

# Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003

# **2003 CHAPTER 1**

### PART 3

EMPLOYMENT INCOME: EARNINGS AND BENEFITS ETC. TREATED AS EARNINGS

## CHAPTER 7

TAXABLE BENEFITS: LOANS

Benefit of taxable cheap loan treated as earnings

# 180 Threshold for benefit of loan to be treated as earnings

- (1) The cash equivalent of the benefit of an employment-related loan is not to be treated as earnings of the employment for a tax year under section 175(1)—
  - (a) if the normal £5,000 threshold is not exceeded, or
  - (b) where the loan is a non-qualifying loan and that threshold is exceeded, if the £5,000 threshold for non-qualifying loans is not exceeded.
- (2) The normal £5,000 threshold is not exceeded if at all times in the year the amount outstanding on the loan (or, if two or more employment-related loans which are taxable cheap loans are outstanding in the year, the aggregate of the amount outstanding on them) does not exceed £5,000.
- (3) The £5,000 threshold for non-qualifying loans is not exceeded if at all times in the year the amount outstanding on the loan (or if two or more employment-related loans which are non-qualifying loans are outstanding in the year, the aggregate of the amounts outstanding on them) does not exceed £5,000.
- (4) In this section a "non-qualifying loan" means a taxable cheap loan which is not a qualifying loan.

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- (5) For the purposes of this section a loan is a "qualifying loan" in relation to a particular tax year if, assuming interest is paid on the loan for that year (whether or not it is in fact paid), the whole or part of that interest—
  - (a) is eligible for relief under section 353 of ICTA (general provision for relief for payments of interest, excluding MIRAS),
  - (b) would be eligible for relief under that section but for the fact that it is a payment of relevant loan interest to which section 369 of ICTA applies (mortgage interest payable under deduction of tax),
  - (c) is deductible in computing the amount of the profits to be charged under Case I or II of Schedule D in respect of a trade, profession or vocation carried on by the person to whom the loan is made, or
  - (d) is deductible in computing the amount of the profits to be charged under Schedule A in respect of a Schedule A business carried on by that person.