Employer Transportation Benefits

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De minimis transportation benefits

- De minimis too trivial or minor to merit consideration
- ▶ IRS an employer can exclude the value of any de minimis transportation benefit it provides to an employee from the employee's wages. A de minimis transportation benefit is any local transportation benefit an employer provides to an employee if it has so little value (taking into account how frequently the employer provides transportation to its employees) that accounting for it would be unreasonable or administratively impracticable.

Practical Information

- What qualifies?
- How much?
- Benefits
- Documentation



What type of transportation expenses qualifies?

- Commuter vehicle
- Transit passes
- Qualified parking
- Qualified bicycle commuting reimbursement

Commuter Vehicle

- At least 6 seats not including the driver
- Expectation of 80% of vehicle mileage will be transporting employees from their homes to work



Transit Pass

- Public or private mass transit
- Bus, rail, ferry...etc.
- If available transit passes must be purchased by the employer

Qualified Parking

- At or near employers office
- At or near employee's commuting location (not home)



Qualified Bicycle Commuting Reimbursement

- Bicycle must be regularly use for commuting
- Month by month
- Reimbursable expenses
 - Purchase
 - Improvements
 - Repair
 - Storage
- Can't be combined with other transportation benefits

How much?

- Commuter vehicle = \$130/month
- Transit pass = \$130/month
- Qualified parking = \$250/month
- Bicycle reimbursement = \$20/month

Benefits

- EE Maximum: \$4,560/annual reimbursement (\$380/month)
- ▶ EE Bicycle: \$240/annual reimbursement
- ▶ ER FICA Savings: \$348.84 (annual)
- ▶ ER Bicycle FICA savings: \$18.36 (annual)

Documentation

- Directly
- "Qualified" IRS means receipts
 - Reimbursement arrangement



2015 Potential Changes

- House Resolution 2288 The Commuter Parity Act
 - Increase bicycle reimbursement maximum to \$35
 - \$220 for both parking and transit/commuter vehicle
- Senate Bill 1116 The Commuter Benefits Equality Act
 - \$250 for both parking and transit/commuter vehicle