



Guiding Principles of Ohio Tax Policy

As part of its responsibility as a technical committee, The Ohio Society of CPAs' Tax Legislation Policy Committee has developed guiding principles in tax policy that the Society uses as a framework when developing positions on tax-related legislative and regulatory matters. These guidelines, as developed, dictate that Ohio tax laws and regulations should meet the following guiding principles by being:

Simple:

The tax structure should facilitate taxpayer compliance by being easy to understand and administer. It should contain certainty and predictability, transparency, and promote economic growth.

Stable:

In order to fund essential government services, the tax structure should provide adequate revenue to fund those services without disproportionately burdening any taxpayer group. Any tax structure should emphasize fiscal discipline and restraint.

Equitable and Fair:

The tax structure should be fair and equitable, and not disproportionately burden any taxpayer group.

Competitive:

Ohio's tax structure should position the state to be more competitive, in both the short and long-term. Serious consideration should be given to taxes assessed - or not assessed - in other states, particularly neighboring states.

Uniform:

To the extent possible, Ohio's tax laws should be uniform with federal tax laws, and local taxes should be consistent across the state. Consideration should be given to any lag time for Ohio to adopt federal tax changes, and the complexity and uncertainty such a delay creates for Ohio taxpayers.