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Belmont Bank & Trust's News

Tax Implications of Refinancing Your Home



Refinancing your home mortgage can affect your taxes if you itemize deductions. To complicate matters, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act temporarily altered the rules that apply to deducting home mortgage interest and points — and it reduced the number of taxpayers who will itemize deductions through 2025. Here are the details, along with an important distinction between home acquisition debt and home equity debt under current law. Copyright © 2020

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14 Tax-Favored Fringe Benefits: What's the Right Mix for Your Business?



Unfortunately, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act eliminated tax deductions for certain employee transportation fringe benefits, such as company-paid transit passes and parking allowances. It also suspended tax-favored treatment for company reimbursements to cover employees' job-related moving expenses. But other fringe benefits are still deductible by employers and tax-free to employees. Here's how you can seize the tax breaks that are currently available.

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New Business Travel Per Diem Rates Announced for 2020



Are you and your employees frustrated by the time-consuming task of documenting and reviewing travel expenses? The IRS offers simplified methods for reimbursing employees' out-of-town lodging, meals and incidental expenses. Here we discuss government-approved per diem rates for travel beginning October 1, 2019 — and why it's more important than ever for employers to set up formal expense reimbursement plans for business travel.

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Is a New Individual Health Plan in Your Future?



If you currently have a conventional health plan through your employer, you could be in for a change. This is also true of employers who provide health insurance. Beginning in 2020, employers will have expanded freedom to simply give you some money to help you buy health coverage on your own. It's probable that many employees will seize the opportunity — eventually. Here's what you need to know. Copyright © 2020

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Update on the New Business Interest Expense Limitation The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) imposes a new limitation on deductions for business interest expense. The IRS recently issued guidance in the form of proposed regulations. The business interest expense limitation is a permanent change for tax years that began in 2018. Thankfully, many businesses are unaffected. Here's what you need to know. Copyright © 2020			
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