Year-end strategies to lower taxes



Philanthropy

Take advantage of the charitable income tax deduction.

- Group deductible contributions (so that itemized deductions exceed the standard deduction).
- If eligible, take advantage of Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from your IRA. They reduce adjusted gross income.
- QCDs also count towards your required minimum distribution amount.



Gift and trust planning

Don't waste 2025 annual exclusions to transfer more wealth.

- Use Annual Exclusion gifts before year end; leverage the Annual Exclusion from the Generation-skipping Transfer Tax by funding qualifying trusts for grandchildren and more distant descendants.
- Annual exclusion gifts can be used to fund life insurance trusts with "Crummey" powers.
- Annual Exclusion gifts, including frontloading, can be used to fund 529 Plan accounts.



Tax loss harvesting

Generate capital losses to offset capital gains.*

- Up to \$3,000 of unused capital losses may be deducted against ordinary income.
- Beyond that, unused capital losses may be carried forward to another tax year.

*Beware of the wash sale rules (wait 31 days before repurchasing the same or a substantially similar asset).

Qualified plans

Increase retirement savings and reduce taxable income.



- Fund qualified plans to the extent possible up to annual limits. At a minimum, contribute enough to receive your employer's full match.
- It may be possible to save future taxes by converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.*

*A Roth conversion causes an immediate income tax. Before converting, determine if tax savings can be generated over time.

Tax credit

Offset tax, dollar for dollar.



The following tax credits have been repealed as of the effective dates noted below. Time is running out if you intend to purchase any of the items that currently qualify for a tax credit.

Credit	No longer allowed for
Previously Owned Clean Vehicle Credit	Vehicles acquired after September 30, 2025
Clean Vehicle Credit	Vehicles placed in service after September 30, 2025
Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit	Vehicles placed in service after September 30, 2025
Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit	Property placed in service after December 31, 2025
Residential Clean Energy Credit	Expenditures made after December 31, 2025
New Energy Efficient Home Credit	New energy efficient home acquired after June 30, 2026



Plan now

Each family's tax and financial circumstances are different. We encourage you to consult with your tax, legal and financial advisors with respect to your situation.



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