

Greetings from the Gwizdala Team



What a year it's been so far!

Little did we know that 2020 would become a history-making year with each of us finding our way through unprecedented and extraordinary times.

Lives and livelihoods were turned upside down by a global pandemic, and everything that was normal, customary, and routine was pulled out from under us, almost overnight. Somber facts and figures came at us with swiftness and urgency, as did the government rules, regulations, and guidelines that accompanied them. We needed to learn a new vocabulary (e.g. flatten the curve, PPE, stimulus), embrace new technology, and discover a new way to “do” life at home and work and school.

Rick was busy for weeks consulting and shepherding small business owners through the complex process of applying for government grants and loans, designed to help them survive the economic impact of COVID19.

As we slowly re-open our society and marketplace, we earnestly hope that all of our business partners come back and once again are able to grow and thrive. Small business is the backbone of our society. We value you and stand with you.



Big decisions need good financial counsel

Our accountants are a wealth of knowledge and can advise you *before* major decisions and life-changing events, so that you can move forward with knowledge and insight. Your accountant is on your side and can help you understand how your income, taxes, and finances are impacted, now and in the future. If you are:

- * buying or selling a home
- * having or adopting a child
- * getting married or divorced
- * purchasing a big-ticket item
- * remodeling your house
- * starting a business
- * switching jobs



Important Dates:

- 07/15 Tax filing deadline
- 08/15 Property tax filing deadline
- 09/15 Filing deadline for corporate extensions
- 10/15 Filing deadline for individual extensions

Call us first and schedule an appointment with your accountant. Their expertise and wisdom will guide you, inform you, and potentially save you much money.

Stimulus Check Summary

Who qualifies?

Individuals with adjusted gross incomes under \$75,000 or couples under \$150,000. Amounts awarded:

Single: \$1200

Married couple: \$2400

Parents: \$500 for each child under 17

Most payments come in the form of direct deposits into your bank account or a check mailed to you. The final batch is coming as a preloaded debit card. If you qualify for the payment and are still waiting for yours, you can go to this website to check on the status:

www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments

Note: If a deceased loved one got a check, it needs to be returned. Call us for help with this.

Storing your important documents

Make sure your power of attorney or executor has quick and convenient access to all your important paperwork:

Wills and trusts

Life insurance policies

Bank and retirement account statements

Certificates of other assets

Mortgage paperwork

Real estate deeds

Debts

This will be so appreciated by your loved ones and will provide you all with peace of mind.



Tax Tidbits for 2020

Health Savings Accounts (**HSAs**) 2020 contributions increased for high deductible health plans (HDHP) to \$3550 for individuals and \$7100 for family coverage.

You can now withdraw up to \$10,000 total from a **529 plan** to repay student loans for the account beneficiary or their siblings, without tax or penalty, as a qualified educational expense.

Up to \$5000 may be withdrawn from a retirement plan without penalty for the **birth or adoption of a child**. The amount withdrawn is still taxable but may be redeposited without penalty.

No tax due or tax return needed for **gifts** up to \$15,000.

SIMPLE retirement account limits are increased to \$13,500.

The contribution limit for employees who participate in **401(k)**, **403(b)**, or 457 plans is increased to \$19,500.

The **catch-up contribution** for employees 50+ who participate in 401(k), 403(b), or 457 plans is \$6,500.

Beginning in 2020, the **mandatory age** to begin distributions from your IRA has been raised to 72 (rather than the former 70 1/2).

Starting in 2020, **IRAs inherited** from people (other than spouse) must be distributed within 10 years of death.

Estates of persons who die in 2020 are tax exempt up to \$11,580,000 (federal) and the MN limit is \$3,000,000.

