

www.hmconsult.com
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Congress again approved \$250,000 write-off limit for Tax Code 179

Business Equipment: Business owners who acquire equipment (e.g. software, computers, machinery) usually prefer to deduct the cost in a single tax year, rather than a little at a time over a number of years. This deduction is known as a **Section 179 deduction**.

Under Section 179 of the Tax Code, businesses that spend less than \$800,000 a year on qualified equipment may write-off up to \$250,000 in 2010. The rules are designed for small companies, so the \$250,000 deduction phases out when a business purchases more than \$800,000 in one year. (Companies cannot write off more than their taxable income).

Benefits: The benefit of Tax Code Section 179 is that a business can expense (in depreciation) up to \$250,000 if the equipment or software is acquired in 2010. Businesses that acquire equipment with cash or through an Equipment Finance Agreement (i.e. Loan) or a Capital Lease can use Tax Code 179.

Sample Tax Savings:

Cost of the Equipment/Software:	\$125,000
Section 179 Depreciation Write Off:	\$125,000
Tax Rate Assumption:	35%
Tax Savings on Your Equipment:	<u>\$ 43,750</u> (\$125,000 times 35%)
Net Cost of Equipment After Write- Off:	\$ 81,250

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Lifeboat by HMC



Lifeboat is an online backup service that allows practices to backup valuable computer data offsite

via the Internet. Backups begin automatically and data is redundantly copied to two separate underground sites. Separate facilities help ensure the security of critical data.

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HMC: Taking Care of the Business Side of Health Care

About Our Organization:

At Health Management Consultants, LLC., our goal is to maximize the efficiency of the business side of health-care. As a woman-owned, small business, we are MBE/DBE certified. We serve the entire mid-Atlantic region, at the Federal, State, and local level, catering to a variety of

needs, all of which help to improve the operations and performance of healthcare practices.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding our company and/or our services.

Growing Pains: Why the Challenges of Implementing an EMR are Worth It

Changing an organization's processes is usually a very difficult task. It is easy to become accustomed to the way that "things have always been done" and daily routines. Often, this comfort makes one reluctant to try something new – such as new technology solutions that may seem unfamiliar. This is normal, and learning new technology, such as electronic medical records (EMRs), can be difficult. But in the case of EMRs, the benefits far outweigh the costs and frustrations of learning a new system. With our help, this new technology can become as comfortable to use as your old system.

The CDC reports that nearly 44% of office-based physicians reported using all or partial EMRs in their practices. However, in last year's survey of 2,000 physicians about 20.5% of respondents reported having systems and only 6.3% reported having fully functional systems. Training and support are critical to the successful adaptation. This is where HMC comes in; we can provide the technical support necessary for a seamless transition to an EMR system and help you to minimize and prevent any problems with the system.

Staunch objections to EMRs generally have cited either lost productivity or high costs. However, the streamlining abilities of EMRs and consolidated database of information actually tend to greatly increase a practice's productivity. Additionally, the HITECH Act addresses the cost issue by providing billions of dollars for electronic records implementations. For more information about EMRs, please contact us at 410.715.0011. For more information about the HITECH Act, please visit http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/coveredentities/guidance_breachnotice.html.

Lifeboat by HMC (continued from the first page)

Lifeboat helps Healthcare Organizations meet the HIPAA compliance requirements:

- All data, including patient and billing records are encrypted before they leave your computers and are never accessible without your encryption key. In addition, data transfers over the Internet are encrypted using SSL technology.
- Encrypted data is stored in state-of-the-art redundant data centers.
- Backups and restores are automated, eliminating the need for manual data handling.
- Detailed logs store information on each file backed up and restored, creating audit trails.

Call us at 410-715-0011 for additional information.



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BETTER.*