

If you purchased a new vehicle in 2009 you may be entitled to a special tax deduction for the sales and excise taxes paid. Unlike previous years, you can qualify for this deduction even if you do not itemize your deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A.

To qualify for the deduction, the new vehicle must weigh less than 8500 pounds (except motor homes) and have been purchased between February 16, 2009 and December 31, 2009. In addition, only the first \$49,500 of the purchase price qualifies. Eligible vehicles include new cars, light trucks, motor homes and motorcycles.

Taxpayers who do not itemize their tax deductions can claim the sales and excise tax on Form 1040 Schedule L and add this to their standard deduction.