

Moving Expenses

From time to time, your career, education or business will force you to move cities, provinces or even countries. As long as you are moving for one of the above purposes, there are a variety of expenses you can claim related to the move. Like most items with the taxman, there are some rules that need to follow first to determine whether the move can be claimed.

1. The purpose of the move must be for your career, business or post-secondary education.
2. The move must get you 40 kilometers closer to your new location.
3. You must generate employment/business income at the new location or grants/fellowships if the move was for educational purposes.
4. Moving expense claim is limited to the amount of income you generate in the new location.

For example, if you earned \$5,000 in the new location and spent \$10,000 in moving expenses, your claim is limited to the \$5,000 in that taxation year. Any excess can be carried forward to a future year when you have earned income in the new location.

Below is a list of allowable moving expenses

- **Transportation & Storage Costs paid to a third party**
 - These expenses would include moving costs, self-storage costs, U-Haul costs
- **Travel Expenses**
 - These would include vehicle expenses, meal costs
 - Travel expenses can be calculated by detailed method or simplified method.
 - Detailed method requires you keep all receipts
 - Simplified method would allow for a fixed amount (\$17) per meal per family member in the move and a fixed rate per kilometer (\$0.455/km in Sask) travelled between destinations
- **Temporary Living Expenses**
 - Costs for up to 15 days of temporary accommodations or meals in the new locations prior to moving into permanent residence.
- **Costs of cancelling a lease for old residence**
- **Incidental costs related to the move**
 - These would include smaller costs such as utility hookups & disconnections, fees for address changes on legal documents as well as driver's licenses.

- **Costs to maintain the old residence when vacant**
 - These costs would include interest, property taxes, insurance and utilities during a reasonable period when efforts were made to sell the home.
 - These maintenance costs are limited to a maximum of \$5,000
- **Costs to sell old residence**
 - Real estate commissions, legal fees, mortgage penalty costs and other selling costs
- **Costs to purchase new residence**
 - Legal fees and taxes paid for registration or transfer of title of the property.