

Truck Driver Per Diem Calculator Sheet

Tax Year: _____

Client Information

Driver Name: _____

Company Name (if applicable): _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Per Diem Eligibility Overview

Per diem is generally used for drivers who are **away from their tax home overnight while working**. This section helps track qualifying travel days for meal deduction purposes.

Trip & Travel Log

Please record qualifying overnight trips below.

Trip # Start Date End Date Destination / Route Nights Away

1

2

3

4

5

Total Days Away from Tax Home

Total Overnight Travel Days: _____

Per Diem Rate Information (For Reference Only)

- Standard federal per diem rate (varies by year and location)
 - Truck drivers are typically allowed **80% deduction of per diem meals**
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Per Diem Calculation

Step 1: Total Eligible Travel Days

_____ days

Step 2: Standard Per Diem Rate of \$80 Per Day (2026)

Step 3: Total Per Diem Allowance

\$ _____

(Formula: Days × Rate = Total Allowance)

Deduction Limitation

Allowable Deduction (Typically 80% of total):

\$ _____

(Formula: Total Allowance × 0.80 = Deductible Amount)

Actual Meal Expenses (If Using Actual Method Instead)

If you are NOT using per diem and instead tracking actual meals:

Meals Purchased on the Road: \$ _____

Truck Stop Meals: \$ _____

Restaurant Meals: \$ _____

Groceries While Traveling: \$ _____

Total Actual Meal Expenses: \$ _____

Method Used (Select One)

- Per Diem Method
 - Actual Expense Method
-

Notes Section (Important Details About Travel)

Supporting Documentation Checklist

Please include:

- Trip logs or ELD reports
 - Dispatch records
 - Load confirmations
 - Fuel receipts (optional but helpful)
 - Overnight stay verification (if available)
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Certification

I certify that the travel days and information provided are accurate and reflect time spent away from my tax home for business purposes.

Driver Signature: _____

Date: _____