The 23 Deductions Most Rideshare Drivers Never Claim

And how to keep an extra $4,000+ this year

You're already doing the work. Every mile, every phone charge, every app subscription is a real business expense that should be lowering your tax bill — but most drivers claim only 40–60% of what they're legally owed. Check off what you can claim, and note the proof the IRS wants to see. Takes 5 minutes. Saves thousands.

Your Vehicle — the big ones

☐	**1. Business mileage (standard mileage rate)**	Mileage-app log + odometer photos (Jan 1 & Dec 31)
☐	**2. Tolls paid while working**	E-ZPass / transponder statement
☐	**3. Parking while working**	Receipts (never parking tickets)
☐	**4. Car washes & detailing**	Receipts (business-use %)
☐	**5. Roadside assistance (AAA)**	Membership statement (business-use %)

Phone & tech

☐	**6. Cell phone service**	Business-use % of your monthly bill
☐	**7. Phone mount**	Receipt / Amazon order history
☐	**8. Car charger & USB hub**	Receipt
☐	**9. Dash cam**	Receipt
☐	**10. Portable battery / power bank**	Receipt

Rider experience (5-star supplies)

☐	**11. Water, snacks & mints for riders**	Receipts / Amazon order history
☐	**12. Phone chargers & cables for riders**	Receipts
☐	**13. Seat covers & floor mats**	Receipt (business-use %)
☐	**14. Air fresheners & cleaning supplies**	Receipts

Tools & fees

☐	**15. Mileage-tracking app subscription**	App receipt
☐	**16. Bookkeeping / tax software**	Receipt (MyTaxPrepOffice, QuickBooks)
☐	**17. Tax preparation / professional fees**	Invoice
☐	**18. Business education (courses & guides)**	Receipt — including this training
☐	**19. Bank fees on a business account**	Bank statement

The ones drivers forget		
☐	**20. Self-employed health insurance premiums**	Premium statements (if eligible)
☐	**21. One-half of your self-employment tax**	Automatic on your return
☐	**22. Retirement contributions (SEP-IRA / Solo 401(k))**	Contribution records
☐	**23. Business use of home for admin**	Records (dedicated space only — ask a pro)

The single biggest one: your mileage

At the IRS standard mileage rate (70¢/mile for 2025), 35,000 business miles = a $24,500 deduction — worth roughly $6,700 in tax savings. It beats every other deduction combined. The catch: you can only claim the miles you can prove. Track every one automatically with a GPS app, and photograph your odometer on January 1 and December 31. (The rate updates each year — 72.5¢ for 2026.)

The 5-minute weekly habit that keeps you audit-ready

Once a week: (1) confirm your mileage app captured every drive, (2) snap photos of any paper receipts and drop them in one folder, and (3) move ~27% of your earnings into a separate tax-savings account. That's it. Do this and tax season takes an afternoon instead of a panic — with nothing to reconstruct.

Ready to actually file it — the right way?

This checklist shows you what to claim. The DIY Taxes for Rideshare Drivers ebook and the Rideshare Tax Mastery course show you exactly how — step by step, screen by screen, with the option to have a 20-year rideshare tax pro review your return before you file. Start at thedeafeconomist.com.

This checklist is general educational information, not individualized tax advice. Some deductions depend on your specific situation and eligibility. For anything complex — health insurance, home office, retirement, or multi-platform income — verify with a tax professional or use the Expert Review before you file.