



## FAJ Tax Tips for Firefighters.

CLAIM ON WORK RELATED TRAINING AND EDUCATION

OVERTIME MEAL ALLOWANCE

USE PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE TO REDUCE YOUR TAX SURCHARGE

These are just three points from the following detailed Checklist Francis A Jones has developed to help you get exactly what you're entitled to in your tax refund.

Because when you make all the claims you're entitled to, it all adds up. And our job is to make sure you get every cent you can.

**You can make an appointment by filling out the online appointment form or phone FAJ on 9335 5211.**



Francis A Jones  
Where people count.

[www.faj.com.au/taxreturns](http://www.faj.com.au/taxreturns)

## FAJ Tax Tips for Firefighters.

**1 CLAIM ON WORK RELATED TRAINING AND EDUCATION** Costs incurred in attending seminars, conferences and workshops are tax deductible as long as it relates to your work. More specific training such as First Aid courses, fire fighting training and safety courses are also deductible.

**2 OVERTIME MEAL ALLOWANCE** If you receive an overtime meal allowance during the year and the amount is shown on your payment summary you may be able to claim a standard deduction of \$28.80 per overtime shift. To ensure we claim the correct amount you will need to know how many times you worked overtime or how much you received for each overtime meal allowance.

**3 USE PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE TO REDUCE YOUR TAX SURCHARGE** If you earn more than 90k per year as a single person (more for couples & families) you will be liable to pay a medicare surcharge. We can help you understand your tax saving from taking up private health insurance.

**4 MAXIMISE YOUR WORK RELATED DEDUCTIONS** As a general rule, if an item of expenditure is directly related to your work and is not private it might be deductible. For example pagers, flashlights, batteries, goggles, helmets, union fees, subscriptions and journals are all deductible. Regardless of the requirement to be cleanly shaven for breathing apparatus, razors are generally not deductible due to their private nature. Unfortunately as there is no connection to income, no tax deductions are available for the purchase of fire equipment for volunteer fire fighting.

**5 WORK RELATED UNIFORM EXPENSES** A deduction may be allowable for the purchase of protective clothing including jackets, pants and gloves, as well as the cost of laundry and maintenance of supplied or purchased clothing and uniforms. Any footwear that is considered protective may also be eligible for a deduction.

**6 TURN WORK AT HOME INTO TAX DEDUCTIONS** Internet, telephone and power may be tax deductible expenses if you do some work from home. You can also depreciate office equipment like computers, printers, electronic equipment.

**7 MAXIMISE YOUR TRAVEL-RELATED DEDUCTIONS** If you are required to use your car for work related travel such as travel between jobs, travel to the scene of a crime or between two police stations you may be able to claim a tax deduction. Keep track of all work related travel and expenses to allow us to claim the most for your car. Ask us for a complimentary FAJ log book or use our app.

**8 GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR PROPERTY INVESTMENTS** For tips on what you can claim and what it means to negatively gear a property, please download our checklist 'FAJ Tax Tips for Property Investors'

**9 SAVE BY PACKAGING YOUR SALARY** A good way to increase your take home pay or your super balance is to take advantage of salary packaging. Items which can be salary sacrificed include superannuation contributions, motor vehicle leases and laptops. We can help select the best package for you.

**10 IT'S NOT JUST OUR FEES THAT ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE** Did you know that as well as being able to claim the fees paid to FAJ for preparing your tax return you can also claim the cost of travelling to FAJ and parking fees?



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