

**CHAPTER 35****NEW JERSEY GROSS INCOME TAX****Authority**

N.J.S.A. 54:50-1, 54A:9-8.2 and 54A:9-17(a).

**Source and Effective Date**

R.1998 d.195, effective March 26, 1998.  
See: 30 N.J.R. 612(a), 30 N.J.R. 1428(a).

**Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date**

Chapter 35, New Jersey Gross Income Tax, expires on March 26, 2003.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 35, New Jersey Gross Income Tax, was adopted prior to September 1, 1969.

Subchapter 2, Setoff of Individual Liability, was adopted as R.1982 d.161, effective May 17, 1982. See: 13 N.J.R. 940(a), 14 N.J.R. 474(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 35, New Jersey Gross Income Tax, was readopted as R.1983 d.353, effective August 12, 1983. See: 15 N.J.R. 1091(a), 15 N.J.R. 1488(c).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 35, New Jersey Gross Income Tax, was readopted as R.1988 d.299, effective June 7, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 514(a), 20 N.J.R. 1571(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 35, New Jersey Gross Income Tax, was readopted as R.1993 d.315, effective June 4, 1993. See: 25 N.J.R. 1500(a), 25 N.J.R. 2906(b).

Former Subchapter 3, Information Return for Business Employment Incentive Program/Business Relocation Assistance Grant Program of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, was adopted as R.1997 d.533, effective December 15, 1997. See: 29 N.J.R. 4076(b), 29 N.J.R. 5313(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 35, New Jersey Gross Income Tax, was readopted as R.1998 d.195, effective March 26, 1998. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

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**SUBCHAPTER 1. GROSS INCOME—CATEGORIES AND CALCULATION****18:35-1.1 Net profits from business**

(a) Each taxpayer is subject to gross income tax on the taxpayer's "net profits from business" within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1b, which shall be determined as provided in this subchapter.

(b) For purposes of the Gross Income Tax Act, a sole proprietorship, which shall include self-employed individuals and independent contractors, is a form of business in which one taxpayer owns all the assets of a business and which is not a partnership or corporation. A single member limited liability company whose member is an individual, estate, or trust shall be treated as a sole proprietorship, unless classified otherwise for Federal tax purposes. Sole proprietors shall report their income or loss as net profits from business.

(c) A taxpayer's net profits from business shall be determined by taking into account all income of the taxpayer derived from the conduct of a business, profession or any other activity intended to produce income, provided such activity qualifies for and reports as a trade or business for Federal income tax purposes. All income attributable to the taxpayer's conduct of a trade or business, reduced by costs and expenses as provided in (d) below, shall be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's net profits from business. All other income of the taxpayer subject to gross income tax that is not attributable to the conduct of a trade or business shall be included in one or more of the other categories of gross income specified in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1 according to its character and shall not be includable in the category of income "net profits from business." The determination of whether income is derived from the conduct of a trade, business or profession shall be based upon an examination of facts and circumstances of the taxpayer's activities.

1. Income derived as remuneration for services rendered in the sole proprietorship's conduct of a trade or business shall be taken into account in determining a self-employed taxpayer's net profits from business. Income derived by a taxpayer in the taxpayer's capacity as an employee, as defined in N.J.A.C. 18:35-7.1, shall not be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's net profits from business, but rather shall be taxed under N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1a (salaries, wages, etc.).

2. Interest and dividend income derived by a taxpayer in the conduct of a trade or business shall be taken into account in determining a taxpayer's net profits from business. The taxpayer shall annex to the taxpayer's return a statement demonstrating that the interest or dividends were realized in the conduct of the trade or business. Interest and dividends from investment activities or other income-producing activities which do not constitute the conduct of a trade or business shall be separately stated on the taxpayer's return and taxed either as interest described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1e or dividends described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1f.

3. Rental income derived by a taxpayer in the conduct of a trade or business shall be taken into account in determining a taxpayer's net profits from business. Rental income of a taxpayer which is not received in the conduct of a trade or business shall be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's net gains or net income from rents, royalties, patents and copyrights described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1d.

4. Royalty, patent, or copyright income derived by a taxpayer in the conduct of a trade or business that licenses intangible property shall be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's net profits from business. Income derived from royalties, patents or copyrights of a taxpayer which is not derived from a trade or business shall be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's net gains or net income from or in the form of rents, royalties, patents and copyrights described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1d.

5. Gains from the sale, exchange or other disposition of trade or business property shall be taken into account in determining a taxpayer's net profits from business. The taxpayer shall annex to the taxpayer's return a statement which demonstrates that gains and losses from the sale, exchange, or other disposition of property were realized in the conduct of a trade or business. The sale, exchange or other disposition of property which is not directly related to or employed in the conduct of a trade or business must be reported as described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1c, net gains or income from the disposition of property. Gain or loss from the sale or liquidation of a business must be reported as described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1c, net gains or income from the disposition of property.

6. A taxpayer's distributive share of income or loss from a partnership, S corporation, or estate or trust shall not be taken into account in determining a taxpayer's net profits from business, regardless of the character of the income or the nature of the activities of the partnership, S corporation or estate or trust. Reporting of such income or loss shall be as follows:

i. Income or loss from a partnership shall be taken into account determining the taxpayer's distributive share of partnership income described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1k. For rules governing the taxation of income derived by a taxpayer from a partnership, see N.J.A.C. 18:35-1.3.

ii. Income or loss from an S corporation shall be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's pro rata share of S corporation income described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1p.

iii. Income from an estate or trust shall be taken into account in determining the taxpayer's net gains or income from estates or trusts described in N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1h.

7. A taxpayer's net profits from business shall be determined in accordance with the method of accounting utilized for Federal income tax purposes. A taxpayer's net profits from business shall be determined by including any income which is subject to tax under the Gross Income Tax Act but which is exempt from Federal income taxation (for example, interest on non-New Jersey municipal obligations) and by excluding any income which is exempt from tax under the Gross Income Tax Act but which is subject to Federal income taxation (for example, interest or gains attributable to obligations described in N.J.S.A. 54A:6-14).