*KNOW WHICH BUSINESS TAX RETURN YOU NEED TO FILE *KNOW YOUR TAX RETURN FILING DEADLINE

GENERAL DOCUMENTS
TAXPAYER EIN/FEDERAL TAX ID NUMBER
SSN
PREVIOUS YEAR'S TAX RETURN, UP TO 3 YEARS
PRIOR FOR BOTH STATE & FEDERAL
BUSINESS INCOME TAXES DOCUMENTATION
RECEIPTS GROUPED INTO THE FOLLOWING
CATEGORIES:
• SUPPLIES: GENERAL OFFICE SUPPLIES
• RECURRING OPERATIONAL COSTS: RENT,
UTILITIES & SUBSCRIPTION-BASED SERVICES
• ENTERTAINMENT/TRAVEL: ANY APPLICABLE
BUSINESS ENTERTAINMENT & TRAVEL EXPENSES
• MARKETING/ADVERTISING COSTS: EXPENSES USED
TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS
• PROFESSIONAL FEES: ATTORNEYS, CONSULTANTS,
ACCOUNTANTS, BOOKKEEPERS & MORE
• INSURANCE POLICY DETAILS: GATHER BOTH
INDIVIDUAL & GROUP PLAN DOCUMENTS,
COMPANY VEHICLE

• POLICIES & ANY OTHER INSURANCE COVERAGE
DOCUMENTATION
• EQUIPMENT & ASSETS: INCLUDE DEPRECIATION
SCHEDULES FOR EACH
CLOSE OUT BOOKKEEPING
CATEGORIZE ALL TRANSACTIONS
ADDRESS QUESTIONS AND FIX MISTAKES
RECONCILE ALL BANK ACCOUNTS
RECONCILE ALL CREDIT CARD ACCOUNTS
REVIEW YOUR REPORTS
RUN PROFIT AND LOSS STANDARD, REVIEW FOR ERRORS
RUN PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT DETAIL, REVIEW ALL
TRANSACTION CATEGORIES
RUN FINALIZED PROFIT AND LOSS, SAVE FOR YOUR TAX
PREPARER
HOME INTERNET AND CELL PHONE
LOG CELL PHONE PAYMENTS & BUSINESS PERCENTAGE
LOG HOME INTERNET PAYMENTS & BUSINESS
PERCENTAGE

IN-HOME OFFICE DOCUMENTATION
MEASURE & LOG HOME OFFICE SQUARE FOOTAGE
MEASURE & LOG TOTAL HOME SQUARE FOOTAGE
TOTAL HOME EXPENSES
• RENT OR MORTGAGE
• UTILITIES
• RENTER'S OR HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE COST & DOC
• REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE
EMPLOYMENT TAX DOCUMENTATION
EMPLOYEE FORMS
• W-9 EMPLOYEE TAX WITHHOLDING CERTIFICATE
• 1-9 VERIFICATION EMPLOYEE LEGAL WORKING STATUS
• W-2 WAGE AND TAX STATEMENTS FOR EACH EMPLOYEE
SUBCONTRACTORS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
• 1099 NONEMPLOYEE TAX FORM
• 1099-MISC SUMMARY OF FEES & PAYMENTS FOR
NONEMPLOYEES
PAYROLL REPORTS
GROSS MONTHLY PAYROLL
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS WITHHELD FROM EMPLOYEE GROSS
WAGES

MILEAGE AND CAR EXPENSES
LOG TOTAL BUSINESS MILEAGE FOR THE YEAR
LOG TOTAL MILEAGE FOR THE YEAR
TOTAL AUTO EXPENSES
• REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE
• GAS
• INSURANCE
• LEASE PAYMENTS
OTHER MISC DOCUMENTS
SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH INSURANCE TAX CREDIT
DISABLED ACCESS CREDIT
CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION DEDUCTION
ORGANIZATION
MAKE FOLDER FOR TAX-RELATED MAIL
OPEN ALL TAX-RELATED MAIL
MAKE A FOLDER ON YOUR COMPUTER CALLED "20**
TAXES" FOR DIGITAL TAX DOCUMENTATION
MAKE A FOLDER IN YOUR EMAIL PROGRAM CALLED
"20** TAXES" FOR TAX COMMUNICATION

FINAL STEPS
DEDUCT ESTIMATED TAX PAYMENTS
DETERMINE IF YOU NEED A FILING EXTENSION
RESEARCH ALTERNATIVES IF YOU CAN'T PAY YOUR
TAX LIABILITY
TALK TO YOUR ACCOUNTANT OR BOOKKEEPER
FILE
NOTES