

(i) Taxable year of personal service corporations**(1) In general**

For purposes of this subtitle, the taxable year of any personal service corporation shall be the calendar year unless the corporation establishes, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, a business purpose for having a different period for its taxable year. For purposes of this paragraph, any deferral of income to shareholders shall not be treated as a business purpose.

(2) Personal service corporation

For purposes of this subsection, the term “personal service corporation” has the meaning given such term by section 269A(b)(1), except that section 269A(b)(2) shall be applied—

(A) by substituting “any” for “more than 10 percent”, and

(B) by substituting “any” for “50 percent or more in value” in section 318(a)(2)(C).

A corporation shall not be treated as a personal service corporation unless more than 10 percent of the stock (by value) in such corporation is held by employee-owners (within the meaning of section 269A(b)(2), as modified by the preceding sentence). If a corporation is a member of an affiliated group filing a consolidated return, all members of such group shall be taken into account in determining whether such corporation is a personal service corporation.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 148; Pub. L. 88-272, title II, §235(c)(3), Feb. 26, 1964, 78 Stat. 127; Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, §1906(b)(13)(A), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1834; Pub. L. 95-30, title I, §102(b)(5), May 23, 1977, 91 Stat. 137; Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title IV, §474(b)(2), title VIII, §803, July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 830, 1000; Pub. L. 99-514, title I, §104(b)(6), title VIII, §806(c)(1), (d), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2105, 2364; Pub. L. 100-647, title I, §1008(e)(4), Nov. 10, 1988, 102 Stat. 3440; Pub. L. 110-172, §11(g)(7), Dec. 29, 2007, 121 Stat. 2490.)

AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 110-172, §11(g)(7)(A), struck out “FSC or” before “DISC filing”.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 110-172, §11(g)(7)(B), struck out “FSC’s and” before “DISC’s” in heading and “FSC or” before “DISC” in pars. (1) and (2).

1988—Subsec. (i)(2). Pub. L. 100-647 inserted at end “A corporation shall not be treated as a personal service corporation unless more than 10 percent of the stock (by value) in such corporation is held by employee-owners (within the meaning of section 269A(b)(2), as modified by the preceding sentence). If a corporation is a member of an affiliated group filing a consolidated return, all members of such group shall be taken into account in determining whether such corporation is a personal service corporation.”

1986—Subsec. (f)(2)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 99-514, §104(b)(6), struck out “and by adding the zero bracket amount,” after “in the short period.”

Subsec. (f)(3), (4). Pub. L. 99-514, §806(d), added par. (3) and redesignated former par. (3) as (4).

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 99-514, §806(c)(1), added subsec. (i). 1984—Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 98-369, §803(a), added par. (4).

Subsec. (f)(2)(A). Pub. L. 98-369, §474(b)(2), substituted “section 15” for “section 21” in provisions preceding cl. (i).

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 98-369, §803(b), added subsec. (h). 1977—Subsec. (f)(2)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 95-30 substituted “multiplying the gross income for such short period

(minus the deductions allowed by this chapter for the short period, but only the adjusted amount of the deductions for personal exemptions as described in section 443(c)) by 365, by dividing the result by the number of days in the short period, and by adding the zero bracket amount” for “multiplying such income by 365 and dividing the result by the number of days in the short period”.

1976—Subsec. (f)(3). Pub. L. 94-455 struck out “or his delegate” after “Secretary”.

1964—Subsec. (f)(2)(A). Pub. L. 88-272 inserted “, including,” before “or ending with reference to”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-647 effective, except as otherwise provided, as if included in the provision of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, to which such amendment relates, see section 1019(a) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 104(b)(6) of Pub. L. 99-514 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1986, see section 151(a) of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

Amendment by section 806(c)(1), (d) of Pub. L. 99-514 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1986, with special provisions applicable to taxpayers who are required to change their accounting periods, see section 806(e) of Pub. L. 99-514, set out as a note under section 1378 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 474(b)(2) of Pub. L. 98-369 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1983, and to carrybacks from such years, see section 475(a) of Pub. L. 98-369, set out as a note under section 21 of this title.

Amendment by section 803 of Pub. L. 98-369 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1984, see section 805(a)(4) of Pub. L. 98-369, as amended, set out as a note under section 245 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1977 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 95-30 applicable to taxable years beginning after Dec. 31, 1976, see section 106(a) of Pub. L. 95-30, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1964 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 88-272 applicable to taxable years ending after Dec. 31, 1963, see section 235(d) of Pub. L. 88-272, set out as a note under section 1551 of this title.

CONSTRUCTION OF SECTION 806 OF PUB. L. 99-514

Nothing in section 806 of Pub. L. 99-514 or in any legislative history relating thereto to be construed as requiring the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate to permit an automatic change of a taxable year, see section 1008(e)(9) of Pub. L. 100-647, set out as a note under section 1378 of this title.

§ 442. Change of annual accounting period

If a taxpayer changes his annual accounting period, the new accounting period shall become the taxpayer’s taxable year only if the change is approved by the Secretary. For purposes of this subtitle, if a taxpayer to whom section 441(g) applies adopts an annual accounting period (as defined in section 441(c)) other than a calendar year, the taxpayer shall be treated as having changed his annual accounting period.

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 149; Pub. L. 94-455, title XIX, §1906(b)(13)(A), Oct. 4, 1976, 90 Stat. 1834.)

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-455 struck out “or his delegate” after “Secretary”.

§ 443. Returns for a period of less than 12 months**(a) Returns for short period**

A return for a period of less than 12 months (referred to in this section as “short period”) shall be made under any of the following circumstances:

(1) Change of annual accounting period

When the taxpayer, with the approval of the Secretary, changes his annual accounting period. In such a case, the return shall be made for the short period beginning on the day after the close of the former taxable year and ending at the close of the day before the day designated as the first day of the new taxable year.

(2) Taxpayer not in existence for entire taxable year

When the taxpayer is in existence during only part of what would otherwise be his taxable year.

(b) Computation of tax on change of annual accounting period**(1) General rule**

If a return is made under paragraph (1) of subsection (a), the taxable income for the short period shall be placed on an annual basis by multiplying the modified taxable income for such short period by 12, dividing the result by the number of months in the short period. The tax shall be the same part of the tax computed on the annual basis as the number of months in the short period is of 12 months.

(2) Exception**(A) Computation based on 12-month period**

If the taxpayer applies for the benefits of this paragraph and establishes the amount of this taxable income for the 12-month period described in subparagraph (B), computed as if that period were a taxable year and under the law applicable to that year, then the tax for the short period, computed under paragraph (1), shall be reduced to the greater of the following:

- (i) an amount which bears the same ratio to the tax computed on the taxable income for the 12-month period as the modified taxable income computed on the basis of the short period bears to the modified taxable income for the 12-month period; or
- (ii) the tax computed on the modified taxable income for the short period.

The taxpayer (other than a taxpayer to whom subparagraph (B)(ii) applies) shall compute the tax and file his return without the application of this paragraph.

(B) 12-month period

The 12-month period referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be—

- (i) the period of 12 months beginning on the first day of the short period, or
- (ii) the period of 12 months ending at the close of the last day of the short period, if

at the end of the 12 months referred to in clause (i) the taxpayer is not in existence or (if a corporation) has theretofore disposed of substantially all of its assets.

(C) Application for benefits

Application for the benefits of this paragraph shall be made in such manner and at such time as the regulations prescribed under subparagraph (D) may require; except that the time so prescribed shall not be later than the time (including extensions) for filing the return for the first taxable year which ends on or after the day which is 12 months after the first day of the short period. Such application, in case the return was filed without regard to this paragraph, shall be considered a claim for credit or refund with respect to the amount by which the tax is reduced under this paragraph.

(D) Regulations

The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as he deems necessary for the application of this paragraph.

(3) Modified taxable income defined

For purposes of this subsection the term “modified taxable income” means, with respect to any period, the gross income for such period minus the deductions allowed by this chapter for such period (but, in the case of a short period, only the adjusted amount of the deductions for personal exemptions).

(c) Adjustment in deduction for personal exemption

In the case of a taxpayer other than a corporation, if a return is made for a short period by reason of subsection (a)(1) and if the tax is not computed under subsection (b)(2), then the exemptions allowed as a deduction under section 151 (and any deduction in lieu thereof) shall be reduced to amounts which bear the same ratio to the full exemptions as the number of months in the short period bears to 12.

(d) Adjustment in computing minimum tax and tax preferences

If a return is made for a short period by reason of subsection (a)—

- (1) the alternative minimum taxable income for the short period shall be placed on an annual basis by multiplying such amount by 12 and dividing the result by the number of months in the short period, and
- (2) the amount computed under paragraph (1) of section 55(a) shall bear the same relation to the tax computed on the annual basis as the number of months in the short period bears to 12.

(e) Cross references

For inapplicability of subsection (b) in computing—

- (1) **Accumulated earnings tax, see section 536.**
- (2) **Personal holding company tax, see section 546.**
- (3) **The taxable income of a regulated investment company, see section 852(b)(2)(E).**
- (4) **The taxable income of a real estate investment trust, see section 857(b)(2)(C).**

For returns for a period of less than 12 months in the case of a debtor's election to terminate a taxable year, see section 1398(d)(2)(E).

(Aug. 16, 1954, ch. 736, 68A Stat. 149; Pub. L. 86-779, §10(i), Sept. 14, 1960, 74 Stat. 1009; Pub. L.