# Business Tax Changes Under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

FICPA Gulf Coast – May 1, 2018

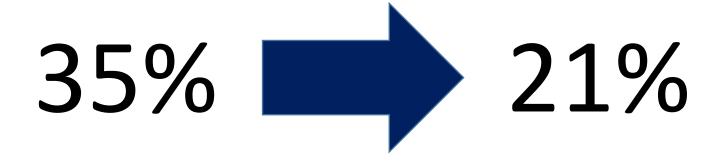


# Passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts





## Corporate Tax Rate







#### Section 179 Deduction

- Section 179 deduction limit has been increased from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000
- The Section 179 phase out threshold amount has been raised from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000
- Section 179 property now includes
  - Tangible personal property used to predominantly furnish lodgings (i.e. furniture, appliances, home equipment, etc.)
  - Improvements to non-residential real property



## **Bonus Depreciation**

#### Old Law

- Qualified property was allowed a 50% "bonus depreciation" expense for the year such property was placed into service
- Only applied to new property

#### New Law

 50% bonus depreciation has been increased to a full 100% bonus depreciation deduction

Definition of Qualified Property has been expanded to include

used property



## Revocation of S Corp Status

#### • If

- An entity was an S corporation on the day before the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,
- During the two year period following the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, such entity revokes its S corporation status, and
- Such revocation causes necessary adjustments under IRC 481 to account for a change from accrual to cash method

#### • Then

Adjustments shall be taken into account ratably for the next 6 years

\*As written, only applies to revocations but not terminations



#### Elimination of Technical Termination

- Old Law: 2 ways to terminate a partnership
  - Partners no longer carry on any business, financial operation, or venture of the partnership
  - Sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interest in partnership capital and profits = a termination of the partnership
- New Law:
  - Technical termination has been eliminated



## Net Operating Losses – 80% Limit

- Old Law
  - NOL Deduction = NOL Carryback + NOL Carryforward
- New Law
  - NOL Deduction limited to 80% of taxable income

\*Does not apply to NOLs generated prior to December 31, 2017.

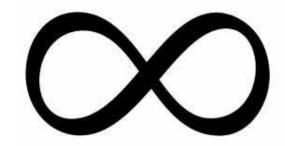


# Net Operating Losses – Carryback Eliminated

- NOL Carryback disallowed
  - 2 year carryback of net operating losses has been removed
  - Certain farm losses may still use the 2 year carryback



- NOL Carryforward never expires
  - 20 year carryforward of net operating losses has been extended indefinitely





#### **Business Interest Deduction**

- Repeals "Earnings Stripping" rules
- Replaced with a business interest deduction limitation
- Deduction for business interest can't exceed the sum of:
  - The taxpayer's business interest income for the year, plus
  - 30% of the taxpayer's adjustable taxable income for the year,
    plus
  - The taxpayer's floor plan financing interest
- Indefinite carryforward of disallowed interest
- Does not apply to businesses whose average annual gross receipts do not exceed \$25 million over the previous three tax years



## Business Interest Deduction – Example 1

- Corporation X has the following:
  - \$1,000,000 adjustable taxable income
  - \$20,000 business interest income
  - \$120,000 business interest expense
  - \$0 floor plan financing
- 30% of \$1,000,000 = \$300,000
- Limitation = \$300,000 + \$20,000 = \$320,000
- Since business interest expense is only \$120,000, the full expense may be deducted.



## Business Interest Deduction – Example 2

- Corporation X has the following:
  - \$100,000 adjustable taxable income
  - \$20,000 business interest income
  - \$120,000 business interest expense
  - + \$0 floor plan financing
- 30% of \$100,000 = \$30,000
- Limitation = \$30,000 + \$20,000 = \$50,000
- Since business interest expense is \$120,000, only \$50,000 may be taken as a business interest deduction.
  - The remaining \$70,000 is carried forward indefinitely



### Entertainment Expenses

#### Old Law

- Entertainment expenses are deductible if directly related to the active conduct of a trade or business
- Nine specific exceptions were generally deductible, including
  - Food and beverage furnished for employees
  - Recreational, social, or other similar activities furnished for employees who are not highly compensated employees

#### New Law

 No entertainment expense is deductible, even if directly related to the active conduct of a trade or business



The nine exceptions remain deductible



# **Employer-Operated Eating Facilities**

#### Old Law

- Employer-provided eating facilities, with meals furnished by an employer, were excluded from employee income as a de minimus fringe benefit while also being deductible to the employer
- Excluded from the 50% limitation on food and beverage expenses

#### New Law

- 50% limitation applies for employer-provided meals qualifying as de minimus fringe benefits
- Beginning after the year 2026, such meals will no longer be deductible





## Jamie Koepsel

(941) 552-2562 | jkoepsel@williamsparker.com

