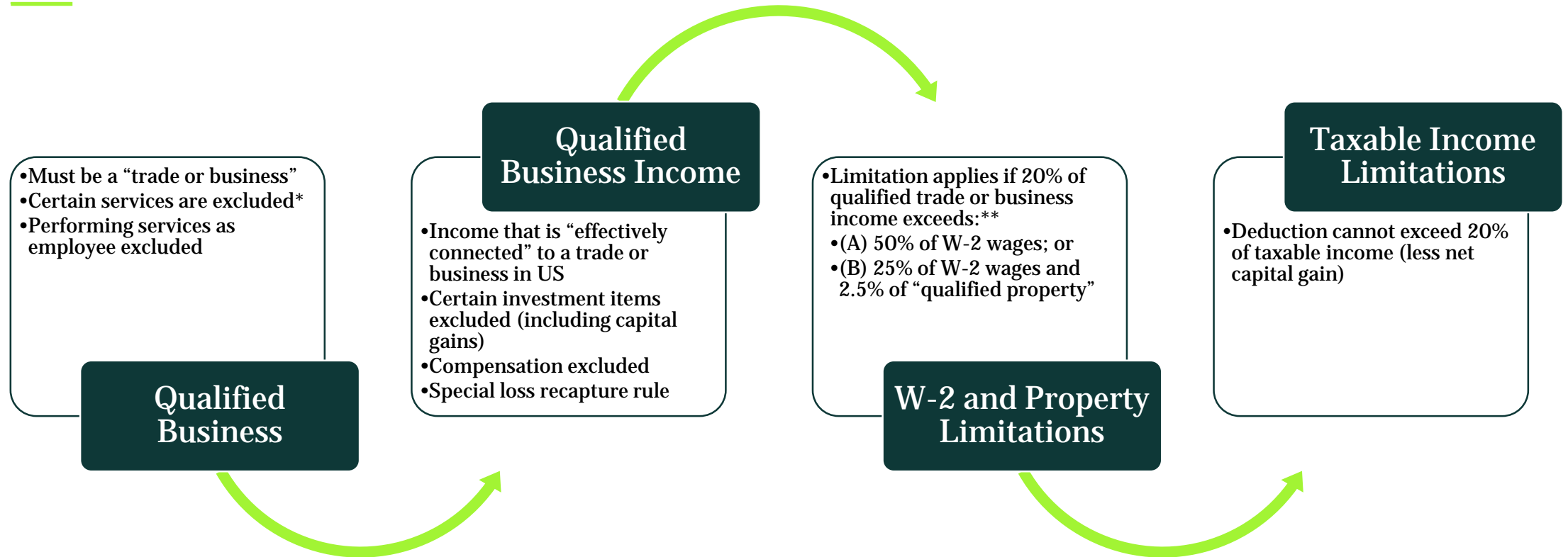
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Limited to Real Property

- Applies only to real property not held primarily for sale



# 20% Deduction on Qualified Business Income - Section 199A



\*\*Service business may be treated as qualified business if taxpayer’s income is under certain threshold amounts

\*\* Limitation does not apply if taxpayer’s income is under certain threshold amounts. Importantly, the limitations apply on a business-by-business basis.

- Qualified cooperative dividends, qualified REIT dividends, and qualified publicly traded partnership income also qualify for the section 199A deduction



# Pass-Through Changes – QBI Deduction Example

Bill & Joan have \$450,000 of pass-through income from three qualified trades or businesses. They also have \$200,000 of guaranteed payment income and \$100,000 of charitable contribution deductions for net taxable income before the 199A deduction of \$550,000. Their QBI Deduction Calculation is as follows:

Activity	QBI	Wages	Property	20% QBI	50% Wages	Alternate Limitation	QBI Deduction
A	500,000	50,000	3,000,000	100,000	25,000	87,500	87,500
B	250,000	300,000	300,000	50,000	150,000	92,500	50,000
C	<u>(300,000)</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>50,000,000</u>	<u>(60,000)</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>(60,000)</u>
Total	<u>450,000</u>	<u>3,350,000</u>	<u>53,700,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>1,675,000</u>	<u>2,180,000</u>	<u>77,500</u>

Bill & Joan’s QBI deduction would be \$77,500. They are not able to “pool” wages and property to arrive at an overall QBI deduction limitation. QBI calculation is done on an activity-by-activity basis.





# New Loss Limitation Rules - Section 461(l)

- Rule: Non-corporate taxpayer cannot deduct an “excess business loss”
- Excess Business Loss: Effectively, equals a taxpayer’s net loss from all trades or businesses in excess of \$500,000 (married) or \$250,000 (other)
- NOL Treatment: Excess business loss becomes treated as an NOL in subsequent year
- Relationship to Other Loss Limitation Rules: The excess business loss rule applies after other loss limitation rules (e.g., basis limitations, “at risk” rules, passive activity rules)
- Result: Business losses in excess of \$500,000 (married) or \$250,000 (other) cannot offset non-business income in the year incurred. Suspended losses can be used in subsequent years subject to the 80% taxable income limitation



# Pass-Through Changes – Excess Loss Provision Example

Greg, a married taxpayer has the following:

W-2 Wages	\$500,000
Interest & Dividends	250,000
Passive Activity A	(150,000)
Passive Activity B	100,000
Nonpassive Activity A	300,000
Nonpassive Activity B	(400,000)
Nonpassive Activity C	(900,000)

His Adjusted Gross Income would be:

W-2 Wages	\$ 500,000
Interest & Dividends	250,000
Passive Income/Loss	---
Nonpassive Income/Loss	<u>(500,000)</u>
Adjusted Gross Income	<u>\$ 250,000</u>
Passive Loss Carryover	(50,000)
NOL Carryover	(500,000)

First, \$50,000 of passive losses are suspended under Sec. 469, resulting in net passive income of zero for the taxable year. Then, he is only allowed to deduct \$500,000 of the \$1M of net nonpassive losses for the year.



# Other Partnership Changes

- After 2017, the basis limitation on the deductibility of partnership losses applies to a partner's distributive share of charitable contributions and foreign taxes
- **Repeal of technical termination rules:**
  - A partnership is treated as continuing even if more than 50% of interests are sold or exchanged.
- **Substantial Built-In Loss:**
  - Definition expanded to include a partner-level test – if any partner would be allocated more than a \$250,000 loss in a hypothetical disposition of all assets, the partnership is considered to have a substantial built-in loss.



# S Corporation Conversion to C Corp

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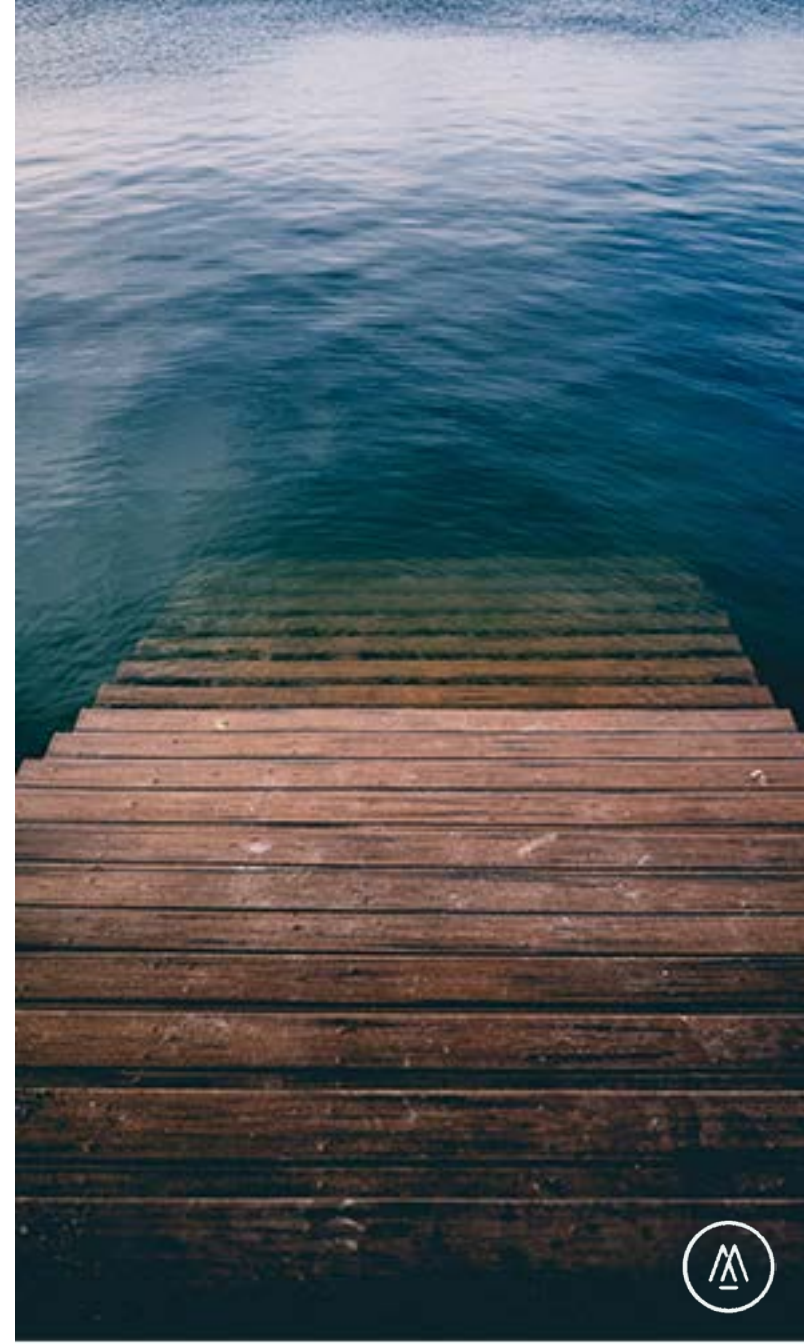
## Special Rules During 2-year Period

- S Corporations that revoke S corporation elections during two-year period beginning on enactment date and have the same owners on both enactment date and revocation must:
  - Distribute money during the post-termination transition period (generally one year after S election termination) as if paid from accumulated adjustments account and E&P.
  - Taxpayers are to account for adjustments under 481(a) due to the termination over a 6-year period.



# Alternative Minimum Tax

- The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act repeals AMT for corporations in 2018.
- AMT credit is able to offset regular tax liability for any taxable year.
- Refundable between 2018 and 2020 for up to 50% (100% in 2021) to the extent AMT carryovers exceed the regular tax liability.



# Other Business Provisions

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Contributions to Capital</b>	Gross income of a corporation does not include any contribution to its capital.	“Contributions to Capital” redefined to exclude (1) contributions in aid of construction as a customer, and (2), any contribution made by a governmental entity or civic group (other than in capacity as shareholder)
<b>Historic Rehab Credits</b>	Available for rehabilitation of historic, income producing buildings	Retained with some changes





## Other Provisions

- DPAD is repealed for tax years beginning after 2017
- Broad changes for multinational companies with shift to a territorial tax regime
- Mandatory deemed repatriation of undistributed foreign earnings





# Research & Development Expenditures

- Beginning in 2022, specified U.S. research expenses must be capitalized and amortized ratably over five years.
- Expenses attributable to research conducted outside the U.S. are amortized over 15 years.
- Specified expenses do not include expenditures for land or depreciable property, but do include related depreciation allowances.
- If property is disposed, retired, or abandoned during the amortization period, basis is not recovered – must continue to be amortized over remainder of the period.
- Application is treated as a Sec. 481 change of accounting method.





# Other Business Provisions

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Fines and Penalties</b>	Fines and Penalties paid to a government are non-deductible.	Expands non-deductibility to any amount paid at the direction of a government or regulatory entity for the violation of a law.
<b>Local Lobbying Expenses</b>	Ordinary and necessary expenses in lobbying any local legislation are deductible	Removes the exception for local lobbying.



# Fringe Benefits and Entertainment Expenses

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Entertainment or Recreation Expenses</b>	50% deductible to the extent directly related to, or associated with, an active conduct of a trade or business	Repealed – no deduction allowed for expenses even if directly connected to the business (meals still 50% deductible)
<b>Food and Beverage Expenses for Employees (On-site Cafeteria or De Minimis Meals)</b>	100% deductible, if considered a de minimis fringe benefit	50% deductible if de minimis and for convenience of employer – <b>after 2025</b> , expenses related to on-site cafeteria not deductible
<b>Moving Expenses (Non-military)</b>	Reimbursements excluded from employee wages	Suspends exclusion for 2018 through 2025



# Fringe Benefits and Entertainment Expenses

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Transportation Fringe Benefits</b>	Deductible to employer (\$260/mo. per employee) – excluded from employee wages	Repeals employer deduction (unless to ensure safety of employee) – exclusion from employee wages retained
<b>Bicycle Commuting Reimbursement</b>	Excluded from employee wages – up to \$20/month	Repeals employee wage exclusion for 2018 through 2025
<b>Employee Achievement Awards</b>	Excluded from wages awards for “tangible personal property” (not clearly defined) up to certain thresholds	Tangible personal property excludes cash, cash equivalents, gift cards, vacations, meals, lodging, theater/sporting event tickets, stocks, or similar (amounts no longer excludible)



# Credit for Paid Leave

- Provision allows a general business credit equal to 12.5% of wages paid to qualifying employees who are on family and medical leave.
- Eligibility:
  - Written policy allowing full-time employees at least two weeks annual leave (and part-time employees a pro-rata amount).
  - Leave not paid for by state or local government.
  - Eligible employee's compensation is less than 60% threshold for highly compensated employees.
  - Leave wages must be at least 50% of normal wages – credit increases .25% for each percentage point paid above 50% - up to full wage amount.
- Credit is available for wages paid through 2019.



# Key Considerations

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- Accelerating deductions into 2017 or deferring income into 2018 creates potential for permanent tax benefit due to 2018 rate reduction
- Evaluate reimbursement policies and accountable plan strategies to determine if any changes should be made in light of new rules for entertainment expenses and certain fringe benefits



# Audience question

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Which of the tax changes from the Tax Cut and Jobs Act (TCJA) do you foresee most impacting your business?



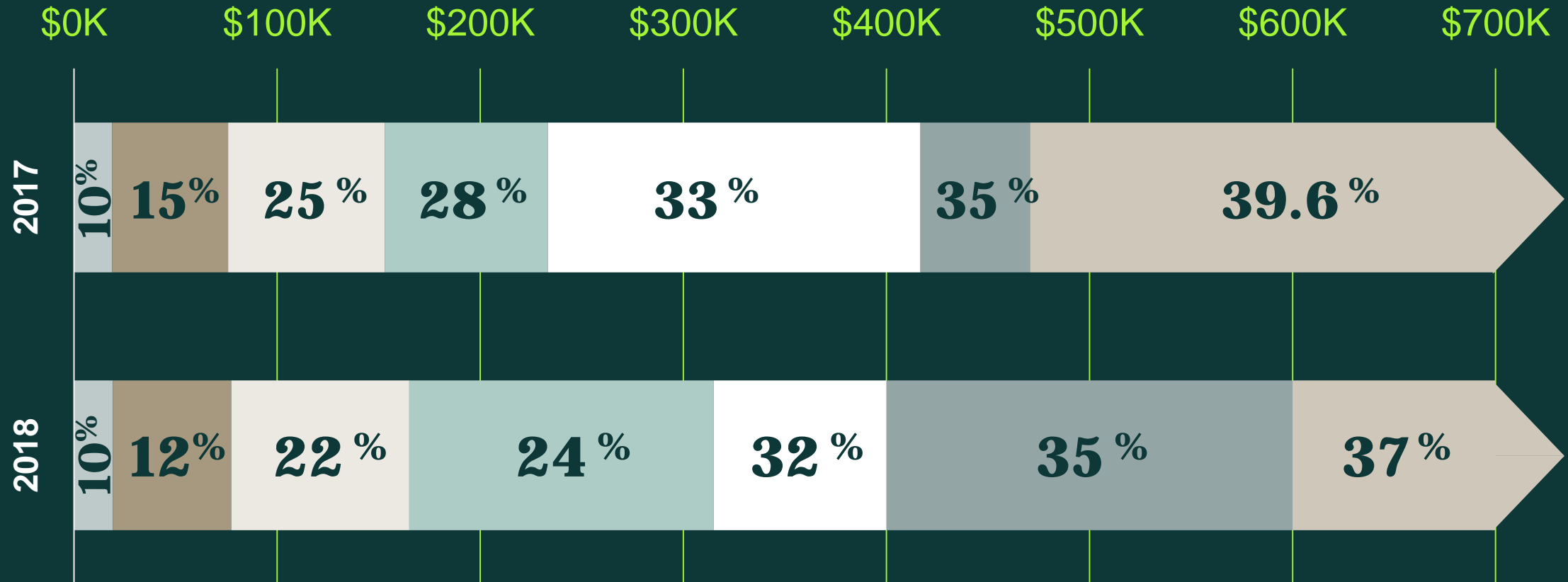


# Individual Provisions

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# Income Brackets & Tax Rates

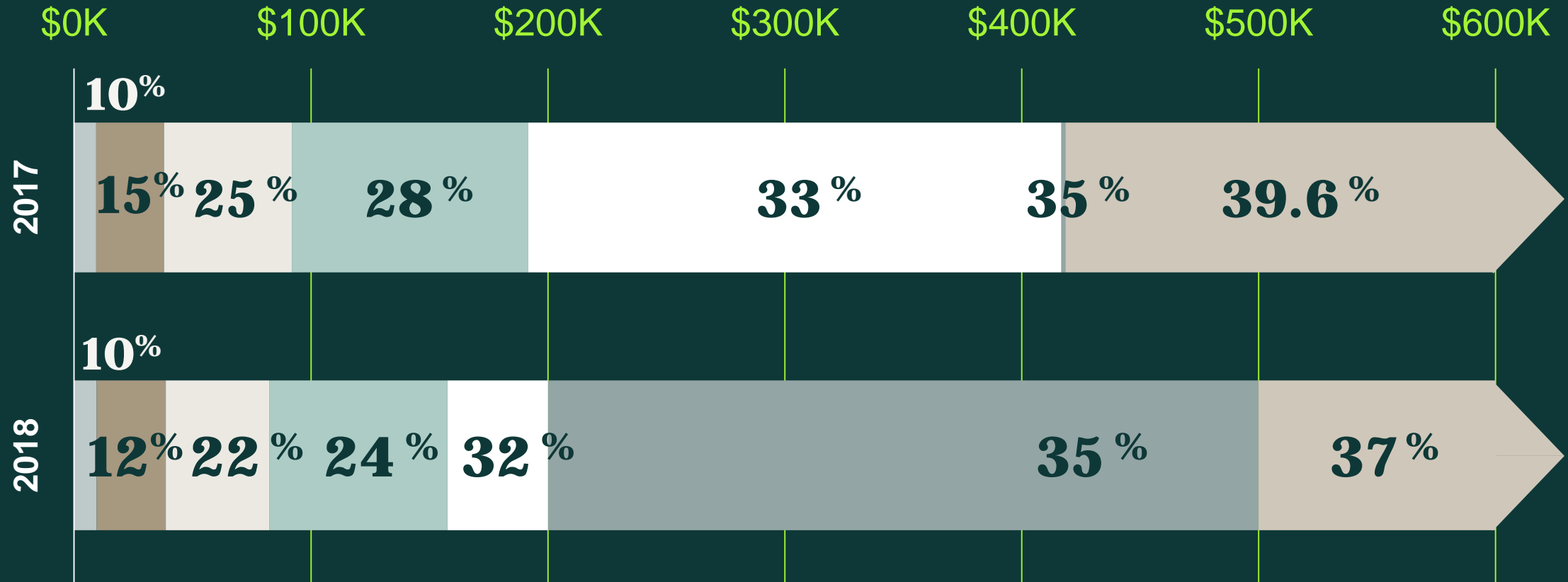
MARRIED FILING JOINTLY





# Income Brackets & Tax Rates

SINGLE



# Individual changes

➤ Personal Exemptions – Suspended until 2026

➤ Standard Deduction – Raised until 2026

Married Filing Joint	\$24,000
Head of Household	\$18,000
Individual	\$12,000

➤ Retains enhanced deduction for blind and elderly

➤ AMT Exemption – Raised until 2026

	<b>AMT Exemption</b>	<b>Exemption Phaseout</b>
Married Filing Joint	\$109,400	\$1,000,000
Other Taxpayers	\$70,300	\$500,000



# Itemized Deductions

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Itemized Deduction Limitation</b>	Total itemized are reduced by 3% of AGI for taxpayers over a threshold	Suspends limitation for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2017 and before Jan. 1, 2026
<b>Charitable Contributions</b>	Limitation of Charitable deduction is 50% of AGI	AGI limitation on deduction increases to 60% of AGI in tax years beginning after 2017 and before 2026



# SALT Deduction

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The state and local tax (SALT) itemized deduction is limited through 2025

## State and Local Tax Deduction

- Sales Tax *or* Income Tax and
- Property Tax

Combination of sales tax or income tax and property tax cannot exceed \$10,000 per taxpayer (\$5,000 if married filing separately)

\$10,000 limitation goes away after 2025



# Itemized Deductions

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Mortgage Interest Deduction</b>	Deduction on first \$1 million that secures primary or secondary residences, plus \$100k of home equity indebtedness	Suspends deduction for home equity indebtedness and reduces limitation to \$750k (for debt incurred after 12/15/17) until 2026
<b>Medical Expenses</b>	Awards of tangible personal Deductible to extent exceeds 10% of AGI	Lowers 10% threshold to 7.5% for tax years 2017 and 2018





# Suspended Itemized Deductions

**2% Miscellaneous Itemized Deductions – suspended for tax years beginning before Jan. 1, 2026**

- Expenses for production of income
  - Investment fees
  - Hobby expenses
  - Safe deposit boxes
- Tax Preparation Expenses
- Unreimbursed Employee Expenses
  - Home office deduction
  - Educator expenses
  - Union dues



# Repeal of Above the Line Deductions

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- Alimony Paid
- Moving Expenses

## Alimony Paid

- Eliminates deduction for payor
- Excluded from income by payee
- Effective for divorces executed after 2018

Moving Expenses – suspended for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2017 and before Jan. 1, 2026



# Child Tax Credit

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## Child Tax Credit Expansion

Increased to \$2,000 per child under age 17

- Up to \$1,400 refundable per child
- Expires Jan. 1, 2026

## Family Credit

- New \$500 nonrefundable credit for non-child dependents
- Expires Jan. 1, 2026

Credit begins to phase out at AGI of \$400,000 for MFJ filers and \$200,000 for all other taxpayers





# Other Provisions

Provision	Pre-Reform Law	Reform Act
<b>Gain on Sale of Principal Home</b>	Gain of \$500K (MFJ)/\$250K (all others) excluded – must have lived in home 2 of 5 years	Same as pre-reform law
<b>Estate Tax, GST, and Gift Tax</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 40% after exemption of \$5.5M / \$11M</li><li>• \$14K annual exemption per gift donee</li></ul>	40% after exemption of \$10M / \$20M increased exemption sunsets 12/31/25



# Education

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- §529 Plans
- Qualified ABLE Accounts

## 529 Plans:

- Distributions from a Section 529 plan of up to **\$10,000 per student**, tax-free, can now be used for public, private or religious elementary or secondary school.

## Qualified ABLE Accounts:

- Temporarily allows additional contributions, until 2026
- Taxpayers may roll amounts from 529 education accounts to ABLE accounts (sunsets after 2025)



# Key Considerations

- AMT planning (ISO exercises)

	<b>AMT Exemption</b>	<b>Exemption Phaseout</b>
Married Filing Joint	\$109,400	\$1,000,000
Other Taxpayers	\$70,300	\$500,000

- Pending divorce agreements with alimony component

- State response to limited state income and property tax deduction

- Narrowed IRC 1031 provisions





# Key Considerations

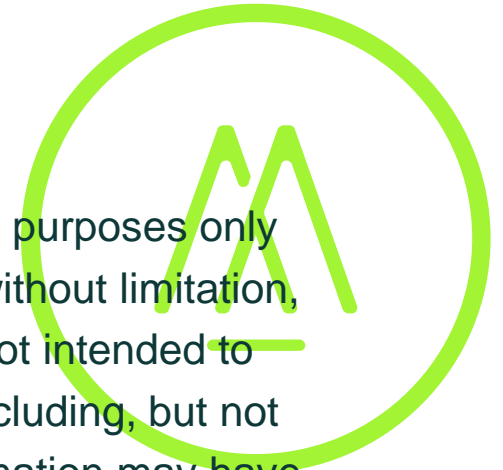
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- **Expansion of Section 529 plan uses**
  - \$10,000 per student, tax-free, can now be used for public, private or religious elementary or secondary school
- **Roth IRA conversions and re-characterizations**
  - Conversion still allowed; re-characterizations only valid through 12/31/2017
- **Estate and gift tax planning**
  - Revisit estate planning documents
  - Additional gifting opportunities
  - Increased emphasis on income tax v. estate tax ramifications of transfers



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