2026 Life Changes Checklist

Important life events can change your tax picture. Use this checklist to identify changes to discuss with your AFairchild advisor.

A good rule of thumb: If an event changed your household, income, property, business ownership, retirement plans, or where you live or work, let us know before tax season whenever possible.

01 Marriage, Divorce & Household Changes

- ☐ Married during 2026 - update your legal name, address and withholding information where applicable.
- ☐ Divorced or legally separated - keep the final decree, settlement agreement and related financial documents.
- ☐ Your household or dependent situation changed during the year.
- ☐ Experienced the death of a spouse or dependent - gather relevant estate, beneficiary and account information.

02 Children, Dependents & Education

- ☐ Birth or adoption of a child - retain birth/adoption records and required identification.
- ☐ A dependent joined or left your household, or another person may claim the same dependent.
- ☐ A child began or ended college or other postsecondary education.
- ☐ Paid tuition, student loan interest, dependent-care costs or other education-related expenses.

03 Job, Income & Retirement Changes

- ☐ Started or left a job, received severance, or had a significant compensation change.
- ☐ Began self-employment, consulting, gig work or another source of business income.
- ☐ Retired, began pension or Social Security income, or changed retirement distributions.
- ☐ Rolled over, converted or inherited a retirement account, or received another unusual payment.

04 Moving, Home & Real Estate

- ☐ Moved to a new home, city or state - keep your new address and move date.
- ☐ Worked remotely or earned income while living or working in more than one state.
- ☐ Purchased, sold or refinanced a home - keep closing and loan documents.
- ☐ Converted property between personal and rental use, or made significant property improvements.

05 Inheritance, Gifts & Estate Matters

- ☐ Received an inheritance, beneficiary distribution, life insurance proceeds or inherited property.
- ☐ Received or made a significant gift of cash, securities, real estate or other property.
- ☐ Became trustee, executor, personal representative or beneficiary of an estate or trust.
- ☐ Inherited investments, real estate or business interests - retain valuation and basis-related records.

06 Business Ownership & Major Transactions

- ☐ Started, purchased, sold or closed a business, or changed the legal/entity structure.
- ☐ Added or removed an owner, partner, member or shareholder.
- ☐ Made a significant owner contribution, distribution, loan or repayment involving the business.
- ☐ Purchased or disposed of major business assets or entered into a significant financing or sale transaction.

07 Investments & Other Financial Changes

- ☐ Opened, closed or transferred significant investment or brokerage accounts.
- ☐ Sold investments, digital assets, real estate or other property with a material gain or loss.
- ☐ Received company stock, options, restricted stock or other equity compensation.
- ☐ Opened a foreign financial account, made significant charitable gifts, or had a large change in income or estimated taxes.

08 Documents to Keep With the Change

You may not need every item below, but keeping the supporting documents now can save time later.

- ☐ Closing statements, purchase agreements, sales or financing documents.
- ☐ Court orders, divorce decrees, birth/adoption or dependent documentation.
- ☐ Estate, trust, inheritance, beneficiary or retirement-account records.
- ☐ Employment, equity compensation, receipts, valuations and records supporting major purchases or gifts.

SOMETHING CHANGED? LET US KNOW.

Share significant life and financial changes with your AFairchild advisor and use the secure client portal when sending confidential documents.

General organizational guide only; not individualized tax, legal or financial advice.