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YEAR 2012 THRESHOLD AMOUNTS

IRS-approved standard mileage rate for business use of an automobile	55 ½¢ per mile
IRS-approved standard mileage rate for volunteer use of an automobile in connection with charitable activities, generally	14¢ per mile ¹
Contribution base for Social Security purposes	4.2% of first \$110,100 of wages (employee) ⁵ 6.2% of first \$110,100 of wages (employer)
Contribution base for Medicare purposes	1.45% on total wages
Combined Social Security and Medicare contribution base for self-employed individuals	13.3% on first \$110,100 of net earnings, 2.9% on net earnings above that level ⁵
Annual Limits on Elective Deferrals through Section 401(k) and 403(b) plans, generally ²	\$17,000
Annual Limits on Contributions to Section 457 (nonqualified deferred compensation) plans, generally ²	\$17,000
Maximum benefit amount which charities can provide to contributors without triggering a reduction in the donor's tax deduction	The lesser of : a) 2% of the amount contributed or: b) \$99.00
Maximum cost of a "token item" ³ which can be provided to a donor without triggering a reduction in the donor's tax deduction	\$9.90, provided the donor's contribution exceeds \$49.50
Maximum cost of a "low-cost article" ⁴ which can be distributed in connection with the solicitation of charitable contributions without potentially triggering Unrelated Business Income Tax (IRC Section 513(h)(2))	\$9.90
Maximum amount of dues per member which an IRC Section 501(c)(5) agricultural or horticultural organization can assess without potentially triggering Unrelated Business Income Tax (IRC Section 512(d)) if members are entitled to benefits or privileges.	\$151.00
Maximum amount of dues per member which a qualifying IRC Section 501 organization (other than a Section 501(c)(3) organization) can receive from persons, families, or entities in order to meet the "nondeductible dues" exception to the Section 6033(e) lobbying proxy tax	\$105.00

¹ Alternatively, a volunteer may deduct his/her actual (unreimbursed) vehicle expenses for gas and oil.

² Individuals Age 50 or over may make additional Elective Deferrals ("Catch-up Contributions") of up to \$5,500.

³ A "token item" is a nominal benefit (bookmarks, calendars, key chains, mugs, posters, tee shirts, and similar items) bearing the charity's name and/or logo.

⁴ A "low-cost article" is any article which has a cost to the charity not exceeding the amount shown in the right-hand column. If more than one item is distributed, by or on behalf of a charity to a single donor in any calendar year, the total of the items distributed to the donor shall be aggregated for this purpose and treated as one article.

⁵ Currently, the contribution rate for employees and self-employed individuals is scheduled to increase to 6.2% and 15.3% respectively on earnings after February 29, 2012, although this provision is subject to change.