If you’re a truck driver it pays to learn what you can claim at tax time

To claim a deduction for work-related expenses

- You must have spent the money yourself and weren’t reimbursed.
- It must be directly related to earning your income.
- You must have a record to prove it.*

*You can use the ATO app myDeductions tool to keep track of your expenses and receipts throughout the year.

You can only claim the work-related part of expenses. You can’t claim a deduction for any part of the expense that relates to personal use.

---

Travel expenses

**You can claim** a deduction for travel expenses if you are required to travel overnight – eg travelling to a remote area, provided the cost was incurred while carrying out your work duties. This could include meals, accommodation, fares and incidental expenses that you incurred and your employer has not provided or reimbursed you.*

* Receiving a travel allowance from your employer does not automatically entitle you to a deduction. You still need to show that you were away overnight, you spent the money yourself, and the travel was directly related to earning your income.

**You can’t claim** accommodation expenses if you sleep in your truck or your employer provides you with accommodation. *Circumstances may be different for FIFO workers.*

---

Clothing expenses

**You can claim** a deduction for the cost of buying, hiring, mending or cleaning certain uniforms that are unique and distinctive to your job – or the environment you work in – or protective clothing that your employer requires you to wear – eg steel-capped boots.

**You can’t claim** a deduction for the cost of buying or cleaning plain clothing worn at work, even if you only wear it to work and even if your employer tells you to wear it – eg standard jeans, drill shirts and trousers.

---

Other common deductible work-related expenses

As long as the expense relates to your employment, **you can claim** a deduction for the work-related portion of the cost of:

- Protective equipment such as sunglasses, sunhats and sunscreens
- Restraining ropes
- Union fees

---

Phone and internet expenses

**You can claim** phone and internet usage if your employer needs you to use your personal devices for work.

You can only claim the work-related portion of the use of your personal device.

---

This is a general summary only. For more information, go to [ato.gov.au/occupations](https://ato.gov.au/occupations)