GENERAL INFORMATION BOOKLET ON EXAMS FOR TAX CONSULTANT & TAX PREPARER APPLICANTS

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THIS BOOKLET IS UPDATED YEARLY ON SEPTEMBER 1st

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*Photo: Crown Point, Vista House Columbia River Gorge

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For forms, applications, examination study references and licensing information visit: www.oregon.gov/OBTP

If you have questions on the material in this booklet, you are welcome to contact:

The Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners Phone: (503) 378-4034, Fax: (503) 585-5797

E-mail: tax.bd@oregon.gov

General Information

The Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners

The Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners was founded by the Legislature in 1973 to protect the public by licensing tax preparers and tax consultants, conducting examinations of candidates before licensure, and ensuring that practitioners receive annual continuing education. Through these activities and compliance enforcement, the Board achieves its mission: protecting Oregon consumers by ensuring Oregon tax practitioners are competent and ethical in their professional activities.

There are about 4,000 tax preparers and tax consultants licensed by the Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners. The agency is funded entirely by exam fees, license fees, and civil penalties. The Oregon Legislature approves the Board's budget every two years.

Types of Licenses

Tax Preparer: Enables licensees to lawfully prepare personal income tax returns in Oregon for a fee or valuable consideration. A tax preparer must work under the supervision of a licensed tax consultant, a certified public accountant, a public accountant, or an attorney-at-law. Applicants must take the Oregon exam, pass with a score of 75%, and obtain a PTIN number through the IRS before they can apply for licensure at any time during the year. All tax preparer licenses expire every year on **September 30th**.

Tax Consultant: Enables licensees to lawfully prepare personal income tax returns in Oregon for a fee or valuable consideration as a self-employed or independent tax practitioner. Applicants must have 1100 hours of work experience in the tax field, take the Oregon exam, pass with a score of 75%, and obtain a PTIN number through the IRS before they can apply for licensure at any time during the year. All tax-consultant licenses expire every year on **May 31**st.

Exempt Individuals: Certain individuals are exempt from licensure by the Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners. These include attorneys-at-law, fiduciaries, certified public accountants and public accountants who hold a permit from the Oregon Board of Accountancy, and employees of these four entities.

Enrolled Agent: This is a nation-wide certification administered and regulated by the Internal Revenue Service. This certification gives the holder the right to represent taxpayers before the IRS. Enrolled agents must obtain an Oregon tax preparer or tax consultant license if they wish to prepare personal income taxes in Oregon. Applicants must submit a copy of a current Treasury card, take the Oregon exam and pass with a score of 75%. A person becomes an enrolled agent by either passing a three-part comprehensive IRS test covering individual and business tax returns, or through experience as a former IRS employee. Enrolled agents must adhere to ethical standards and complete 72 hours of continuing education every three years. Contact the IRS for additional information: https://www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/enrolled-agents/enrolled-agent-information

ExaminationsHow to Become Licensed in Oregon

To sit for the exam, you will be required to show government-issued photo ID and the approval letter from the Board allowing you to take the exam.

To be licensed as either a tax preparer or tax consultant in Oregon, you must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Possess a high school diploma or have passed an equivalency examination (GED)
- Possess a Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) issued by the IRS
- Pass a state-administered exam with a score of 75% or higher

In addition, to be licensed as a tax preparer you must:

• Have successfully completed an 80-hour basic personal income tax class approved by the Board

In addition to the initial four criteria, to be licensed as a tax consultant you must:

- Have 1,100 hours of verified work experience
- Complete 15 hours of continuing education

If you are an enrolled agent, you can be licensed as a tax consultant if you meet the initial four criteria and:

• Submit a copy of the front and back of a current treasury card

Please note: You may wish to contact the Board before applying for licensure if you answer "yes" to any of the following questions:

- **1.** Has a license in any other occupation or professional capacity issued in your name by any governmental entity ever been refused, suspended, revoked, or restricted, *OR* have you ever voluntarily relinquished a professional license?
- **2.** Are you aware of any current, proposed, pending or threatened professional complaints or civil or criminal action against you? Have you been convicted of, *OR* are you now under indictment for any criminal offense(s) of which an essential element is dishonesty, fraud or deception, per ORS 673.700(4)(b)?
- **3.** Have you ever been required to appear before or been sanctioned by any professional body or federal or state agency for alleged misconduct?

If your answer is yes to any of these questions, you will be required to supply an explanation and provide date(s), location(s), and nature of the infractions(s).

The 80-Hour Basic Tax Course

- Tax preparer applicants must complete an 80-hour basic tax course or its equivalent [OAR 800-020-0015(3)] with a passing grade before being licensed (although you may apply to take the examination before your 80-hour basic tax course is completed). If you do not successfully pass the preparer exam within two years from the completion date of your basic tax course, you must re-take the basic tax course [OAR 800-020-0020(9)]. Board-approved basic courses are listed in this booklet and on the Board website at: www.oregon.gov/OBTP.
- Applicants who have successfully completed the 80-hour basic tax course with a passing grade will receive a "Session Attendance Certification Form" signed by the course instructor. You must submit this form to the Board office when you apply for your license **do not submit it with your examination application**.
- Applicants may submit college coursework in tax preparation in lieu of the 80-hour basic tax course. However, the coursework must be deemed "comparable" to the 80-hour basic tax coursework by the Board. The acceptance of alternative tax-related courses is at the discretion of the Board. You must submit copies of official college transcripts. [OAR 800-020-0015(3)].
- Applicants may request Board approval to substitute work experience for up to 53 hours of the required 80 hours in basic tax instruction, as long as:
 - You prepared taxes in another state, or in an exempt status in Oregon (such as being employed by a CPA or tax attorney in Oregon, or as an auditor or taxpayer service representative for the IRS or the Oregon Department of Revenue).
 - The most recent work experience must have been gained not more than 24 months prior to applying to take the exam.
 - You have at least three years of experience preparing taxes in the five years prior to applying to take the exam.
 - You submit verification of hours worked or evidence of self-employment.

Please note: If the Board grants your request to substitute work experience for up to 53 hours of basic tax instruction, you must complete at least 27 hours of classroom instruction in tax coursework.

Work Experience

Tax preparers who wish to become licensed tax consultants should ensure that employers document their hours of work experience on the "Verification of Work Experience" form required by the Board. Tax preparers need 1,100 hours of experience in order to sit for the tax consultant examination. The Verification of Work Experience Form must be signed by your employer(s).

- Only work hours directly related to tax preparation may be counted toward the work-experience requirement.
- You must have work experience in at least two of the last five years.
- Only work experience gained within the last five years may be counted toward the work experience requirement.
- The Board will accept employment as an income tax auditor or taxpayer service representative at the IRS or the Oregon Department of Revenue as equivalent work experience.
- Applicants may substitute volunteer experience with tax preparation programs such as VITA or AARP-TCE for up to 220 hours of the required 1,100 hours.
 - Each five hours spent preparing, advising, or assisting in the preparation of tax returns as a volunteer will count as one hour of required experience.
 - o Hours must be verified by your volunteer supervisor in writing.
- Applicants may substitute education credits for coursework in taxation for up to 375 hours of the required 1,100 hours.
 - o Each one classroom hour will count for five hours of required experience.
 - Ocllege coursework will be converted to classroom hours at the rate of 10 classroom hours for each quarter credit, or 15 hours for each semester credit. (For example, a 4-credit course from a college on the quarter system would count for 40 classroom hours, or 200 hours of required experience.)
 - The coursework must be taken within a year of applying for licensure. The course may not be used to meet Board continuing education requirements.
 - Copies of transcripts must be supplied to the Board when education credit are requested. Course summaries may be requested by the Board to document the content of the coursework.
- Out-of-state applicants may document work experience gained while self-employed. To do this, submit a "Self-Employment Petition" Form along with supporting documentation such as a Schedule C, business registration, or Form 1099. The form shall fully document pertinent experience and education that meets or exceeds the requirement for 1,100 hours of work experience within at least two of the last five years.

Examinations – General Information

The tax preparer and tax consultant exams cover personal income tax law, theory and practice. The consultant exam may include questions on corporation or partnership income tax as it relates to personal income-tax returns. The exam contains true-and-false questions, multiple-choice questions, and scenario-based miniproblems. In both exams, approximately 75% of the questions are on federal law and 25% are on Oregon law.

The Tax Preparer Examination

This exam consists of 163 questions, and you have 4 hours to complete it. Passing the tax preparer examination requires careful and comprehensive preparation. Although you are not required to complete a tax preparation course before taking the exam, almost all of the examinees do complete their basic tax course before sitting for the exam.

The exam is divided into four parts. Parts I, II, and III include 144 questions covering Oregon tax laws; code of professional conduct; and federal income tax law, theory and practice. Part IV contains 19 scenario-based miniproblems related to state and federal forms and schedules. All schedules, worksheets, and forms needed for solving the mini-problems will be provided.

Please note: On September 1, 2015, the Preparer Exam was reduced from 200 questions to 163 questions, and the time allowed to complete the exam was shortened from 5 hours to 4 hours.

You must pass the examination with a score of 75% or higher.

The Tax Consultant Examination

This exam consists of 200 questions, and you have 5 hours to complete it. Applicants will be tested on:

- Oregon personal income tax law, theory, and practice Federal personal income tax law, theory, and practice
- Oregon tax practitioner laws and requirements
- The code of professional conduct (Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 800, Division 10)
- Rules for tax preparation businesses (Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 800, Division 25)

Questions are more complicated than those in the preparer examination. The tax consultant examination is based on experience and knowledge gained while preparing taxes, completing continuing education courses, and performing individual study and research. You must pass the examination with a score of 75% or higher.

The Enrolled Agent Tax Consultant State-Only Examination

This exam consists of 50 questions, and you have 1½ hours to complete it. Only Enrolled Agents with valid Treasury Cards are eligible to take this exam. This exam covers *only* Oregon law, including:

- Oregon income tax laws, on any topic listed on the examination category
- The code of professional conduct (Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 800, Division 10)
- Rules for tax preparation businesses (Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 800, Division 25)

You must submit a copy of your valid enrolled agent card, front and back. You must pass the examination with a score of 75% or higher.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REFER TO THE PSI SERVICES, LLC CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET

www.psiexams.com

Fees as of September 1, 2018

Type of Fee	Preparers	Consultants	Other
Exam Fee	\$60	\$60	\$50-P & \$85-C PSI Proctor fees paid at individual PSI sites. IMPORTANT NOTICE: College proctor sites will continue to be available until the exam officially goes online – see rates at the end of this publication. Once the exam is online these sites will no longer be available*
Initial license	\$60	\$65 – If you are currently an active LTP \$95 – All others	
Combination license: Initial license + New business registration	\$110 *	\$125 - If you are currently an active LTP \$155 – All Others	* There are restrictions on business registrations for LTPs. Call for details before registering a new business.
Annual License Renewal Fees	Preparers Consultants		Other
Active status	\$80	\$95	
Inactive status	\$35	\$50	
Reactivation of inactive license	\$80	\$95	Change license status from inactive to active
Reactivation of lapsed license Total fees vary based on the number of years the license was inactive	\$35 reactivation fee + License fee(s)	\$35 reactivation fee + License fee(s)	Change license status from lapsed to active
Tax business registration fee			\$110
Branch office registration			\$20
Combination license: license renewal + business registration	\$155	\$155	

Refunds

Exam fees are non-refundable, except when the applicant or licensee is not qualified, or when there are verifiable circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the individual. PSI proctor fees are not refundable or transferable at any time. Candidates who do not take the exam ("no-shows"), or who take the exam but do not pass, are **not** eligible for refunds. In the case of an eligible refund, a processing fee will be retained by the Board per OAR 800-020-0026. As of the date of this publication, the processing fee is \$10.00. To request a refund of the exam fee, submit a written request that includes your name, mailing address, phone number, include statement that you are aware of the \$10 processing fee and valid reason for your request.

Exam Content and Procedure

In the future updated *preparer* and *consultant* examinations will be released each year on September 1.

Preparer Examination	Date Exam Application Received	Exam Will Cover	
	September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019 After September 1, 2019	2017 tax law 2018 tax law	
Consultant Exam	Date Exam Application Received	Exam Will Cover	

Applying for Your Examination

The exam applications are available on the Board website. Applications are accepted only by mail or fax. **Emailed applications cannot be accepted.**

Applications are processed as quickly as possible, usually within two business days. Once your application has been approved, you will receive an email confirming your eligibility to take the exam. If you don't receive an email from the Board within three business days of your application submission, please call us at 503-378-4034.

A reference sheet for the Preparer exam is available on the Board's website here: https://www.oregon.gov/obtp/Documents/reference_sheet_2017_tax_law.pdf.

Preparer examinees should also download the 2017 Tax Law Forms Booklet at:

https://www.oregon.gov/obtp/Documents/2017%20Tax%20Forms%20Booklet.pdf

It is very important you take these with you to your exam.

From the date of your approval letter you have 60 days to schedule and complete the examination. You will also receive complete instructions along with a list of acceptable and unacceptable items allowed into the exam site.

It is important that you read this information prior to taking the exam. Consumption of food or beverages may not be allowed, so check PSI exam site policy regarding food and drinks.

The Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners (OBTP) has contracted with PSI Services LLC (PSI) to administer the examination. PSI provides examinations through a network of computer examination centers in Oregon. PSI works closely with the Board to be certain that examinations meet requirements in basic principles and examination development standards.

Once you have received the email confirmation of your eligibility, it is your responsibility to contact PSI to pay and schedule for the examination. For **the fastest and most convenient** examination scheduling process, register for your examinations online by accessing PSI's registration web site at www.psiexams.com Internet registration is available 24 hours a day.

If you prefer to contact PSI by telephone call (800) 733-9267, PSI registrars are available to receive payment and to schedule your appointment for the examination. Please call Monday through Friday between 4:30 am and 7:00 pm, and Saturday-Sunday between 8:00 am and 2:30 pm, Pacific Time.

Additional information related to examination fees, scheduling, and testing locations is available on the PSI website.

If a problem arises regarding your ability to sit for a scheduled examination, contact the Board immediately.

Please note: You may apply for only one examination at a time. You may re-apply for any subsequent exam once you have received the score from the earlier exam.

Getting Your Exam Results

PSI sites will be able to provide results to you immediately after your completion of the exam. To apply for your license you will send the OBTP a license application, appropriate backup documentation if required and the license fee.

Passing scores:

Preparer examinees must correctly answer 75 percent of the 163 questions and mini-problems.

Consultant examinees must correctly answer 75 percent of the 200 questions.

Enrolled agent examinees must correctly answer 75 percent of the 50 questions.

Examinees who receive passing scores have <u>60 days</u> in which to apply for a license. If they do not do so, they must re-take and pass the exam.

Examinees who do not receive passing scores may immediately apply to sit for the exam again.

Please note: No review of the examination questions by any applicant will be granted [OAR 800-020-0020(7)].

If you do not pass the preparer or consultant examination after four attempts, the Board strongly recommends that you enroll in an 80-hour basic tax course or an examination-preparation course for consultants. Examinees must re-take the basic course if they do not pass the preparer examination within two years of completing the basic course. [OAR 800-020-0020(9)].

Items Not Allowed in the Exam Room

- Electronic devices of any type, including cellular or mobile phones, recording devices, electronic watches, cameras, pagers, laptop computers, tablet computers (e.g., iPads), music player (e.g., iPods), smart watches, radios, or electronic games.
- Other personal items, including purses, backpacks, and non-transparent bags or containers, notebooks, briefcases, wallets, food or drinks
- Programmable calculators
- Source materials for consultant/CSO examinees, except IRS Publication 850.
- NO personal items are to enter the testing center. PSI will not be responsible for any personal items and suggests that you leave them in a safe place of your choosing.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REFER TO THE PSI SERVICES, LLC CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET

www.psiexams.com

Continuing Education

Tax preparers and tax consultants are required to complete 30 hours of continuing education related to tax law and tax preparation per year, at least two hours of which must be related to ethics or professional conduct. Continuing education must be completed during the 13 months prior to each license year. The same class may not be counted toward two different renewals.

<u>License Type</u> <u>License Renewal Date</u> <u>CE Completion Period</u>

Consultant May 31, 2019 May 1, 2018 – May 31, 2019

Preparer September 30, 2019 September 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019

The Board audits licensees on a random basis to verify compliance with continuing-education requirements (OAR 800-015-0015). Continuing education is waived for the first renewal of a tax preparer or tax consultant license. Continuing-education credit will be accepted only if sponsors and courses comply with OAR 800-015-0010, OAR 800-015-0020 and OAR 800-015-0030.

Acceptable continuing education is that which contributes directly to the expertise of the individual in the preparation of income tax returns, and is presented by a sponsor who meets the requirements of all Oregon Administrative Rules.

Correspondence and self-study courses must be Board approved if not already approved by the California Tax Education Council (CTEC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA).

For additional information on acceptable continuing education and sponsors you can access information from the Boards website.

BASIC COURSE SPONSORS: September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019

List is subject to change (sponsors grayed out are awaiting final approval)

Sponsor & Address	Phone	Fax	E-mail	Website	Add. Info.
David Modica, Ryan Imel Tony Bowers, School Director At Your Pace Online, LLC ** 1383 2 nd Ave. Gold Hill, OR 97525	(877) 724-6150 (541) 371-2882	(866) 333-9840	contact@atyourpaceonline.com Jeremy Allen, CPA Instructor	www.taxce.com	On-line courses only
Scott Wallace Blue Mt. Community College * 2411 NW Carden PO Box 100 Pendleton, OR 97801	(541) 278-5736	(541) 278-5177	swallace@bluecc.edu	www.bluecc.edu	Offering on- line and live course
Nancy Jumper, Program Manager Central Oregon Comm. College* 2600 NW College Way Bend, OR 97701	(541) 383-7270	(541) 383-7503	ceinfo@cocc.edu njumper@cocc.edu Patricia King, LTC Instructor	http://www.cocc.edu/ departments. continuing.ed	Offering live course
R. Taylor Chemeketa Community College * 4000 Lancaster Drive NE Salem OR 97309	(503) 399-5048	(503) 365-4785	socialsciences @chemeketa.edu Lana Tuss, Instructor	www.chemeketa.edu	Offering on- line and live course
Briana Croasmun H & R Block Income Tax Schools** Various locations throughout the state 16408 SE Division Portland, OR 97236	(509) 551-5006	(503) 339-9564	Briana.croasmun@hrblock.com Various instructors	www.hrblock.com	Offering live course
Deborah Etters H & R Block Income Tax School of Klamath Falls ** 2226 S. Sixth Street Klamath Falls, OR 97603	(541) 882-8055	(541) 882-9285	detters@hrblock.com Deborah Etters, LTC James Heath, LTC Roger Taylor, LTP Instructors	www.hrblock.com	Offering live course
Laurie Brock Collett, LTC, EA Lane Community College Eugene, OR * 101 West 10 th Avenue Eugene, OR 97401	(541) 436-6111	(541) 436-6111	laurie@castax.com Laurie Brock Collett, LTC, EA Instructor	www.lanecc.edu/ce	Offering live course
Rachel Bradley Liberty Tax School ** 2401 NE Cornell Rd., Ste. C Hillsboro, OR 97124	(503) 336-2670	(503) 640-6944	hillsboro15269@gmail.com Rachel Bradley, LTC Instructor	www.libertytax.com	Offering live course

David Pinson Liberty Tax School ** 16502 SE Division Street Portland, OR 97236	(503) 477-4006 (503) 752-2622	(503) 946-3252	David634@gmail.com libertyservice1040@gmmal.com David Pinson, LTC Instructor	www.libertytax.com	Offering live course
Annette Holman/Corina Drake-Minior Liberty Tax School – White City ** 7588 Hwy 62 White City, OR 97503	(541) 601-9448 (541) 734-7276	(541) 773-9990	annetteholman@libertytax.com corina@libertytax.com Annette Holman, LTC Corina Drake-Minior, LTC Jon Schiefer, LTP Instructors	www.libertytax.com	Offering live course
Sandy Stolich, Coordinator, Corporate Liberty Tax Service ** Various locations across the state 1716 Corporate Landing Pkwy Virginia Beach, VA 23454	(707) 972-7335 (757) 301-8029	(707) 462-6016	taxschool@libtax.com sandy.stolich@libtax.com Various instructors	www.libertytax.com	Offering live and on-line courses
Chris Ruderman, Acct. Prog. Chair Linn Benton Community College * 6500 Pacific Blvd SW Albany, OR 97321	(541) 917-4257		rudermc@linnbenton.edu Mary Vedaa, CPA Instructor	www.linnbenton.edu	Offering live course
SanDee M. Tharp, LTC Pacific Northwest Tax School ** 13405 NW Cornell Road Portland, OR 97229	(503) 646-5600	(503) 350-0265	enrollments@pnwtaxschool. com April Gutierrez, LTC Instructor	www.pnwtaxschool.com	Offering on- line courses
Cynthia Killingsworth Portland Community College Sylvania Campus * 12000 SW 49 th Ave Portland, OR 97219 PO Box 19000 – SS201 Portland, OR 97280	(503) 508-7734		Cynthia.Killingsworth@pcc.edu Cynthia Killingsworth, CPA Instructor	www.pcc.edu	Offering on- line courses with live office hours available

^{*}Denotes an accredited college/university or educational service district

^{**} Denotes a private firm licensed as a private career school through the Higher Education Coordinating Commission

STATE ASSOCIATIONS CONTACT INFORMATION

The Oregon Board of Tax Practitioners is a regulatory agency whose mission is to protect consumers by ensuring that Oregon tax professionals are competent and ethical in their professional activities. In contrast, there are several membership organizations whose purpose is to advocate for the members of the profession.

Oregon Association of Tax Consultants http://www.oatc-oregon.org

Oregon Society of Tax Consultants http://www.ostcinc.org

Oregon Society of Enrolled Agents http://orsea.org

Oregon Association of Independent Accountants http://www.oaia.net

Preparer Examination Index Course Guide for Basic Course Instructors

Description/course topics	References used
Tax Practitioner Oregon Law	Oregon Administrative Rules Oregon Revised Statutes
Federal Filing Requirements/Federal Filing Dates	Publication 17, Chapter 1
Federal Filing Status	Publication 17, Chapter 2
Personal and Dependent Exemptions	Publication 17, Chapter 3
Gross Income	Publication 17, Chapters: 6-9 & 12
Standard and Itemized Deductions Medical, Taxes, Interest Affordable Care Act: What You and Your Family Need to Know Health Coverage Exemptions Itemized Deductions Contributions, Casualty, Car and Employee Business Deductions, Work-related Deductions, Miscellaneous Deductions	Publication 17, Chapters: 21-25 Publication 970 Publication 974 Publication 5187 Form 8965 Publication 17, Chapters: 26-30
Adjustments to Income IRA, Moving, Alimony Miscellaneous Adjustments	Publication 17, Chapters:18-20 1040 Instructions Publication 970
OREGON Form 40 ERA Program (Elderly Rental Assistance)	Publication 17½ Oregon Instructions 40 & 40S
Other Income Rental Income and Expense Retirement Plans, Pensions, Annuities Other Income	Publication 17, Chapters:10-11 & 13
Mid-term examination	
Schedules C, F, and SE	Publication 225 and 334
Basis of Assets and Depreciation	Publication 17, Chapters: 10 & 14 Publication 225 and 334
Sale & Exchange of Capital Assets Personal Residence, Bad Debts	Publication 17, Chapters:15-17
Supplemental Gains and Losses	Publication 225 and 334
OREGON Part Year and Non-Resident	Publication 17½ Oregon Instructions 40N and 40P
Credits	Publication 17, Chapters: 33-38 Publication 970
Other Taxes and Payments Alternative Minimum Tax Minor Children Estimated Tax, Excess FICA Tax Payments on Real Property Conveyances – Form OR18, Form WC, Form TP18-V, and Instructions	Publication 17, Chapters: 4-5, 11 and 3132
Review Materials	

Review Materials
Take Final Examination
Review Final Examination
Practice Interviewing Techniques Amended Returns

Preparer Examination Subject Outline

and approximate percentage of coverage

FEDERAL	Education related
	Self-employment tax
How to file 13.5%	Penalty on early withdrawal
Filing status	Itemized deductions 15%
Dependents	Medical
Personal exemptions	Taxes
Filing requirements	Interest
Income 11.5%	Contributions
Earned income	Casualty
Tips	Continuing education
Interest	Employee business expense
Dividends	Miscellaneous
Business, farm	Limitations
Schedule C Income	Credits 5%
Retirement, pensions	Child care
Rentals Income	Health care
Depreciation	Elderly, disabled
Social Security Income	Earned income
Investment	Education
Other income	Child tax
Assets 8.5%	Adoption
Capital/ordinary	Other credits
Basis	Other Taxes 2.5%
Sale of capital assets	Self-employment
Sale of Stock	Alternative minimum
Personal residence	Averaging/lump sum
Adjustments 5%	Tax computation
IRA, SEP, Keogh, simple	IRAs and other retirement plans
Alimony	Other
Federal Adjustments	Payments 2.5%
Married Filing Separately	Estimated

Preparer Examination Subject Outline continued ...

Student Loan Interest

Self-employed health-

insurance

Moving

Estimated

Other

Excess FICA

Preparer Examination Subject Outline, continued

OREGON

How to file -- 4%

Filing status

Filing requirements Non-resident status

Additions -- 3%

Interest Taxes

Other

Subtractions -- 6%

Taxes Interest Military

Federal pensions

Social Security/railroad retirement

Oregon refunds American Indian Lottery winnings

Domestic partner benefits Higher education expense

Other

Deductions -- 1.5%

Standard Itemized

Special medical

Credits -- 3%

Retirement income

Political

Working family household and

dependent care Earned income Exemptions

Residential energy

Other

Payments -- 1%

Estimates

Tax computation

Tax Payments on Real Property Conveyances

License law, rules of conduct -- 6%

Mini-problems

Federal and Oregon -- 12%

Approximately 64 percent of the exam is on federal law, 24 percent on state law, and 12 percent is mini-problems covering both federal and state law.

There are 163 questions on the exam.

OREGON BOARD OF TAX PRACTITIONERS Preparer Examination

Index and Study Guide - 2017 Tax Law

The following documents and publications are recommended resources and study guides for applicants preparing to sit for the preparer examination.

Questions on the Preparer Exam are derived from the following 2017 source documents:

FEDERAL

Publication 17
Publication 54 – Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens & Resident Aliens Abroad
Publication 225 – Farmer's Tax Guide
Publication 334 – Tax Guide for Small Business
Publication 521 – Moving Expenses
Publication 527 – Residential Rental Property
Publication 587 – Business Use of Your Home
Publication 596 – Earned Income Credit (EIC)
Publication 850 – English-Foreign Language Glossary of Words and Phrases
Publication 946 – How to Depreciate Property
Publication 970 – Tax Benefits for Education
Publication 974 – Premium Tax Credit
Publication 5187 – Affordable Care Act: What You and Your Family Need to Know
Publication 8965 – Health Coverage Exemptions ***
Federal Form 1040 Instructions (not forms booklets)
Form 6251 Instructions – Alternative Minimum Tax – Individuals

OREGON

Publication OR-17 – Oregon Individual Income Tax Guide
Oregon Income Tax Full-Year Resident Form 40 and instructions
Schedules OR-ASC and WFC
Oregon Income Tax Part-Year Resident/Nonresident Form 40N & 40P
Schedule WFC-N/P, and instructions
Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 800 (800-010-0015 through 800-030-0050)
Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 673 (673.605 through 673.990)
Tax Payments on Real Property Conveyances – Form OR-18, Form WC, Form TP18-V, and Instructions

^{***} New for the 2018-2019 exam season

Preparer Examination

List of Acceptable Source Documents Allowed During the Tax Preparer Open-Book Examination

FEDERAL

- Publication 17 Your Federal Income Tax
- Publication 850 English/Foreign Language Glossary of Tax Words and Phrases
- Publication 974 Premium Tax Credit (new addition to source document list)
- Instructions for Form 1040 (instructions only no forms or other booklets are allowed)

OREGON

- Publication OR-17 Oregon Individual Income Tax Guide
- Publication Oregon Income Tax Full-Year Resident, including:
 - Forms OR-40 and OR-40-V
 - Schedules OR-ASC, OR-ADD-DEP, OR-529 and OR-DONATE
- Publication Oregon Income Tax Part-Year Resident/Nonresident, including:
 - Schedules OR-ASC-NP, OR-ADD-DEP, OR-529 and OR-DONATE
- Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 800
 - Divisions 800-010-0015 through 800-030-0050
- Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 673
 - Sections 673.605 through 673.990

Source documents in languages other than English are acceptable. All source documents must be official publications or copies downloaded from the official websites of the IRS and/or the Department of Revenue.

To obtain these documents contact:

Internal Revenue Service: https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs

Oregon Department of Revenue: http://www.oregon.gov/dor/forms/Pages/default.aspx

Federal

Mileage rates:

2017 Key tax amounts:

Exemption - \$4,050

Child tax credit - \$1,000 per child

Date	Business	Charity	Moving	Medical
Jan - Dec	53.5 cents	14 cents	17 cents	17 cents

Standard Deduction:

Filing Status	MFJ or QW	Single	НОН	MFS	
Basic Deduction	\$12,700	\$6,350	\$9,350	\$6,350	
Blind *	\$1,250	\$1,550	\$1,550	\$1,250	
65 or over *	\$1,250	\$1,550	\$1,550	\$1,250	
Dependent	Greater of \$1,050 or earned income plus \$350 but not to exceed the regular standard deduction amount \$6,350				
* Add to basic deduction amount. If married filing jointly and both taxpayers qualify, add \$2,500 to the basic deduction amount.					

2017 Phase-Out Ranges:

Filing Status	MFJ	QW	Single	HOH	MFS
Education Savings Bond Interest Exclusion	\$117,250- \$147,250	\$117,250- \$147,250	\$78,150 - \$93,150	\$78,150 - \$93,150	N/A
Student Loan Interest Deduction	\$135,000- \$165,000	\$65,000-\$80,000	\$65,000-\$80,000	\$65,000-\$80,000	N/A
Tuition and Fees Deduction\$4,000	\$0-\$130,000	\$0-\$65,000	\$0-\$65,000	\$0-\$65,000	N/A
Tuition and Fees Deduction\$2,000**	\$130,001- \$160,000	\$65,001-\$80,000	\$65,001-\$80,000	\$65,001-\$80,000	N/A

Coverdell Education Savings Account ESA	\$190,000- \$220,000	\$95,000-\$110,000	\$95,000-\$110,000	\$95,000-\$110,000	\$95,000-\$110,000
Roth IRA * Roth (MFS) and did not live with spouse	\$186,000- \$196,000	\$186,000- \$196,000	\$118,000- \$133,000	\$118,000- \$133,000	\$118,000-\$133,000
Traditional IRA If covered by retirement at work	\$99,000-\$119,000	\$99,000-\$119,000	\$62,000-\$72,000	\$62,000-\$72,000	\$0-\$10,000
Traditional IRA – only spouse covered	\$186,000- \$196,000	None	None	None	\$0-\$10,000
Child Tax Credit	\$110,000-	\$75,000-	\$75,000-	\$75,000-	\$55,000-
Lifetime Learning Credit	\$112,000- \$132,000	\$56,000-\$66,000	\$56,000-\$66,000	\$56,000-\$66,000	N/A
American Opportunity Credit	\$160,000- \$180,000	\$80,000-\$90,000	\$80,000-\$90,000	\$80,000-\$90,000	N/A
Retirement Saver's Contribution Credit	\$0-\$62,000	\$0-\$31,000	\$0-\$31,000	\$0-\$46,500	\$0-\$31,000

Oregon

Oregon Basic Information 2017:

Exemption Credit - \$197

Standard Deduction 2017:

Filing Status	Standard Deduction	+ Age 65 or over, Blind (each)	
Married Filing Joint	\$4,350	\$1,000	
Qualifying Widow(er)	\$4,350	\$1,000	
Single	\$2,175	\$1,200	
Head of Household	\$3,500	\$1,200	
Married/RDP Filing Separately	\$2,175	\$1,000	
If Spouse Itemizes Deductions	NONE		
Dependent Children:	exceed \$2,175)	Greater of \$1,050 or the amount of earned income plus \$350 (not to exceed \$2,175) * Blind dependent: Add \$1,200	

Oregon Filing Requirements 2017:

Filing Status	Age	If gross Income is more than:
Single, can be claimed on another's return	Any	\$1,050*
Single	Under 65	\$5,965
	65 or Over	\$7,165
Single (65 & blind)		\$8,365
Married/RDP joint return	Both under 65	\$11,925
	One 65 or over	\$12,925
	Both 65 or over	\$13,925
Married/RDP joint return	One 65 or over	\$14,925
(65 & blind)	Both 65 or over & blind	\$15,925
Married/RDP separate return	Under 65	\$5,965
	65 or over	\$6,965

Married/RDP separate return (65 & blind)		\$7,965
Head of Household	Under 65	\$7,440
	65 or over	\$8,640
Head of Household (65 & blind)		\$9,840
Qualifying Widow(er)	Under 65	\$8,290
	65 or over	\$9,290
Qualifying Widow(er) (65 & blind)		\$10,290

In addition, file a return if:

- -- You are required to file a federal return
- -- You had \$1/more of Oregon income tax withheld from your wages.
- *The larger of \$1,050 or your earned income plus \$350, up to your standard deduction amount.

\$2,175 is basic standard deduction; \$3,375 if blind or 65; \$4,575 if blind and over 65

Working Family Household and Dependent Care (WFHDC):

Your federal adjusted gross income or your Oregon adjusted gross income, whichever is greater, is at or below the allowable limit for your household size. See the table for allowable limits.

Household size	AGI limit	
2	\$48,720	
3	\$61,260	
4	\$72,800	
5	\$86,340	
6	\$98,880	
7	\$111,420	
8 or more	\$123,960	

2017 Oregon Exemption Credit Tables:

Do not use the exemption credit worksheet. Multiply your total exemptions by \$197 – or -0

	0 if Federal adjusted
If your filing status is:	gross income (AGI)
	exceeds:
Single	\$100,000
Married/RDP filing	
joint or qualifying	\$200,000
widow(er)	
Married/RDP filing	\$100,000
separately	
Head of Household	\$200,000

SPECIAL OREGON MEDICAL SUBTRACTION WORKSHEET - OREGON PUBLICATION OR-17:

		Column (A) You	Column (B) Spouse/RDP
1.	Medical and dental expenses for each qualifying taxpayer	1. \$	_ \$
2.	Total medical and dental expenses (Schedule A, line 1)	2. \$	
3.	Divide line 1 by line 2 and round to three decimal places	3. \$	
4.	Enter the lesser of the expenses claimed on line 1 of your Schedule A, or the amount claimed on line 3 of your Schedule A	4. \$	_ \$
5.	Multiply line 3 by line 4 and round to whole dollars	5. \$	
6.	Maximum allowable medical subtraction from the table (\$1,800 max)	6. \$	
7.	Enter the lesser of line 5 or line 6	7. \$	
8.	Add line 7, columns (A) and (B), and enter the total. This is your special Oregon medical subtraction	8. \$	\$

If your filing status is:	and your federal adjusted gross income from line 8 of Form 40 or line 38F of Form 40N or 40P is:		
	at least -	but less than -	then your maximum allowable medical subtraction per taxpayer meeting the age requirements is:
Married/RDP	-0-	\$50,000	\$1,800
Filing jointly, or Head of	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$1,400
Household, or Qualifying Widow(er)	\$100,000	\$200,001	\$1,000
	\$200,001 or more	-0-	
	-0-	\$25,000	\$1,800
	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$1,400
Single or Married/RDP	\$50,000	\$100,001	\$1,000
Filing separately	\$100,001 or more	-0-	

FEDERAL INCOME TAX LIABILITY - OREGON PUBLICATION 17 1/2:

Current year's federal tax liability: Oregon allows a subtraction for your current year's federal income tax liability after credits. The subtraction for 2017 is limited to \$6,500 (\$3,275 if married filing separately).

The subtraction is based on the accrual method of accounting. This means you subtract the total amount of your federal tax liability after credits for the current tax year (not less than zero) as shown on your original return, regardless of when you pay it.

The subtraction is limited to income tax. This includes alternative minimum tax, tax on an IRA (Individual Retirement Arrangement), and recapture taxes. You cannot include self-employment tax or Social Security (FICA) tax.

Federal income tax credits, excluding the earned income credit, reduce your federal tax subtraction. The credits for federal tax on special fuels, special oils, and a regulated investment company will not reduce your federal tax subtraction.

You can deduct your federal income tax liability after credits, up to \$6,550 (\$3,275 if married filing separately) based on your income and filing status. Do not fill in less than -0- or more than \$6,550. Use the federal tax worksheet to figure your federal tax liability.

RDP's: Use amounts from your actual federal return(s), not your "as if" return.

FEDERAL TAX WORKSHEET

PART A: Federal Tax Subtraction

1.	Enter your federal tax liability from Form 1040, line 56; Form 1040A, line 37; Form 1040EZ, line 10; Form 1040NR, line 53; or Form 1040NR-EZ, line 15.
	1
2.	Enter your excess advance premium tax credit from Form 1040, line 46: Form 1040A, line 29; or Form 1040NR, line 44.
	2
3.	Subtract line 2 from line 1. (If less than -0-, enter -0-)
	3
4.	Enter your additional tax on retirement plans from Form 1040, line 59; or Form 1040NR, line 57; your first-time homebuyer credit recapture; "any recapture taxes you included as "other taxes" on Form 1040, line 62, or Form 1040NR, line 60; and the amount on Form 1040NR, line 54.
	4
5.	Add lines 3 and 4
	5
6.	Enter your American Opportunity credit from Form 1040, line 68; or Form 1040A, line 44.
	6
7.	Enter your total premium tax credit from Form 8962, line 24.
	7

8. Add line	s 6 and 7		
8			
9. Subtrac	t line 8 from line 5. (If less than -	0-, enter -0-)	
9			
-	ur maximum allowable tax liabili ore than \$6,550 (\$3,275 if married	-	table. Don't fill in less than
10			
11. Enter the	e smaller of line 9 or line 10 here	and on OR 40, line 10; c	or OR 40N or 40P, line 42.
11			
n your qualifying ho	ome as you main residence.		ld this amount if you are repaying your 2008 credit and still liv
If your filing status	and your federal adjusted gross income is:		
Single	at least -	but less than -	then your maximum allowable tax liability subtraction is:
	-0-	\$125,000	\$6,550
	\$125,000	\$130,000	\$5,200
	\$130,000	\$135,000	\$3,900
	\$135,000	\$140,000	\$2,600
	\$140,000	\$145,000	\$1,300
	\$145.000 or more	-0-	1

Married	-0-	\$125,000	\$3,275	
filing	\$125,000	\$130,000	\$2,600	
separately	\$130,000	\$135,000	\$1,950	
	\$135,000	\$140,000	\$1,300	
	\$140,000	\$145,000	\$650	
	\$145,000 or more	-()-	
Married	-0-	\$250,000	\$6,550	
filing jointly	\$250,000	\$260,000	\$5,200	
or	\$260,000	\$270,000	\$3,900	
Head of household	\$270,000	\$280,000	\$2,600	
	\$280,000	\$290,000	\$1,300	
or				
Qualifying widow(er)	\$290,000 or more	-)-	

This 2017 reference guide and <u>Federal Form 1040</u> should be downloaded from the Board's website and taken with you to the exam. The reference guide and Form 1040 are located here: https://www.oregon.gov/obtp/Documents/reference_sheet_2017_tax_law.pdf

"All Applicants are encouraged to subscribe to the Department of Revenue (DOR) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) bulletins that provide tax law updates. Information on these updates may not be included in the source documents and are important to keep current with the current tax law changes"

Sample Preparer Test with Frequently Missed Questions

Sample questions extracted from 2017-2018 exams based on 2016 tax law. References are to federal and state publications. Answers and subject matters can be found at the end of this section.

These questions serve as examples only.

- 1. Janet, a single parent, attends college full time. She is studying for her Master's degree. Janet's tuition is \$6,000. The Lifetime Learning Credit on Janet's tax return could total:
 - A. \$600 B. \$1,000 C. \$1,200 D. \$2,000
- 2. Mr. Brown, a cash basis calendar year taxpayer, receives all of his income from farming and has a federal income tax liability of \$4,000. Mr. Brown made no estimated tax payments. Mr. Brown may avoid the penalty for not paying estimated tax if he files his federal income tax return and pays the tax due on or before what date:
 - A. January 31 B. March 1
 - C. March 15
 - D. April 15

Mini Problem - Schedule A attached.

John and Pat file a joint return which included Schedules A - Itemized Deductions, B - Interest and Dividends and E - Rentals. They live in Eugene, Oregon. John's mothers only income is a union pension of \$1,045 per year. She lives in the basement apartment of their home. John and Pat had a total Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$79,780 for the tax year. They paid the following expenses:

\$627 Mother's medical insurance \$758 Mother's doctor and hospital bills \$3,986 John and Pat's medical expenses \$737 John and Pat's hospital expenses

\$11,348 State withholding \$1,097 Home real estate taxes

\$1,100 Real estate tax (recreational lot in California) \$915 Real estate tax (Crooked River Ranch lot)

\$600 US Customs tax (shotgun imported from Sweden)

\$325 Real estate tax (rental house in Cleveland, Ohio)

\$1,500 Credit union interest \$1,190 Credit card interest

\$4,840 Interest paid (rental house in Cleveland, Ohio)

\$1,385 Interest paid on mother's car \$1,148 Qualified home equity loan interest

\$290 Contribution to church \$171 Contribution to Goodwill

\$50 Contribution to Democratic Party

\$180 Bingo at church \$60 Dues to Elks Lodge \$240 Tax preparation fee \$244 Professional subscriptions \$250 Attorney fee for drafting will

\$60 Safe deposit box holds stocks and bonds

\$285 Investment expenses

\$1,025 Unreimbursed travel expenses from Form 2106

- 3. What is the total deductible taxes paid found on line 9 of Schedule A?
 - A. \$12,445 B. \$14,460 C. \$14,785
 - D. \$15.060
- 4. What is the total deductible miscellaneous expenses, after 2% Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) subtraction, found on line 27 on Schedule A?
 - A. \$14
 - B. \$258
 - C. \$318
 - D. \$508

- 5. Non-residents of Oregon are not taxed on interest income from personal savings accounts held in Oregon banks.
 - A. True
 - B. False

Mini Problem - Schedule C and Form 8829 attached.

Masako a sole proprietor owns and operates a catering business. She works from her home and has an office and storage area used exclusively and regularly as her principal place of business.

Income = \$175,000
Bank loan = \$25,000
Delivery truck expense (gas, oil, repairs) = \$6,500
Business liability insurance = \$3,500
Interest on bank loan = \$2,000
Wages to employees = \$40,000
Bonus to employees = \$5,000
Supplies/food = \$90,000
Masako's draws = \$50,000
Payroll taxes = \$8,000
Masako's IRA = \$3,000
Real estate tax = \$1,500
Mortgage Interest = \$5,000
Utilities = \$10,000
Advertising = \$5,000

The business use percentage of her home office and storage area is 20%.

- What is Masako's tentative profit or loss on line 29 of Schedule C?
 - A. \$12,000
 - B. \$12,300
 - C. \$15,000
 - D. \$16,500

Mini Problem - Schedule A attached.

Dora and Jim Gillam, both age 41, have the following itemized deductions:

Their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is \$24,915.

Political contributions = \$50

Oregon tax withheld on wages = \$146

IRA fees paid separately =\$199

Optical = \$289

6.

Interest paid on Account Investment (Investment income \$3,240) = \$696

Oregon taxes paid on previous years' tax return = \$783

Oregon estimated taxes \$200/Qtr. (4th Qtr. paid in Dec.) = \$800

Chiropractor = \$954

Personal Property donated to charitable organizations, no single donation of \$250 or more = \$1,079

Prescriptions = \$1,312

Braces for dependent child = \$1,408

Dental = \$2,081

Doctors = \$2,330

Church = \$2,510

Medical Insurance for Jim (whose self-employment income is \$18,000) = \$2,630

SEP pension contribution = \$2,763

IRA deduction for Jim = \$3,500 Additional various cash charitable contributions = \$3,827

352 Medical miles 1622 Charitable miles

- 7. The total charitable donations found on line 19 of Schedule A?
 - A. \$1,079
 - B. \$6,564
 - C. \$7,416
 - D. \$7,643

Mini Problem - No Form Needed to Complete

Amy (single) moved from Montana to Portland, Oregon to take a job in Vancouver, Washington. After becoming an Oregon resident, Amy paid her moving expenses. Amy paid the following:

Storage for 30 days - \$80 Rented moving truck - \$110 Meals - \$35 Gas, oil for personal vehicle \$70 To disconnect utilities - \$50

- 8. Amy may deduct moving expenses on her part year Oregon return in the amount of:
 - A. \$0
 - B. \$260
 - C. \$310
 - D. \$345

Mini Problem - Schedule B

John and Mary have the following investment income:

Bank of America Interest	\$150
OSU Credit Union	\$100
AT&T Corporate Bond Interest	\$250
Dreyfus Fund Qualified Dividend	\$100
Dreyfus Fund Capital Gain Distribution	\$200
Dreyfus Fund Non-taxable Dividend	\$100
AT&T Qualified Dividend	\$400
	A

Chase Certificate of Deposit \$450 (as nominee for daughter)

Interest on loan from son \$300 Oregon School Bond \$300

- 9. What is the total taxable interest found on line 4 of Schedule B?
 - A. \$550
 - B. \$800
 - C. \$1,000
 - D. \$1,450

- 10. Select the deduction that does not qualify for schedule A:
 - A. Investment counseling fees
 - B. Expenses of an income producing hobby
 - C. Fee for preparing a will
 - D. Gambling losses (within limitations)
- 11. Interest income from Puerto Rico municipal bonds is an addition to Oregon income.
 - A. True
 - B. False
- 12. Continuing education credits will be accepted only for courses and seminars that comply with all National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) rules regarding continuing education.
 - A. True
 - B. False

Mini Problem - Schedule A attached.

Bill, age 70, and Sue Black, age 55, are Married Filing Jointly (MFJ). Sue's mother, age 75, lives with them. They pay all of her bills and carry her on their health insurance. She receives gross rent of \$200/month from her former home and no other income. Their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is \$37,418. They are full-year Oregon residents. The following was paid out of their joint checking account:

\$1,921 Health insurance (including \$284 for Sue's mother)

\$890 Dr. Hanlin MD (Sue) \$796 Dr. Johnson MD (Bill)

\$350 Dr. Brick MD (Sue's mother)

\$1,849 Dr. Anderson DDS (Sue's mother)

\$640 Prescription medicine and drugs

\$1,741 State tax withheld

\$5,034 Federal tax withheld

\$1,490 Property taxes (their home)

\$461 Property taxes (mother's rental)

\$214 Prior year Oregon tax paid

\$3,568 US Bank mortgage interest (their home)

\$1,216 Carl Jackson contract (mortgage interest on

mother's rental)

\$588 VISA interest

\$632 Department store interest

\$718 MasterCard interest

\$202 Ford Motor Co. (mother's car - interest)

\$740 Church

\$100 Democratic Party

\$75 Collection for sick neighbor

\$52 United Way payroll deduction

\$370 Union dues

\$100 Legal fees for a will

\$134 Tax preparation

\$18 Safety deposit box for stocks and bonds

\$412 Additional Federal tax paid on audit

\$121 Additional Oregon tax paid on audit

Sue does a lot of volunteer work for the Community Hospital and she has kept records of her time. She spent 200 hours working last year and she figures her time is worth at least \$1,410.

- 13. What is the total deductible taxes they paid found on Line 9 of Schedule A?
 - A. \$3,231
 - B. \$3,445
 - C. \$3,566
 - D. \$4,027

Mini Problem - Schedule E attached.

Cari Hall rents spaces in a mobile home park. She lives in the park and manages it.

Her income from rentals for the year = \$31,934 Interest from checking \$103

Her direct rental expenses are as follows:

Repairs to rental units = \$770

Bank charges for the rental bank account = \$355

Garbage for the tenants = \$1,654

Tenant electricity = \$7,650

Tenant water = \$1,000

Refund on rent deposit included in income = \$532

Rental portion of tax preparation fee (Total \$205) = \$85

Depreciation on equipment = \$1,130

Total expenses (Cari's personal share is 45%)

Total real estate taxes = \$4,660 Total mortgage interest = \$10,695 Total insurance on park = \$2,793

Mileage: 240 business miles

- 14. The net income on Cari's Schedule E is:
 - A. \$8,647
 - B. \$8,750
 - C. \$10,469
 - D. \$10,564

Mini Problem - No Form Needed to Complete

Taxpayer has inherited a house from her mother. At the time of the mother's death, the fair market value of the house was \$100,000. The mother's basis in the house was \$50,000. Taxpayer put a new kitchen in the house at a cost of \$20,000, and sold the house for \$150,000.

- 15. If the taxpayer received the house as a gift from her mother instead of as an inheritance, what is taxpayer's basis in the house at the time of the sale?
 - A. \$50,000
 - B. \$70,000
 - C. \$100,000
 - D. \$120,000

Mini Problem - Schedule D attached

In the previous year, Terri Jones had a \$2,100 long-term capital loss carry forward to the current year. Her investment transactions this year were:

- 1.) Purchased 100 shares of IBM on 3/15/09 for \$1,400; sold 9/10/16 for \$3,000.
- 2.) Purchased 50 shares of Hartford 7/10/15 for \$1,700; sold 7/1/16 for \$1,500.
- 3.) Purchased 20 shares of ITT 12/15/09 for \$500. Considered worthless by her broker on 12/31/16.
- 16. What is the amount on Line 16 of Schedule D?
 - A. \$800 loss
 - B. \$1,000 loss
 - C. \$1,200 loss
 - D. \$ 900 gain

Answers, Subject Matter and References Frequently Missed Questions

References can be found in 2016 tax law publications, booklets & instructions

PREPARER

1.) Correct Answer: \$1,200 (C)
Subject Matter: Federal Credits

2.) Correct Answer: March 1 (B) Subject Matter: Federal Payments

3.) Correct Answer: \$14,460 (B) Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

4.) Correct Answer: \$258 (B) Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

5.) Correct Answer: True (A)
Subject Matter: Oregon Additions

6.) Correct Answer: \$15,000 (C) Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

7.) Correct Answer: \$7,643 (D) Subject Matter: PXMini-Problems

8.) Correct Answer: \$310 (C)
Subject Matter: PXMini-Problems

9.) Correct Answer: \$550 (A) Subject Matter: PXMini-Problems

 Correct Answer: Fee for preparing a will (C) Subject Matter: Federal Itemized Deducs.

11.) Correct Answer: False (B)
Subject Matter: Oregon Additions

12.) Correct Answer: False (B)
Subject Matter: Oregon License Law

13.) Correct Answer: \$3,566 (C) Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

14.) Correct Answer: \$8,647 (A)
Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

15.) Correct Answer: \$70,000 (B) Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

16.) Correct Answer: \$1,200 (C)
Subject Matter: PXMiniProblems

STATE BOARD OF TAX PRACTITIONERS RECOMMENDED RESOURCES AND STUDY GUIDES FOR APPLICANTS PREPARING TO TAKE THE CONSULTANT EXAMINATION

Questions in the current Consultant Exam are derived from the following 2017 source documents

FEDERAL:

- Pub. 17
- Pub. 225 Farmer's Tax Guide
- Pub. 334 Small Business Guide
- Pub. 463 Travel, Entertainment, Gift, & Car Expenses
- Pub. 502 Medical & Dental Expenses
- Pub. 519, Chapter 1 U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens
- Pub. 521 Moving Expenses
- Pub. 523 Selling Your Home
- Pub. 525 Taxable and Nontaxable Income
- Pub. 535 Business Expenses
- Pub. 536 Net Operating Losses for Individuals, Estates and Trusts
- Pub. 537 Installment Sales
- Pub. 544 Sales & Other Dispositions of Assets
- Pub. 550 Investment Income & Expenses
- Pub. 551 Basis of Assets
- Pub. 575 Pension and Annuity Income
- Pub. 587 Business Use of Home
- Pub. 590 Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)
- Pub. 596 Earned Income Credit
- Pub. 925 Passive Activities
- Pub. 936 Home Mortgage Interest Deductions
- Pub. 946 Depreciation
- Pub. 970 Tax Benefits for Higher Education
- Pub. 5187 Affordable Care Act: What You and Your Family Need to Know
- Federal Form 1040 Instructions (not forms booklets)
- Federal Form 6251 Instructions Form AMT Instructions
- Federal Form 8801 and Instructions

OREGON:

- OR-17
- Oregon Income Tax Full-Year Resident Form 40 and instructions, Schedules OR-ASC and WFC
- Oregon Income Tax Part-Year Resident/Nonresident Form 40N & 40P, Schedule WFC-N/P, and instructions
- Tax Payments on Real Property Conveyances: Form OR-18, Form WC, Form TP-18, & Instructions
- Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 800: 800-010-0015 through 800-030-0050
- Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 673: 673.605 through 673.990

❖❖❖ Donates any new publications added for the 2018-19 season

Other publications and documents that you may find useful in assisting you in studying for the examination are: Form 2106, Form 4797, Form 5695 and Form 8853 Instructions.

Consultant Examination Subject Outline

and approximate percentage of coverage

<u>Federal</u>

How to file 5%			
Filing status	Miscellaneous deductions		
Personal exemptions	a. Employee business		
Filing requirements	b. Production of income		
Dependents	c. Education		
Earned income 2.5%	Credits 3.5%		
Wages	Child care		
Tips	Child tax		
Fringe benefits	Earned income		
Interest 2%	Education		
Taxable	Mortgage interest		
Exempt	Other		
OID	Estimated payments 1%		
Dividends 2%	Self-employment tax5%		
Ordinary	Alternative minimum tax 1.5%		
Nontaxable	Other taxes 2.5%		
Capital gain	Lump sum distributions		
Business income, deductions 5.5%	Penalties		
Passive activities, rentals 3%	Tips		
Farms 1.5%	Household employment		
Pensions & annuities 3%	Net operating losses,		
Social Security 1%	at-risk amounts 1%		
Depreciation 4%	Amended returns 1.5%		
Sales of property 15%	Other areas 2.5%		
Basis	Adjustments 4%		
Capital assets	IRA, SEP, KEOGH		
Business property	Alimony		
Residence	Moving expenses		
Installment and repossessions	Other		
Depreciation recapture			
Involuntary conversions			
Nontaxable exchanges			
Miscellaneous income 3%			
Itemized deductions 9.5%			
Medical			
Taxes			
Interest			
Contributions			
Casualty losses			

Consultant Examination Subject Outline, continued

<u>Oregon</u>

How to file -- 3% Filing status Requirements Non-residents Exemptions Additions -- 3% Municipal bonds Other **Subtractions -- 4%** Taxes Interest Military pensions Other pensions Other subtractions **Deductions -- 2.5%** Standard deduction Itemized deductions Oregon medical Credits -- 4% Child care Political **Exemption credits** Retirement Working family Other Payments -- 1% Estimated Part year/non-resident -- 2% License law -- 5.5%

Consultant Examination Index and Study Guide

DESCRIPTION/STUDY TOPICS	REFERENCE USED	
Filing Requirements Filing Status Dependents/Exemptions	Pub 17	
Gross Income W-2s, Interest, Dividends, Refunds, Alimony Pensions, IRAs, Clergy, Unemployment, Social Security, and Other Income	Pub 525 Pub 575 Pub 590	
Excludable Income Oregon	Pub OR17 Oregon booklet	
Code of Professional Conduct	OARs Chapter 800	
Standard Deduction	Pub 17	
Schedule A Medical, Taxes, Interest, Investment Interest, Contributions, Casualty Losses, and Misc including Form 2106 Oregon	Pub 502 Pub 936 Pub 463 Pub 970 Pub OR17	
Basis of Assets Depreciation Sec 179, Bonus Depreciation, MACRS, Listed Property Oregon	Pub 17 Pub 551 Pub 946 Pub 225 Pub 334 Pub OR17 1040 booklet	
Schedule C Business vs. Hobby, and Home Office Schedule F Schedule SE Oregon	Pub 334 Pub 535 Pub 587 Pub 225 Pub 463 Pub OR17	
Schedule E Rentals Royalties and K-1's Passive Activities NOLs Oregon	Pub 17 Pub 925 Pub 536 Pub OR17	

DESCRIPTION/STUDY TOPICS	REFERENCE USED
Sales and Exchanges Sch D, Form 4797, Involuntary Conversions, Repossessions, and Like-Kind Exchanges Installment Sales and Form 6252 Sale of Personal Residence Oregon	Pub 544 Pub 551 Pub 537 Pub 523 Pub 17 Pub 225 Pub 334 Pub OR17
Adjustments to Income Education, Student Loan Interest, Tuition & Fees IRA Moving Expense SE Tax SE Health Insurance	Pub 17 Pub 970 Pub 590 1040 booklet
SE Retirement Plans Penalty for Early Withdrawal Alimony	
Personal Property Rental Expenses Oregon	Pub OR17 Oregon booklets
AMT Tax Credits EIC, Child Care, Child Tax, Additional	Pub 225 Pub 17
Child Tax, Foreign Tax Cr, Education, Retirement Savings, Adoption, Gas Tax, and Excess SS Tax and RRTI Tax	Pub 970
Oregon	Pub OR17 Oregon booklets
Filing due dates Estimated taxes Penalty for IRAs and Form 5329 Advance EIC Payments	Pub 17 1040 booklet Pub 590
Oregon	Pub 225 Pub 334 Pub OR17 Oregon booklets

Sample Consultant Test with Frequently Missed Questions

Sample questions extracted from 2017-2018 exams based on 2016 tax law. References are to federal and state publications. Answers and subject matters can be found at the end of this section.

These questions serve as examples only.

current K-1 shows both an ordinary business loss of \$5990 and interest income of \$200. What is Karen's allowable loss?

Karen is an active general partner in her accounting practice. At the beginning of the year her basis in the partnership was \$4200. Her

	A. B. C. D.	\$4,200 \$4,400 \$5,790 \$5,990	
2.	Taxpayer purchas amount of \$450.	ed 100 shares of ABC stock for \$500. Taxpayer receives Form 1099-DIV showing partial liquidation distribution in the Faxpayer must:	
	A. B. C. D.	include \$450 as dividends. reduce basis in stock by \$450. increase basis in stock by \$450. Both (A) and (C)	
3.	Taxpayer Zeeke d	ied during the current tax year. Zeeke had a capital loss carryover of \$8,000. The remaining loss carryover will be	
	A. B.	True False	
4.	Theodore filed his 2012 tax return on October 15, 2014 and paid \$500 tax on October 15, 2014. He learned later that there were errors and he had a refund coming. Theodore will receive a refund if the amended return is filed no later than		
	A. B. C. D.	April 15, 2015. October 15, 2015. October 17, 2016. Oct 15, 2017.	

- 6. Which of the following can be used as a subtraction on the Oregon return?
 - A. Federal refunds, for which you received a tax benefit in a prior year

Oregon installment interest on an Oregon contract.

the capital gain and interest to both Oregon and Federal.

Jane sold land in Oregon on an installment contract after she moved to Washington State. She must report.

B. Interest on municipal bonds from another state

the capital gain on her Oregon return.

the interest and capital gain only to Federal.

- C. Donation to Oregon Cultural Trust
- D. Foreign income tax

B.

C.

D.

1.

5.

7.	John & Mary Smith are Oregon residents who serve in the National Guard. John's military pay was \$6,000, of which \$2,000 was for weekend drills. Mary earned \$4,000 for her annual training. Their exclusion for military service duty pay would be		
	A. B. C. D.	\$2,000 \$6,000. \$8,000. \$10,000.	
8.	On your Oregon	income tax return you may subtract taxable scholarships used for	
	A. B. C. D.	housing expenses even if the expenses were deducted on your Federal return. housing expenses for either you or your dependent. housing expenses if the expenses were for the scholarship recipient. housing expenses only if the scholarship states it can be used for housing expenses.	
9.	Depreciation is n	ot allowed when listed property is used less than 50 percent for business.	
	A. B.	True False	
10.		d 70 1/2 years old and retired on February 12 of the current year. Generally, he must start receiving distributions from lividual Retirement Account (IRA) by	
	A. B. C. D.	February 12 of the current year. December 31 of the current year. April 15 of the following year. April 1 of the following year.	
11.		reman travels from his home to the union hall. He receives a job assignment within the metropolitan area where he of his work. What mileage is deductible?	
	A. B. C. D.	All of his mileage from the union hall to the job. All of his mileage from his home to the job. His mileage from home to the union hall. None of his mileage	
12.	Mr. & Mrs. Elliott political contribut	had an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$250,000. They donated \$500 to an Oregon candidate. How much is their ion credit.	
	A. B. C. D.	\$0 \$50 \$100 \$500	
13.	Larry's only earn employment tax deduction in the	ed income is from his business, Larry's Plumbing. As a new business, his net income was only \$3,000 resulting in self of \$424. Larry paid \$3,800 for health insurance. He is allowed to claim a maximum self-employed health insurance amount of	
	A. B. C. D.	\$2,576. \$2,660. \$2,788. \$3,800.	

14.		Brown own a home which they purchased for \$200,000. This year, the Browns borrowed \$115,000 on a home equity edit card debt. The Browns may deduct as qualified "home equity debt" the interest paid on which of the following
	A.	-0-
	В.	\$85,000
	C.	\$100,000
	D.	\$115,000
	Ъ.	ψ113,000
15.	The cost of a sto	smoking program is deductible as a medical expense, whether prescribed by a doctor or not.
	A.	True
	В.	False
16.		s a commercial building for \$125,000 (basis \$100,000) receives \$16,000 in the year of sale and carries a contract for 20 se the installment method of reporting the sale of the building.
	A.	True
	В.	False
		ne for college classes in September and pays tuition and fees of \$1,800 in October. Joe withdraws from college and ds \$800 of the tuition and fees in November. When Joe prepares his tax return he can take \$1,000 for the tuition and
	A.	True
	B.	False
18.		sed a City of Seattle, Washington municipal bond with a face value of \$10,000 for \$10,250. The purchase price accrued interest. The total interest income reported for this bond was \$500. How much is taxable on his Oregon \$0 \$250 \$500 \$750
19.		egon taxpayer, is under 65, single and not a dependent. His total income includes Port of Portland bonds of \$3,500, interest of \$150, Idaho municipal bond interest of \$1,000, and Social Security of \$9,500. Which of the following is true g requirement?
	A.	He must file an Oregon return only.
	B.	He must file both a Federal and an Oregon return.
	C.	He is not required to file either return.
	D.	He must file a Federal return only.
		·
20.	An Oregon non-r Oregon return.	esident who works in Oregon may qualify for the Working Family Household and Dependent Care Credit on his/her
	A.	True
	B.	False

Answers, Subject Matter and References

Frequently Missed Questions

References can be found in 2016 tax law publications, booklets & instructions

CONSULTANT

1.) Correct Answer: \$4,400 (B)
Subject Matter: Federal Business Income & Deduc.

2.) Correct Answer: reduce basis in stock by \$450 (B) Subject Matter: Federal Dividends

3.) Correct Answer: False (B)
Subject Matter: Federal Sales of Property

4.) Correct Answer: October 17, 2016 (C)
Subject Matter: Federal Amended Returns

5.) Correct Answer: the capital gain on her Oregon return (B) Subject Matter: Oregon Part Yr-Non Res.

6.) Correct Answer: Foreign income tax (D)
Subject Matter: Oregon Subtractions

7.) Correct Answer: \$10,000 (D)
Subject Matter: Oregon Subtractions

8.) Correct Answer: housing expenses if the expenses...(C)
Subject Matter: Oregon Subtractions

9.) Correct Answer: False (B)
Subject Matter: Federal Depreciation

10.) Correct Answer: April 1 of the following year (D)
Subject Matter: Federal Pens & Annuities

11.) Correct Answer: None of his mileage (D)
Subject Matter: Federal Itemized Deductions

12.) Correct Answer: \$0 (A)
Subject Matter: Oregon Credits

13.) Correct Answer: \$2,788 (C)
Subject Matter: Federal Adjustments

14.) Correct Answer: \$100,000 (C)
Subject Matter: Federal Itemized Deductions

15.) Correct Answer: True (A)
Subject Matter: Federal Itemized Deductions

16.) Correct Answer: False (B)
Subject Matter: Federal Sales of Property

17.) Correct Answer: True (A)
Subject Matter: Federal Adjustments

18.) Correct Answer: \$250 (B)
Subject Matter: Oregon Additions

Correct Answer: He is not required to file...(C)
 Subject Matter: Oregon How to File

20.) Correct Answer: True (A)
Subject Matter: Oregon Part Yr-Non Res.

2018 - 2019 PSI Proctor Site Information

The following PSI proctor sites will be offering the online Tax Board examinations beginning November 1st (verify with the OBTP that the online exam has been activated). The proctor sites are listed in alphabetical order by the city in which they are located. Indicate only **one** location on your exam application form with the Site Code.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REFER TO THE PSI SERVICES, LLC CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET

www.psiexams.com

- Your location selection will be final once you submit your application and \$60 application fee to the OBTP.
- Upon approval of exam eligibility, the OBTP will e-mail you an approval notice. It is your responsibility to contact PSI to pay for proctoring and schedule the examination.
- Your eligibility if good for 60 days from the date of approval by the Board. If you fail the
 exam you may retest an unlimited number of times during the 60-day period. If you do not
 pass within the 60 days, you must re-apply with the OBTP. You will need to submit a new
 application with all applicable examination fees.
- Do not contact the proctor site to schedule your exam time until after your receive the letter from the Board approving you to test.

PSI TESTING SITES - \$50 Preparers, \$85 Consultant, \$85 Consultant State Only

Aurora Aviation 22785 Airport Rd NE, Blue Gate #5 Aurora, OR 97002

From I-5 N, heading Northeast, take exit 282 toward Canby. Turn right onto NE Miley Rd. Take the 1st right onto NE Airport Rd/Aurora Rd. Continue to follow NE Airport Rd. Destination will be on the right.

Baker City 2101 Main Street, #203 Baker City, OR 97814

From I-84 take Exit 304 onto Campbell Street. On Campbell Street go 1 mile to Main Street, turn left. Test site is a 1/4 of a mile on right side, in a brick building before Broadway in the Basch Sage Mini Mall. Enter from Broadway and go upstairs. Take a left to the end of hall to Room 203.

Bend 325 NW Vermont PI, #106 Bend. OR 97701

From US-97 going North, take the Revere Ave exit and take a left at the traffic signal. Go one block West to Wall Street and turn left at the traffic light. Continue South on Wall Street for approximately 1/2 mile and turn right onto NW Vermont Pl. The PSI Test Center is the first building on the left.

Eugene 1955 Empire Park Drive, Suite A Eugene, OR 97402

From I-5 take Beltline Hwy West to exit #5 Barger Drive. Turn Left at the end of exit ramp. Go .7 miles and turn right onto Empire Park Drive. (JUST before Hwy 99). The first building on the corner is Subway. Second building is PSI exams Suite A. Edward Jones Investments is the other tenant of the building in Suite B.

From Hwy 126 which is also West 11th take Beltline Hwy to exit #5 Barger Drive. Turn right at the end of exit ramp. Go .7 miles and turn Right onto Empire Park Drive. (JUST before HWY 99). The first building on the corner is Subway. Second building is PSI exams Suite A. Edward Jones Investments is the other tenant of the building in Suite B. Please do not park at or near Subway, but instead park on the left side of the building.

Independence 4901 Airport Rd Independence State Airport Independence, OR 97351

Take I-5 to exit 260A for OR-99E BUS S/Salem Expy and follow, then taking a slight left onto Commercial St NE. Turn right on Marion St NE continuing onto OR-22W/Marion St. Bridge. Follow OR-22W for 5 miles, then turn left onto OR-51S/Independence Hwy. Turn right onto Polk St and continue onto Hoffman Rd. Turn right onto Airport Rd.

Medford 1236 A North Riverside Ave Medford, OR 97501

From I-5 going North, take the Barnett Street off ramp and turn left. Turn right on Riverside Ave, and go approximately 3 miles. The site will be on the right side.

From I-5 going South, take the North exit (#30) and turn right and follow signs to "City Center". Pass McAndrews, and turn left on Manzinita. This dead ends at Riverside. Turn left on Riverside, go one block and site will be on the right side.

Portland 205 Business Center, Suite 258 8383 NE Sandy Blvd Portland, OR 97220

Coming North on I-205: Take the Killingsworth exit. Stay to the left and travel through the first light. PSI is on the right-hand side in the business building across from the Grotto. If you get to NE 82nd Ave., you have gone too far. We are on the 2nd floor which seems to be the 1st floor when entering the building from Sandy Blvd and are the first door on the right. There is signage on the door to our office.

Coming South on I-205: Take the Sandy Blvd exit. Stay in the right-hand lane and turn right at signal. Come up to the next signal (Sandy Blvd) and turn right again. PSI is on the right-hand side in the business building across from the Grotto. If you get to NE 82nd Ave., you have gone too far. We are on the 2nd floor which seems to be the 1st floor when entering the building from Sandy Blvd and are the first door on the right. There is signage on the door to our office.

Coming East on Sandy Blvd: Just past NE 82nd Ave. across from the Grotto is the business building that PSI is in. We are on the 2nd floor which seems to be the 1st floor when entering the building from Sandy Blvd and are the first door on the right. There is signage on the door to our office.

Coming West on Sandy Blvd: Just past Prescot St. and across from the Grotto is the business building that PSI is in. We are on the 2nd floor which seems to be the 1st floor when entering the building from Sandy Blvd and are the first door on the right. There is signage on the door to our office.

Coming South on 82nd Ave: Turn right on Sandy Blvd. PSI is in the business building across from the Grotto. We are on the 2nd floor which seems to be the 1st floor when entering the building from Sandy Blvd and are the first door on the right. There is signage on the door to our office.

Coming North on 82nd Ave: Turn left on Sandy Blvd. PSI is in the business building across from the Grotto. We are on the 2nd floor which seems to be the 1st floor when entering the building from Sandy Blvd and are the first door on the right. There is signage on the door to our office.

Wilsonville 25195 SW Parkway Ave Suite 105 Wilsonville, OR 97070

Going South: Off I5, take exit 286 (Ellingens/Boones Ferry Rd). Turn left and cross back over the freeway. Turn left at 2nd signal light (Parkway Ave.) Turn into Parkway Plaza parking lot (across the street from Shriner's). We are located in the Main Entrance first door on the right.

Going North: Off I5, take exit 286 (Ellingens/Boones Ferry Rd). Turn Right. Turn Left at next signal light (Parkway Ave.) Turn into Parkway Plaza parking lot (across the street from Shriner's). We are located in the Main Entrance first door on the right.

Additionally, PSI has examination centers in many other regions across the United States. You may take this examination at any of these locations by submitting the out-of-state request form found on the PSIT Testing website.

On the day of the examination, you should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. This allows time for sign-in and identification verification and provides time for you to familiarize yourself with the examination process. If you arrive late, you will not be admitted to the examination site and you will forfeit your examination registration fee.

Candidates must register for the exam with their LEGAL first and last name as it appears on their government issued identification. The required identification below must match the first and last name under which the candidate is registered. Candidates are required to bring one (1) form of valid (non-expired) signature bearing identification to the test site. If the candidate fails to bring proper identification or the candidate names do not match, the candidate will not be allowed to test and their examination fee will not be refunded.

PRIMARY IDENTIFICATION (with photo) – Choose One
☐ State issued driver's license
☐ State issued identification card
☐ US government issued passport
☐ US government issued military identification card
☐ US government issued Alien Registration Card

NOTE: ID must contain candidate's photo, be valid and unexpired.

If you cannot provide the required identification, you must call (800) 733-9267 at least 3 weeks prior to your scheduled appointment to arrange a way to meet this security requirement.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REFER TO THE PSI SERVICES, LLC CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET

www.psiexams.com