The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 was passed over a year ago, but according to NerdWallet’s 2019 Tax Study, more than one quarter of Americans don’t understand what changed, and roughly half don’t understand how those changes affect them.

While the new law preserves the seven-bracket system, the rates and income levels at which they apply have changed.

The new rates are: 10%, 12%, 22%, 24%, 32%, 35%, and 37%.

Check out NerdWallet’s full breakdown before Tax Day, which is Monday, April 15th, by visiting: https://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/taxes/federal-income-tax-brackets/

From elephants and giraffes to whales and coral reefs, the world is facing the greatest rate of extinction since we lost the dinosaurs more than 60 million years ago. Sign up to receive updates on how to “Protect Our Species.” at the link below:
https://earthdaynetwork.salsalabs.org/protectourspecies/index.html

In addition to preparation and review of closing documents on the sale or purchase of your primary residence, non-sale real estate transactions provided for the Member are also one of our many fully covered services! That includes the review and preparation of quit claim deeds and deeds of transfer.

You probably know that your Legal Resources Legal Plan covers the attorney fees for you, your spouse, and qualifying dependent children for a broad range of legal services. But did you know that Additional Covered Services are provided at a 25% discount under the Expanded Coverage Benefit?

This includes pre-existing legal matters, out-of-network coverage and any legal need not fully covered or listed under exclusions – including, but not limited to, Tax Law issues that may come up this month.
ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS

Q: I've just been promoted at work, and my family is relocating to another state. Can we deduct our moving expenses?

A: Fortunately for you, the IRS is pretty generous about moving expenses, as long as you meet certain criteria. The distance between your new job and your old home must be 50 miles greater than your old commute. Also, the IRS asks that you live for at least 39 weeks in your new location over the next year. If you meet these basic criteria, you should be good. For more specific information, contact a plan attorney.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

MARIE KONDO YOUR HOME FOR SPRING

If you haven't heard of Marie Kondo, chances are you're living under a giant pile of clutter, and it's time to purge your home of the things that do not spark joy.

Here are a few spring-cleaning tips from the organization guru:

VISUALIZE YOUR IDEAL LIFESTYLE.
Have a clear goal of where you want to be at the end, and use joy as the yardstick for what to keep and what to discard.

STOP STACKING.
It's easier to find a book on a shelf than in a pile, right? Apply that same principle to your clothes and miscellaneous papers.

TIDY BY CATEGORY, NOT LOCATION.
Instead of taking on an entire bedroom, first start with clothes, then books, then paper, then miscellaneous items and then sentimental items.

MEMBER TESTIMONIALS

At the time of my open enrollment, I found myself having to figure out how to proceed with a divorce. I signed up and didn't use Legal Resources until about 7 months later. I didn’t know the first thing about handling my legal matter, but with the help of Legal Resources and my attorney, I am happy to say that I am in the final stages. This benefit has helped me tremendously and I am grateful I had it when I needed it most.

-Jonathan A.

MISSION:
The mission of Legal Resources is to provide superior legal services to our members, enabling them to lead active, healthy and worry-free lives, free of major legal expenses.

Legal Resources Blog
The articles featured in this issue of LegalSmart and more can be found at legalsmart.com

*LegalSmart is presented by Legal Resources for educational purposes.

Please contact our Member Services Department with any questions. We look forward to serving you and your family.

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Please review the Legal Resources Master Plan Contract for a complete description of plan benefits. Due to regulatory requirements, benefits and rates may vary by state.