## Navigating the 2025 Tax Shift: Insights to Help You Plan Ahead

On July 4, 2025, a major new tax law—the "Make American Workers and Families Thrive Again Act"—was signed into law. This wide-reaching legislation updates many parts of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which were set to expire at the end of this year. With over 1,000 pages of changes, the new law could have a big impact on your financial plans. Understanding what's changed can help you make smart decisions for 2025 and beyond.

## **Key Highlights:**

- **Tax Brackets:** The 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35%, and 37% income tax rates are now permanent.
- **Personal Exemption:** Permanently eliminated. Seniors (65+) receive a \$6,000 deduction (2025–2028), phased out at \$150,000 (joint) / \$75,000 (single).
- **Standard Deduction (2025):** Increased to \$31,500 (joint), \$23,625 (head of household), and \$15,750 (single), with inflation adjustments thereafter.
- Itemized Deductions: Still allowed but limited for those in the 37% bracket.
- State and Local Tax (SALT) Deduction: Cap raised to \$40,000 in 2025, increasing 1% annually through 2029, then reverting to \$10,000. Phased down for MAGI over \$500,000.



- **Child Tax Credit:** \$2,200 credit made permanent, with inflation adjustments. Phases out at \$400,000 (joint) / \$200,000 (single).
- Qualified Business Income (QBI) Deduction: Made permanent for small businesses and self-employed individuals.
- **Estate & Gift Tax:** Exemption set permanently at \$15 million, indexed for inflation.
- **AMT:** Exemption and phase-out thresholds made permanent.
- Mortgage Interest: Deductible on loans up to \$750,000.
- **Tip & Overtime Deductions:** Above-the-line deductions allowed through 2027, with caps and income phase-outs.
- **Vehicle Interest Deduction:** Up to \$10,000 for U.S.-assembled personal-use vehicles, phased out over \$100,000 income.
- Charitable Contributions: Without itemizing, there is a charitable deduction allowed of \$2,000 (joint filers) and \$1,000 (single filers).
- Trump Deferred Account: New tax-advantaged savings plan for children born 2025–2028. \$5,000 annual contribution limit, \$1,000 government seed, tax-deferred growth.
- **Section 179 Expensing:** Limit increased to \$2.5 million, with phase-out starting at \$4 million.
- Opportunity Zones: Incentives extended through 2033.



**Next Steps:** Further guidance is expected via Treasury regulations issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), as the Act passed without full committee hearings.



## Please contact your financial advisor if you have questions or need assistance related to this topic.

This communication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information on the subjects covered. It is not, however, intended to provide specific legal, tax, or other professional advice. For specific professional assistance, the services of an appropriate professional should be sought.

"Cetera Financial Group" refers to the network of independent retail firms encompassing, among others, Cetera Advisors LLC, Cetera Advisor Networks LLC, Cetera Investment Services LLC (marketed as Cetera Financial Institutions or Cetera Investors), and Cetera Financial Specialists LLC. All firms are members FINRA / SIPC. Located at 655 W. Broadway, 11th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

Avantax, Inc. (Avantax) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aretec Group, Inc. (dba Cetera Holdings). Avantax is a unique community within Cetera Holdings. Avantax Investment Services, Inc., a subsidiary of Avantax, Member FINRA / SIPC. Located at 3200 Olympus Blvd, Suite 100, Dallas, TX, 75019.

Advisors affiliated with Cetera are either registered representatives offering only brokerage services or are investment adviser representatives who can also offer advisory services.

