

Instructions for Schedule J: Your Expenses

How to Fill Out Schedule J

Schedule J: Your Expenses (Official Form 6J) provides an estimate the monthly expenses, as of the date you file for bankruptcy, for you, your dependents, and the other people in your household whose income is included on *Schedule I: Your Income* (Official Form 6I). On your initial filing in Part 2 select “Initial estimate at the beginning of the case”.

If you are married and are filing individually, include your non-filing spouse’s expenses unless you are separated.

Do not include expenses that other members of your household pay directly from their income if you did not include that income on *Schedule I*. For example, if you have a roommate and you divide the rent and utilities and you have not listed your roommate’s contribution to household expenses in line 11 of *Schedule I*, you would list only your share of these expenses on *Schedule J*.

Show all totals as monthly payments. If you have weekly, quarterly, or annual payments, calculate how much you would spend on those items every month.

Do not list as expenses any payments on credit card debts incurred before filing bankruptcy.

Do not include business expenses on this form. You have already accounted for those expenses as part of determining net business income on *Schedule I*.

On line 20, do not include expenses for your residence or for any rental or business property. You have already listed expenses for your residence on lines 4 and 5 of this form. You listed the expenses for your rental and business property as part of the process of determining your net income from that property on *Schedule I* (line 8a).

If you have nothing to report for a line, write \$0.

If, after filing *Schedule J*, you need to file an estimate of expenses in a chapter 13 case for a date after your bankruptcy, you may complete a supplemental *Schedule J*. To do so you must check the “supplement” box at the top of the form and fill in the date.

Joint Filers with Separate Households

If you are filing jointly and Debtor 1 and Debtor 2 keep separate households, fill out a separate *Schedule J* for each debtor. Check the box at the top of page 1 of the form for Debtor 2 to show that a separate form is being filed. The total from line 22 of Debtor 2’s *Schedule J* should be added into the total expenses for Debtor 1 at line 22 on Debtor 1’s *Schedule J*. Lines 23a, 23b, and 23c do not need to be completed on Debtor 2’s *Schedule J* because total expenses and net income will be calculated on Debtor 1’s *Schedule J*.

Understand the terms used in this form

This form uses *you* and *Debtor 1* to refer to a debtor filing alone. A married couple may file a bankruptcy case together—called a *joint case*—and in joint cases, this form uses *you* to ask for information from both debtors. When information is needed about the spouses separately, the form uses *Debtor 1* and *Debtor 2* to distinguish between them. In joint cases, one of the spouses must report information as *Debtor 1* and the other as *Debtor 2*. The same person must be *Debtor 1* in all of the forms.

Things to remember when filling out this form

- Be as complete and accurate as possible.
- If more space is needed, attach a separate sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write your name and case number (if known).
- If two married people are filing together, both are equally responsible for supplying correct information.
- Do not list a minor child’s full name. Instead, fill in only the child’s initials and the full name and address of the child’s parent or guardian. For example, write A.B., a minor child (*John Doe, parent, 123 Main St., City, State*). 11 U.S.C. § 112; Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1007(m) and 9037.

Do not file these instructions with your bankruptcy filing package. Keep them for your records.

Fill in this information to identify your case:

Debtor 1
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Debtor 2
(Spouse, if filing) First Name Middle Name Last Name

United States Bankruptcy Court for the: District of

Case number
(If known)

Check if this is:

- ☐ An amended filing
- ☐ A supplement showing post-petition chapter 13 expenses as of the following date:
MM / DD / YYYY
- ☐ A separate filing for Debtor 2 because Debtor 2 maintains a separate household

Official Form B 6J

Schedule J: Your Expenses

12/13

Be as complete and accurate as possible. If two married people are filing together, both are equally responsible for supplying correct information. If more space is needed, attach another sheet to this form. On the top of any additional pages, write your name and case number (if known). Answer every question.

Part 1: Describe Your Household

1. Is this a joint case?

- ☐ No. Go to line 2.
- ☐ Yes. Does Debtor 2 live in a separate household?
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. Debtor 2 must file a separate Schedule J.

2. Do you have dependents?

Do not list Debtor 1 and Debtor 2.

Do not state the dependents' names.

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. Fill out this information for each dependent.....

Dependent's relationship to Debtor 1 or Debtor 2

Dependent's age

Does dependent live with you?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

3. Do your expenses include expenses of people other than yourself and your dependents?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

Part 2: Estimate Your Ongoing Monthly Expenses

Estimate your expenses as of your bankruptcy filing date unless you are using this form as a supplement in a Chapter 13 case to report expenses as of a date after the bankruptcy is filed. If this is a supplemental *Schedule J*, check the box at the top of the form and fill in the applicable date.

Include expenses paid for with non-cash government assistance if you know the value of such assistance and have included it on *Schedule I: Your Income* (Official Form B 6I.)

Your expenses

4. The rental or home ownership expenses for your residence. Include first mortgage payments and any rent for the ground or lot.

4. \$

If not included in line 4:

- 4a. Real estate taxes
- 4b. Property, homeowner's, or renter's insurance
- 4c. Home maintenance, repair, and upkeep expenses
- 4d. Homeowner's association or condominium dues

4a. \$

4b. \$

4c. \$

4d. \$

Your expenses

5. **Additional mortgage payments for your residence**, such as home equity loans

5. \$ _____

6. **Utilities:**

6a. Electricity, heat, natural gas

6a. \$ _____

6b. Water, sewer, garbage collection

6b. \$ _____

6c. Telephone, cell phone, Internet, satellite, and cable services

6c. \$ _____

6d. Other. Specify: _____

6d. \$ _____

7. **Food and housekeeping supplies**

7. \$ _____

8. **Childcare and children's education costs**

8. \$ _____

9. **Clothing, laundry, and dry cleaning**

9. \$ _____

10. **Personal care products and services**

10. \$ _____

11. **Medical and dental expenses**

11. \$ _____

12. **Transportation.** Include gas, maintenance, bus or train fare.

Do not include car payments.

12. \$ _____

13. **Entertainment, clubs, recreation, newspapers, magazines, and books**

13. \$ _____

14. **Charitable contributions and religious donations**

14. \$ _____

15. **Insurance.**

Do not include insurance deducted from your pay or included in lines 4 or 20.

15a. Life insurance

15a. \$ _____

15b. Health insurance

15b. \$ _____

15c. Vehicle insurance

15c. \$ _____

15d. Other insurance. Specify: _____

15d. \$ _____

16. **Taxes.** Do not include taxes deducted from your pay or included in lines 4 or 20.

Specify: _____

16. \$ _____

17. **Installment or lease payments:**

17a. Car payments for Vehicle 1

17a. \$ _____

17b. Car payments for Vehicle 2

17b. \$ _____

17c. Other. Specify: _____

17c. \$ _____

17d. Other. Specify: _____

17d. \$ _____

18. **Your payments of alimony, maintenance, and support that you did not report as deducted from your pay on line 5, *Schedule I, Your Income* (Official Form B 6I).**

18. \$ _____

19. **Other payments you make to support others who do not live with you.**

Specify: _____

19. \$ _____

20. **Other real property expenses not included in lines 4 or 5 of this form or on *Schedule I: Your Income*.**

20a. Mortgages on other property

20a. \$ _____

20b. Real estate taxes

20b. \$ _____

20c. Property, homeowner's, or renter's insurance

20c. \$ _____

20d. Maintenance, repair, and upkeep expenses

20d. \$ _____

20e. Homeowner's association or condominium dues

20e. \$ _____

21. **Other.** Specify: _____

21. **+\$** _____

22. **Your monthly expenses.** Add lines 4 through 21.

The result is your monthly expenses.

22. \$ _____

23. **Calculate your monthly net income.**

23a. Copy line 12 (*your combined monthly income*) from *Schedule I*.

23a. \$ _____

23b. Copy your monthly expenses from line 22 above.

23b. **−**\$ _____

23c. Subtract your monthly expenses from your monthly income.

The result is your *monthly net income*.

23c. \$ _____

24. **Do you expect an increase or decrease in your expenses within the year after you file this form?**

For example, do you expect to finish paying for your car loan within the year or do you expect your mortgage payment to increase or decrease because of a modification to the terms of your mortgage?

☐ No.

☐ Yes.

Explain here: