

DELIVERY DRIVERS (DOORDASH, INSTCART)

1. Vehicle Expenses

- **Mileage:**
 - Deduct the standard mileage rate for all business-related driving (ex: picking up and delivering orders).
 - **Actual Vehicle Costs:**
 - If you choose not to use the standard mileage rate, you can deduct:
 - Gasoline and oil.
 - Vehicle repairs and maintenance.
 - Tires and tire rotations.
 - Car washes and detailing.
 - Depreciation of the vehicle.
 - Vehicle loan interest (if the vehicle is financed and used for business).
 - Vehicle registration and inspection fees.
 - Lease payments (if leasing the vehicle).
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2. Insurance

- **Auto Insurance:**
 - Deduct the portion of your auto insurance premium used for business purposes.
 - **Delivery Insurance:**
 - Additional insurance policies specifically for delivery drivers.
 - **Health Insurance:**
 - Deductible for self-employed individuals (if not covered elsewhere).
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3. Vehicle Maintenance and Accessories

- **Tolls and Parking:**
 - Costs for toll booths and parking fees incurred during deliveries.
 - **Roadside Assistance:**
 - Membership fees for services like AAA or other roadside assistance programs.
 - **Vehicle Accessories:**
 - Items such as phone mounts, dash cams, or organizers used while driving.
 - **Car Cleaning Supplies:**
 - Cleaning products for keeping your vehicle clean for deliveries.
 - **Weather Accessories:**
 - Costs for snow tires, windshield wipers, or de-icers used during bad weather.
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4. Delivery Tools and Supplies

- **Hot/Cold Bags:**
 - Insulated bags for carrying food or groceries.
 - **Cart or Dolly:**
 - Equipment used for transporting heavy or bulk items.
 - **Storage Containers:**
 - Boxes or crates used to organize items in your vehicle.
 - **Protective Gear:**
 - Gloves, masks, or hand sanitizers for health and safety purposes.
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5. Technology and Communication

- **Mobile Phone Costs:**
 - A portion of your phone bill used for delivery apps and communication with customers.
 - **Phone Accessories:**
 - Chargers, phone holders, or mounts for navigation and app usage.
 - **Data Plans:**
 - A percentage of your mobile data plan used for running delivery apps.
 - **Navigation Tools:**
 - GPS devices or paid map apps for efficient delivery routing.
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6. Marketing and Branding

- **Advertising:**
 - Costs for printing business cards or flyers to promote referral codes.
 - **Branded Items:**
 - Stickers or magnets with your referral information to encourage sign-ups.
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7. Workspace and Office Supplies

- **Home Office Deduction:**
 - If you use part of your home exclusively for managing delivery work (ex: tracking expenses or managing apps), you can deduct a portion of rent, utilities, and maintenance.
- **Office Supplies:**
 - Notebooks, pens, folders, or binders for organizing delivery schedules and receipts.

8. Taxes and Banking

- **Self-Employment Tax:**
 - Deduct half of your self-employment tax.
 - **Bank Fees:**
 - Charges for maintaining a business account or payment processing fees.
 - **Tax Preparation:**
 - Costs for hiring a CPA or using tax preparation software.
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9. Food and Beverage

- **Snacks for Drivers:**
 - Small snacks or water to sustain you during long shifts (partially deductible if on the go).
 - **Meals:**
 - Deductible if you travel away from your tax home for business (subject to the 50% rule).
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10. Travel and Transportation

- **Vehicle Rentals:**
 - Costs for renting a car used exclusively for deliveries.
 - **Public Transportation:**
 - Costs for buses, trains, or rideshare services used for delivery-related travel.
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11. Education and Training

- **Driving Classes:**
 - Defensive driving courses or other training programs.
 - **Workshops:**
 - Business or customer service training programs related to delivery driving.
 - **Online Courses:**
 - Tutorials or guides for improving efficiency or maximizing earnings.
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12. Safety and Security

- **Dash Cam:**
 - Costs for installing and maintaining a dash camera for security while driving.
 - **First Aid Kit:**
 - Supplies for emergencies while on the road.
 - **Safety Equipment:**
 - Items like reflective vests or vehicle safety kits.
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13. Internet and Apps

- **Internet Costs:**
 - A portion of your internet bill used for managing delivery accounts and scheduling.
 - **Delivery Apps:**
 - Costs for premium features or subscriptions to apps like Gridwise, Everlance, or SherpaShare for tracking mileage or managing deliveries.
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14. Miscellaneous Expenses

- **Background Checks:**
 - Fees for required background checks by delivery platforms.
 - **Vehicle Inspections:**
 - Costs for annual or periodic vehicle inspections required by the platform.
 - **Customer Gifts:**
 - Small tokens of appreciation for high-value customers (up to \$25 per customer annually).
 - **Road Snacks:**
 - Consumables purchased for yourself to stay energized on the job.
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15. Depreciation

- **Vehicle Depreciation:**
 - Deduct depreciation for owned vehicles used for deliveries.
 - **Equipment Depreciation:**
 - High-cost items like insulated bags, dolly carts, or dash cams that are used over time.
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16. Professional Services

- **Legal Fees:**
 - Costs for resolving disputes related to delivery work or obtaining advice about your business.
 - **Business Consulting:**
 - Fees for guidance on maximizing efficiency or diversifying income streams.
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17. Charitable Contributions

- **Donations:**
 - Items or deliveries made for free to qualified charitable organizations (deduct materials, not time).