

Tax Deductions for Trade Professionals in Australia

To claim a deduction for work-related expenses:

- You must have spent the money yourself and were not reimbursed
- It needs to directly relate to earning your income
- You must have a record to prove the expense claim (e.g. receipt, invoice, etc.)

1. Work-Related Travel

- Car expenses (using **logbook** or **cents per km** method)
 - You can claim the travel between your home and worksite, if you need to carry tools or bulky equipment to perform your typical daily work duties.
- Travel between job sites or to collect materials
- Parking and tolls (excluding travel between home and regular workplace)
- Public transport for work purposes
- Accommodation and meals when travelling overnight for work

2. Tools & Equipment

- Purchase of tools and equipment (e.g. drills, saws, ladders)
- Depreciation for tools costing more than \$300
- Repairs and maintenance of tools
- Batteries, extension cords, and power leads
- Protective gear (e.g. gloves, helmets, safety glasses, steel-cap boots)

3. Work Clothing

- Protective clothing (e.g. high-visibility, fire-resistant workwear)
- Compulsory branded uniforms
- Laundry and cleaning of work clothes (including detergent if calculated correctly)

4. Licences, Registrations & Insurance

- Trade licences (e.g. White Card, electrician registration)
- Renewal of certifications and safety inductions
- Union fees or membership to trade associations
- Professional indemnity, public liability or tool insurance (if self-funded)

5. Training & Education

- Courses that maintain or improve current skills
- CPD (Continuing Professional Development) training
- First aid courses if required for work
- Travel and accommodation to attend training

6. Communication Expenses

- Work-related portion of mobile phone and data usage
- Phone accessories if required for business
- Internet expenses if used for business admin, quotes, scheduling, etc.

7. Home Office Costs (if used for admin work)

- Electricity and gas (portion of home office use)
- Depreciation on home office furniture (desk, chair)
- Printer and stationery used for quotes or invoices

8. Other Work-Related Expenses

- Stationery, diaries, invoice books
- Safety certifications (e.g. asbestos training)
- Working with Children Check or police checks if required

Disclaimer

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