

## Beauty and The Books

# 5 Tax Deductions Commonly Used for Barbers, Stylist, or Beauticians



Preparing for the tax season? Keep in mind that you can write-off expenses that are common for your profession and ones that are necessary to help you run a business.

# 1 – Clothing/Uniforms



Your work outfit must be specific to the work you do as a stylist, beautician, or barber. For example, an apron, a smock, or shoes are items you can write off when doing your taxes.

If you are thinking about something more in the fashion sense, you would have to be able to prove its necessity for accomplishing your job.

# 2 – Supplies

Any amount you spend on materials you purchase as a stylist or barber for your business or job.

## These items include:

- Blow dryers
- Clippers
- Combs and brushes
- Makeup kits
- Scissors
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Towels, etc.

**Power Tip: Keep a good record of each item you buy, just in case you need it in the future for the IRS.**

## 3 – Licenses and Education

Being licensed is a common requirement for professionals in the beauty industry. Good thing for you is that you can write-off the fee associated with getting your license and maintaining your license.

## You can also write-off fees for your local business license.

When it comes to your education, which is incredibly important to stay competitive, these fees can also be written off. Along with any travel associated with obtaining your continued education, such as hair shows or conferences.

Once licensed, you can deduct the cost of any continuing education classes needed to improve your skills.

**Note: Subscriptions to magazines related to your job also count as deductions since you need them to stay up to date with the latest trends and fashions.**

Tuition for school has to be done separately with [the 1098-T form](#) that you will receive from your school.

## 4 – Start-up and Operating Expenses

Start-up expenses are everything you spent to get the business running such as, equipment, rent, marketing, etc.

5

The IRS treats these differently. You can write off up to \$5,000 of your taxes, with the rest being depreciated over 15 years. Your CPA (Certified Public Accountant or trusted Tax Advisor can go into more detail on depreciation with you).

Depreciation means you can claim some of the equipment costs for a smaller tax break over a few years.

Operating costs are the expenses needed to maintain your business such as uniforms, insurance, booth space, etc.

## **5 – Any Services**

Services such as dry cleaning, advertising, or having the salon clean are examples of services needed to maintain the integrity of your business.

