



INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORM AR2106

What's New

Standard mileage rate. The 2020 rate for business use of your vehicle is 57.5 cents (0.575) a mile.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Purpose of Form

Use Form AR2106 if you were an employee deducting ordinary and necessary expenses for your job. See the flowchart below to find out if you must file this form.

An ordinary expense is one that is common and accepted in your field of trade, business, or profession. A necessary expense is one that is helpful and appropriate for your business. An expense doesn't have to be required to be considered necessary.

Recordkeeping

You can't deduct expenses for travel (including meals unless you used the standard meal allowance), entertainment, gifts, or use of a car or other listed property unless you keep records to prove the time, place, business purpose, business relationship (for entertainment and gifts), and amounts of these expenses. Generally, you must also have receipts for all lodging expenses (regardless of the amount) and any other expense of \$75 or more.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Part I-Employee Business Expenses and Reimbursements

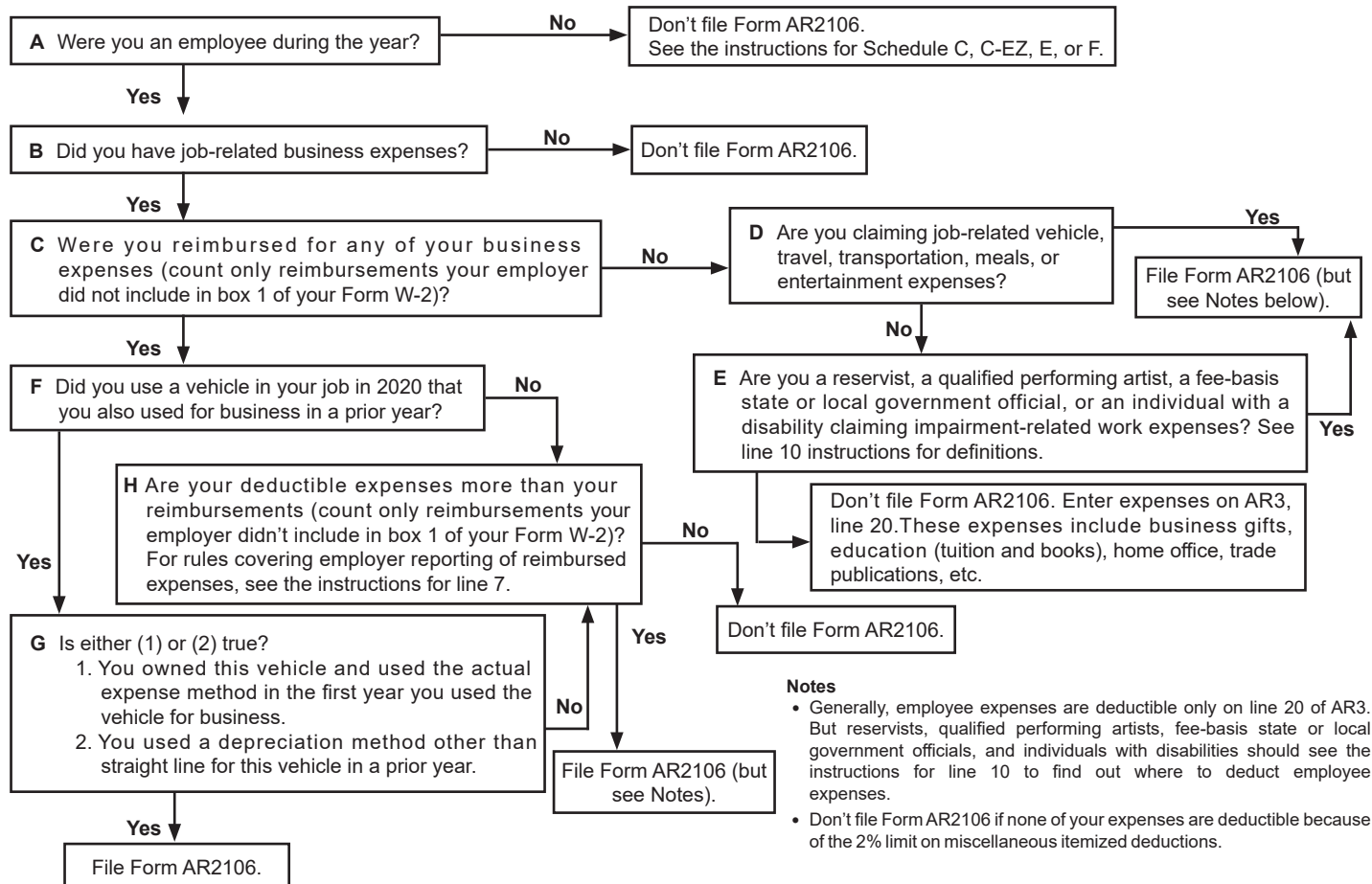
Fill in all of Part I if you were reimbursed for employee business expenses. If you weren't reimbursed for your expenses, complete steps 1 and 3 only.

Step 1-Enter Your Expenses

Line 1. If you were a rural mail carrier, you can treat the amount of qualified reimbursement you received as the amount of your allowable expense. Because the qualified reimbursement is treated as paid under an accountable plan, your employer shouldn't include the amount of reimbursement in your income.

You were a rural mail carrier if you were an employee of the United States Postal Service (USPS) who performed services involving the collection and delivery of mail on a rural route.

Who Must File Form AR2106





Qualified reimbursements. These are the amounts paid by the USPS as an equipment maintenance allowance under a collective bargaining agreement between the USPS and the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, but only if such amounts don't exceed the amount that would have been paid under the 1991 collective bargaining agreement (adjusted for changes in the Consumer Price Index since 1991).

If you were a rural mail carrier and your vehicle expenses were:

- Less than or equal to your qualified reimbursements, don't file Form AR2106 unless you have deductible expenses other than vehicle expenses. If you have deductible expenses other than vehicle expenses, skip line 1 and don't include any qualified reimbursements in column A on line 7.
- More than your qualified reimbursements, first complete Part II of Form AR2106. Enter your total vehicle expenses from line 29 on line 1 and the amount of your qualified reimbursements in column A on line 7.

Caution: If you are a rural mail carrier and received a qualified reimbursement, you can't use the standard mileage rate.

Line 2. The expenses of commuting to and from work aren't deductible. See the line 15 instructions for the definition of commuting.

Line 3. Enter lodging and transportation expenses connected with overnight travel away from your tax home (defined next). Don't include expenses for meals and entertainment.

Tax home. Generally, your tax home is your regular or main place of business or post of duty regardless of where you maintain your family home. If you don't have a regular or main place of business because of the nature of your work, then your tax home may be the place where you regularly live. If you don't have a regular or a main place of business or post of duty and there is no place where you regularly live, you are considered an itinerant (a transient) and your tax home is wherever you work. As an itinerant, you are never away from home and can't claim a travel expense deduction.

Generally, you can't deduct any expenses for travel away from your tax home for any period of temporary employment of more than 1 year. However, this 1-year rule doesn't apply for a temporary period in which

you were a federal employee certified by the Attorney General (or his or her designee) as traveling in temporary duty status for the U.S. government to investigate or prosecute a federal crime (or to provide support services for the investigation or prosecution of a federal crime).

Incidental expenses. The term "incidental expenses" means fees and tips given to porters, baggage carriers, hotel staff, and staff on ships.

Incidental expenses don't include expenses for laundry, cleaning and pressing of clothing, lodging taxes, costs of telegrams or telephone calls, transportation between places of lodging or business and places where meals are taken, or the mailing cost of filing travel vouchers and paying employer-sponsored charge card billings.

You can use an optional method (instead of actual cost) for deducting incidental expenses only. The amount of the deduction is \$5 a day. You can use this method only if you didn't pay or incur any meal expenses. You can't use this method on any day you use the standard meal allowance (defined later in the instructions for line 5).

Line 4. Enter other job-related expenses not listed on any other line of this form. Include expenses for business gifts, education (tuition, fees, and books), home office, trade publications, etc.

If you are deducting depreciation or claiming a section 179 deduction, see Form 4562, Depreciation and Amortization, to figure the depreciation and section 179 deduction to enter on Form AR2106, line 4.

Don't include expenses for meals and entertainment, taxes, or interest on line 4. Deductible taxes are entered on AR3, Itemized Deductions. Employees can't deduct car loan interest.

Line 5. Enter your allowable meals and entertainment expense. Include meals while away from your tax home overnight and other business meals and entertainment.

Standard meal allowance. Instead of actual cost, you may be able to claim the standard meal allowance for your daily meals and incidental expenses (M&IE) while away from your tax home overnight. Under this method, instead of keeping records of your actual meal expenses, you deduct a specified amount, depending on where you travel. However, you must still keep records to prove the time, place, and business purpose of your travel.

The standard meal allowance is the federal M&IE rate. You can find the rates that applied during 2020 on the Internet at [GSA.gov/perdiem](https://www.gsa.gov/perdiem).

Step 2-Enter Reimbursements Received From Your Employer for Expenses Listed in Step 1

Line 7. Enter reimbursements received from your employer (or third party) for expenses shown in Step 1 that weren't reported to you in box 1 of your Form W-2. This includes reimbursements reported under code "L" in box 12 of Form W-2. Amounts reported under code "L" are reimbursements you received for business expenses that weren't included as wages on Form W-2 because the expenses met specific substantiation requirements.

Generally, when your employer pays for your expenses, the payments shouldn't be included in box 1 of your Form W-2 if, within a reasonable period of time, you:

- Accounted to your employer for the expenses; and
- Were required to return, and did return, any payment not spent (or considered not spent) for business expenses.

If these payments were incorrectly included in box 1, ask your employer for a corrected Form W-2.

Accounting to your employer. This means that you gave your employer documentary evidence and an account book, diary, log, statement of expenses, trip sheets, or similar statement to verify the amount, time, place, and business purpose of each expense. You are also treated as having accounted for your expenses if either of the following applies.

- Your employer gave you a fixed travel allowance that is similar in form to the per diem allowance specified by the federal government and you verified the time, place, and business purpose of the travel for that day.
- Your employer reimbursed you for vehicle expenses at the standard mileage rate or according to a flat rate or stated schedule, and you verified the date of each trip, mileage, and business purpose of the vehicle use.

Allocating your reimbursement. If your employer paid you a single amount that covers meals and entertainment as well as other business expenses, you must allocate the reimbursement so that you know how much to enter in Column A and Column B of line 7. Use the following worksheet to figure this allocation.



Reimbursement Allocation
Worksheet
(Keep for your records)

1. Enter the total amount of reimbursements your employer gave you that weren't reported to you in box 1 of Form W-2 _____
2. Enter the total amount of your expenses for the periods covered by this reimbursement _____
3. Enter the part of the amount on line 2 that was your total expense for meals and entertainment _____
4. Divide line 3 by line 2. Enter the result as a decimal (rounded to three places) _____
5. Multiply line 1 by line 4. Enter the result here and in Column B, line 7 _____
6. Subtract line 5 from line 1. Enter the result here and in Column A, line 7 _____

Step 3-Figure Expenses To Deduct on AR3

Line 9. Generally, you can deduct only 50% of your business meal and entertainment expenses, including meals incurred while away from home on business.

Line 10. If you are one of the individuals discussed below, special rules apply to deducting your employee business expenses. Any part of the line 10 total that isn't deducted according to the special rules should be entered on AR3, line 20.

Ministers. Before entering your total expenses on line 10, you must reduce them by the amount allocable to your tax-free allowance(s).

Armed Forces reservist (member of a reserve component). You are a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States if you are in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard Reserve; the Army National Guard of the United States; the Air National Guard of the United States; or the Reserve Corps of the Public Health Service.

If you qualify, complete Form AR2106 and include the part of the line 10 amount attributable to the expenses for travel more than 100 miles away from home in connection with your performance of services as a member of the reserves on Form AR1000ADJ, line 15, and attach Form AR2106 to your return. The amount of expenses you can deduct is limited to the regular federal per diem rate (for lodging, meals, and incidental expenses) and the standard mileage rate (for car expenses), plus any parking fees, ferry fees, and tolls. These reserve-related travel expenses are deductible whether or not you itemize deductions.

Part II-Vehicle Expenses

There are two methods for figuring vehicle expenses—the standard mileage rate and the actual expense method. You can use the standard mileage rate only if:

- You owned the vehicle and used the standard mileage rate for the first year you placed the vehicle in service, or
- You leased the vehicle and are using the standard mileage rate for the entire lease period (except the period, if any, before 1998).

You can't use actual expenses for a leased vehicle if you previously used the standard mileage rate for that vehicle.

If you have the option of using either the standard mileage rate or actual expense method, you should figure your expenses both ways to find the method most beneficial to you. But when completing Form AR2106, fill in only the sections that apply to the method you choose.

If you were a rural mail carrier and received an equipment maintenance allowance, see the line 1 instructions.

Section A-General Information

If you used two vehicles for business during the year, use a separate column in Sections A, C, and D for each vehicle. If you used more than two vehicles, complete and attach a second Form AR2106, page 2.

Line 11. Date placed in service is generally the date you first start using your vehicle. However, if you first start using your vehicle for personal use and later convert it to business use, the vehicle is treated as placed in service on the date you start using it for business.

Line 12. Enter the total number of miles you drove each vehicle.

Change from personal to business use. If you converted your vehicle during the year from personal to business use (or vice versa) and you don't have mileage records for the time before the change to business use, enter the total number of miles driven after the change to business use.

Line 13. Don't include commuting miles on this line; commuting miles aren't considered business miles. See the line 15 instructions for the definition of commuting.

Line 14. Divide line 13 by line 12 to figure your business use percentage.

Change from personal to business use. If you entered on line 12 the total number of miles driven after the change to business use, multiply the percentage you figured by the number of months you drove the vehicle for business and divide the result by 12.

Line 15. Enter your average daily round trip commuting distance. If you went to more than one work location, figure the average.

Change from personal to business use. If you entered on line 12 the total number of miles driven after the change to business use, multiply the percentage you figured by the number of months you drove the vehicle for business and divide the result by 12.

Commuting. Generally, commuting is travel between your home and a work location. However, travel that meets any of the following conditions isn't commuting.

- You have at least one regular work location away from your home and the travel is to a temporary work location in the same trade or business, regardless of the distance. Generally, a temporary work location is one where your employment is expected to last 1 year or less.
- The travel is to a temporary work location outside the metropolitan area where you live and normally work.
- Your home is your principal place of business and the travel is to another work location in the same trade or business, regardless of whether that location is regular or temporary and regardless of distance.

Line 16. If you don't know the total actual miles you used your vehicle for commuting during the year, figure the amount to enter on line 16 by multiplying the number of days during the year that you used each vehicle for commuting by the average daily round trip commuting distance in miles. However, if you



converted your vehicle during the year from personal to business use (or vice versa), enter your commuting miles only for the period you drove your vehicle for business.

Section B-Standard Mileage Rate

You may be able to use the standard mileage rate instead of actual expenses to figure the deductible costs of operating a passenger vehicle, including a van, sport utility vehicle (SUV), pickup, or panel truck.

If you want to use the standard mileage rate for a vehicle you own, you must do so in the first year you place your vehicle in service. In later years, you can deduct actual expenses instead, but you must use straight line depreciation.

If you lease your vehicle, you can use the standard mileage rate, but only if you use the rate for the entire lease period (except for the period, if any, before January 1, 1998).

If you use more than two vehicles, complete and attach a second Form AR2106, page 2, providing the information requested in lines 11 through 22. Be sure to include the amount from line 22 of both pages in the total on Form AR2106, line 1.

If you are claiming the standard mileage rate for mileage driven in more than one business activity, you must figure the deduction for each business on a separate form or schedule.

Section C-Actual Expenses

Line 23. Enter your total annual expenses for gasoline, oil, repairs, insurance, tires, license plates, and similar items. Don't include state and local personal property taxes or interest expense you paid. Deduct state and local personal property taxes on AR3, line 6. Employees can't deduct car loan interest.

Line 24a. If you rented or leased instead of using your own vehicle, enter the cost of renting. Also, include on this line any temporary rentals, such as when your car was being repaired, except for amounts included on line 3.

Line 24b. If you leased a vehicle for a term of 30 days or more, you may have to reduce your deduction for vehicle lease payments by an amount called the inclusion amount. You may have an inclusion amount for a passenger automobile if:

Passenger Automobiles (Including Trucks and Vans)

The lease term began in:	And the vehicle's fair market value on the first day of the lease exceeded:
2016, 2019, or 2020	\$50,000

For years prior to 2018, see the inclusion tables below. You may have an inclusion amount for a passenger automobile if:

Passenger Automobiles (Except Trucks and Vans)

The lease term began in:	And the vehicle's fair market value on the first day of the lease exceeded:
2016, or 2017,	\$19,000

You may have an inclusion amount for a truck or van if:

Trucks and Vans

The lease term began in:	And the vehicle's fair market value on the first day of the lease exceeded:
2016, or 2017	\$19,500

Line 25. If your employer provided a vehicle for your business use and included 100% of its annual lease value in box 1 of your Form W-2, enter this amount on line 25. If less than 100% of the annual lease value was included in box 1 of your Form W-2, skip line 25.

Line 28. If you completed Section D, enter the amount from line 38. If you used Form 4562 to figure your depreciation deduction, enter the total of the following amounts.

- Depreciation allocable to your vehicle(s) • (from Form 4562, line 28).
- Any Arkansas-adjusted section 179 • deduction allocable to your vehicle(s) (from Form 4562, line 29).

Section D-Depreciation of Vehicles

Depreciation is an amount you can deduct to recover the cost or other basis of your vehicle over a certain number of years.

Vehicle trade-in. If you traded in one vehicle (the "old vehicle") for another vehicle (the "new vehicle") there are two ways you can treat the transaction.

- You can elect to treat the transaction as a tax-free disposition of the old vehicle and the purchase of the new vehicle. If you make this election, you treat the old vehicle as disposed of trade-in. The depreciable basis of the new vehicle is the adjusted basis of the old vehicle (figured as if 100% of the vehicle's use had been for business purposes) plus any additional amount you paid for the new vehicle. You then figure your depreciation deduction for the new vehicle beginning with the date you placed it in service. You make this election by completing Form AR2106, Part II, Section D.
- If you don't make the election described in (1), you must figure depreciation separately for the remaining basis of the old vehicle and for any additional amount you paid for the new vehicle. You must apply two depreciation limits. The limit that applies to the remaining basis of the old vehicle generally is the amount that would have been allowed had you not traded the old vehicle. The limit that applies to the additional amount you paid for the new vehicle generally is the limit that applies for the tax year it was placed in service, reduce by the depreciation allowance for the remaining basis of the old vehicle.

You must use Form 4562 to figure your depreciation deduction. You can't use Form AR2106, Part II, Section D. If you elect to use the method described in (1), you must do so on a timely filed tax return (including extensions). Otherwise, you must use the method described in (2).

Line 30. Enter the vehicle's actual cost or other basis. Don't reduce your basis by any prior year's depreciation. However, you must reduce your basis by any deductible casualty loss, deduction for clean-fuel vehicle, gas guzzler tax, alternative motor vehicle credit, or qualified plug-in electric vehicle credit you claimed. Increase your basis by any sales tax paid (unless you deducted sales taxes in the year you purchased your vehicle) and any substantial improvements to your vehicle.

If you traded in your vehicle, your basis is the adjusted basis of the old vehicle (reduced by depreciation figured as if 100% of the vehicle's use had been for business purposes) plus any additional amount you pay for the new vehicle.

If you converted the vehicle from personal use to business use, your basis for depreciation is the smaller of the vehicle's adjusted basis or its fair market value on the date of conversion.



Line 31. Enter the amount of any Arkansas-adjusted section 179 deduction claimed for this year. (Arkansas adopted IRC Section 179 as in effect on January 1, 2009, thus allowing greater dollar limits and phase out thresholds. The maximum deduction allowed for property placed in service during the tax year is \$25,000. The deduction is decreased "dollar for dollar" for property over \$200,000, and no deduction is allowed for property over \$225,000.)

Section 179 deduction. If 2020 is the first year your vehicle was placed in service and the percentage on line 14 is more than 50%, you can elect to deduct as an expense a portion of the cost (subject to a yearly limit). To figure this section 179 deduction, multiply the part of the cost of the vehicle that you choose to expense by the percentage on line 14. The total of your depreciation and section 179 deduction generally can't be more than the percentage on line 14 multiplied by the applicable limit explained in the line 36 instructions. Your section 179 deduction for the year can't be more than the income from your job and any other active trade or business.

Caution: If you are claiming a section 179 deduction on other property, or you placed more than \$200,000 of section 179 property in service during the year, use Form 4562 to figure your section 179 deduction. Enter the amount of the section 179 deduction allocable to your vehicle from Form 4562, line 12, on Form AR2106, line 31.

Note: For section 179 purposes, the cost of the new vehicle doesn't include the adjusted basis of the vehicle you traded in.

Special depreciation allowance. Arkansas has not adopted IRC Section 168(k) regarding bonus depreciation. Amounts claimed for depreciation should be calculated in accordance with Arkansas law.

Line 32. To figure the basis for depreciation, multiply line 30 by the percentage on line 14. From that result, subtract the total amount of any section 179 deduction claimed this year (see line 31) or any section 179 deduction claimed in any previous year for this vehicle.

Line 33. If you used the standard mileage rate in the first year the vehicle was placed in service and now elect to use the actual expense method, you must use the straight line method of depreciation for the vehicle's estimated useful life. Otherwise, use the Depreciation Method and Percentage Chart, later, to find the depreciation method and percentage to enter on line 33. To use the chart, first find the date you placed the vehicle in service (line 11). Then, select the depreciation method and percentage from column (a), (b), or (c). For example, if you placed a car in service on July 1, 2017, and you use the method in column (a), enter "200 DB 20%" on line 33.

For vehicles placed in service before 2019, use the same method you used on last year's return unless a decline in your business use requires a change to the straight line method.

For vehicles placed in service, select the depreciation method and percentage after reading the explanation for each column.

Column (a)-200% declining balance method. You can use column (a) only if the business use percentage on line 14 is more than 50%. Of the three depreciation methods, the 200% declining balance method may give you the largest depreciation deduction for the first 3 years (after considering the depreciation limit for your vehicle). See the depreciation limit tables, later.

Column (b)-150% declining balance method. You can use column (b) only if the business use percentage on line 14 is more than 50%. The 150% declining balance method may give you a smaller depreciation deduction than in column (a).

Column (c)-straight line method. You must use column (c) if the business use percentage on line 14 is 50% or less. The method for these vehicles is the straight line method over 5 years. The use of this column is optional for these vehicles if the business use percentage on line 14 is more than 50%.

Note: If your vehicle was used more than 50% for business in the year it was placed in service and used 50% or less in a later year, part of the depreciation, and Arkansas section 179 deduction, previously claimed may have to be added back to your income in the later year. Figure the amount to be included in income in Part IV of Form 4797, Sales of Business Property.

Line 33: Depreciation Method and Percentage Chart

Date Placed in Service	(a) ¹	(b) ¹	(c)
Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2020	200 DB 5.0 %	150 DB 3.75%	SL 2.5%
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2020	200 DB 20.0	50 DB 15.0	SL 10.0
Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2019	200 DB 38.0	150 DB 28.88	SL 20.0
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2019	200 DB 32.0	150 DB 25.5	SL 20.0
Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2018	200 DB 22.8	150 DB 20.21	SL 20.0
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2018	200 DB 19.2	150 DB 17.85	SL 20.0
Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2017	200 DB 13.68	150 DB 16.4	SL 20.0
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2017	200 DB 11.52	150 DB 16.66	SL 20.0
Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2016	200 DB 10.94	150 DB 16.41	SL 20.0
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2016	200 DB 11.52	150 DB 16.66	SL 20.0
Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2015	200 DB 9.58	150 DB 14.35	SL 17.5
Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2015	200 DB 5.76	150 DB 8.33	SL 10.0
Prior to 2014 ²			

¹You can use this column only if the business use of your car is more than 50%.

²If your car was subject to the maximum limits for depreciation and you have unrecovered basis in the car, you can continue to claim depreciation.



Line 34. If you sold or exchanged your vehicle during the year, use the following instructions to figure the amount to enter on line 34.

If your vehicle was placed in service:

1. Before 2014, enter the result of multiplying line 32 by the percentage on line 33; or
2. After 2013, from January 1 through September 30, enter the amount figured by multiplying the result in (1) by 50%; or
3. After 2013, from October 1 through December 31, enter the amount figured by multiplying the result in (1) by the percentage shown below for the month you disposed of the vehicle.

Month of Disposal	Percentage
Jan., Feb., March	12.5%
April, May, June	37.5%
July, Aug., Sept.	62.5%
Oct., Nov., Dec.	87.5%

Line 36. Using the applicable chart for your type of vehicle, find the date you placed your vehicle in service. Then, enter on line 36 the corresponding amount from the "Limit" column. Before using the charts, please read the following definitions.

- A passenger automobile is a 4-wheeled vehicle manufactured primarily for use on public roads that is rated at 6,000 pounds unloaded gross vehicle weight or less. Certain vehicles, such as ambulances, hearses, and taxicabs, aren't considered passenger automobiles and aren't subject to the line 36 limits.
- A truck or van is a passenger automobile that is classified by the manufacturer as a truck or van, and that is rated at 6,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or less.

If your vehicle isn't subject to any of the line 36 limits, skip lines 36 and 37, and enter the amount from line 35 on line 38.

Limits for Passenger Automobiles (Including Trucks and Vans) acquired before September 28, 2017, and placed in service during 2018 or 2019

Date Vehicle Was Place in Service	Limit
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2019	\$16,100
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2018	\$9,600

Limits for Passenger Automobiles (Including Trucks and Vans) acquired after September 27, 2017, and placed in service during 2018 or later

Date Vehicle Was Place in Service	Limit
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020	\$18,100
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2019	\$16,100
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2018	\$4,600

Limits for Passenger Automobiles (Except Trucks and Vans) Placed in Service Prior to 2018

Date Vehicle Was Place in Service	Limit
Jan. 1, 2012 - Dec. 31, 2017	\$1,875
Jan. 1, 2006 - Dec. 31, 2011	\$1,775
Jan. 1, 2004 - Dec. 31, 2005	\$1,675
Jan. 1, 1995 - Dec. 31, 2003	\$1,775

Limits for Trucks and Vans Placed in Service Prior to 2018

Date Vehicle Was Place in Service	Limit
Jan. 1, 2016 - Dec. 31, 2017	\$2,075
Jan. 1, 2013 - Dec. 31, 2015	\$1,975
Jan. 1, 2010 - Dec. 31, 2012	\$1,875
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2009	\$1,775
Jan. 1, 2004 - Dec. 31, 2008	\$1,875
Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2003	\$1,975
Jan. 1, 1995 - Dec. 31, 2002	\$1,775