

Check out these tax tips and changes for the 2019-2020 tax years.

## **Standard Deductions Have Increased for Tax Year 2019**

Filing Status	2018	2019
Single	\$12,000 —	→ \$12,200
Married	\$24,000 —	→ <b>\$24,400</b>
Head of Household	\$18,000 —	→ \$18,350

#### **April 15, 2020**

Deadline to file and pay taxes or request a filing extension.

#### October 15, 2020

Last day to file a tax return if you received an extension from the IRS.

#### **Get Ahead!**

FSA (Flexible Spending Account) limit increased for 2020 to \$2,750, up from \$2,700 in 2019. Remember that this is "use it or lose it" money. Contribute a set amount per paycheck and use the funds for medical expenses like:

First-aid kits
Contact lenses
Chiropractic care
Dental work
Physical Therapy

Braces
Over-the-counter medication
Baby thermometers
Humidifiers
Co-pays / Deductables

Check out **FSAstore.com** for medical-related products to purchase.

#### **State and Local Taxes (SALT)**

Enacted last year, taxpayers who itemize can only deduct up to \$10,000 on a combination of state income taxes, sales tax, local taxes and property tax.

Individual Contributions
Increased for 401(k)
Retirement Accounts

for Tax Year 2020

Filing Status	2019	2020
Under Age 50	\$19,000	<b>→ \$19,500</b>
Over Age 50	\$25,000	<b>→ \$26,000</b>



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# **GET ORGANIZED** THIS TAX SEASON

Use these top three tips to stay on track with your 2019 taxes.

**Know Your Deadlines** Stay ahead of the game to avoid surprises or late penalties.

February 2020 — Compile all W-2, 1098 or 1099 forms. These should have been received by January 31.

**April 15, 2020** — Deadline to file 2019 taxes or file an extension request.

**Leave Plenty** of Time Start collecting documents and sorting

files sooner rather than later!

If something is missing, you'll have ample time to track it down, instead of rushing last minute.

**Determine Your Filing System** Keep a container with labeled folders:

- · Home and office expenses.
- Vehicle and mileage costs.
- Education costs.
- · Child care expenses.
- Medical expenses.
- · Miscellaneous.

Upload digital documents to a secure digital platform:

- Dropbox, Google Drive, The Vault.
- Keep a backup on a hard drive or thumb drive!

**Need a professional** to help you get started on your taxes? Call me for a great referral!

## Preferred Lender:



### **Steve Emory**

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\*Certain Restrictions apply. Not all applicants will qualify.



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