



JRayl Transport Per Diem Guidelines:

The IRS recognizes that drivers who are forced to spend the night(s) away from home incur expenses that are a result of their job. You, as a driver can keep all of your receipts and have your tax preparer deduct your road expenses off of your taxable income, if you file the long form.

There is, however, a much simpler option that is available to you. The IRS allows a per diem for road expenses to be deducted from your gross pay on a per pay period basis. While the rate is subject to change on a yearly basis, the current rate is \$63.00 per day or a percentage that equates equally. JRayl Transport has estimated that 33% of your gross with a maximum of \$441 per week is within the spirit of the IRS allowance.

The advantage to this is that it is deducted before any taxes are taken, therefore lowering your taxable income. You also would not pay any FICA taxes on that amount. This means a significant increase in your take home amount each week.

Example 1: The gross \$1,000, you are single claiming one dependent.
Your net take home pay would be \$727.48

Example 2: You gross \$1,000, you are single claiming one dependent.
You have 33% per diem taken off = \$330. Taxable income becomes \$670.
The take home pay will be \$523.17 plus \$330 per diem making the total take home pay \$853.17. That is an additional \$125.69 in take home pay.

You have the option to lower the percentage or eliminate per diem altogether. JRayl does not require you to sign up for the per diem program. The JRayl payroll team can also provide guidance on the program.

Other expenses to consider tracking/deducting during tax season (Regional/OTR Drivers):

- Internet or fax fees
- Administration fees (bank, ATM, check reorder)
- Annual credit card fees
- Association fees
- Bedding costs for sleeper
- Computer support fees
- Cleaning supplies (in your truck)
- Office supplies or postage
- Safety gear (gloves, boots, eye protection)
- Weather gear