



B Lab Statement on McLaren & Associates' B Corp Certification

B Lab's independent Standards Advisory Council has rendered the following decision and guidance regarding eligibility for B Corp Certification for companies providing tax advisory services:

"Companies in the tax advisory industry are eligible for B Corp Certification if they are able to confirm that their tax philosophy, used to provide services and recommendations to clients, aligns with the company-specific principles listed in B Lab's framework, specifically, 1) the tax advice provided appropriately reflects the actual amount of income generated by the client over time; and, 2) the tax advice provided to a client for a jurisdiction appropriately reflects the actual operations of the client in that jurisdiction."

McLaren & Associates is required to disclose a summary of how it complies with the above requirements as a part of its B Corp Certification. For more information on the review process, please refer to B Lab's position statement on Companies that Provide Tax Advisory Services and B Corp Certification [here](#).

Summary of Company

McLaren & Associates is a firm of Certified Public Accountants and tax advisers as well as Certified Forensic Accountants and Business Valuators located in Massachusetts, US. McLaren & Associates' tax department, which contributes 75% to its annual revenue, provides expert tax compliance services and consulting advice. Compliance services range from the preparation of corporate tax returns for organizations and personal tax returns for individuals. Consultancy services include, amongst others, advice on tax credits and tax planning. In terms of fees, McLaren & Associates charges on a time basis, which means that they do not work on a success fee or take a percentage of any tax saved, for example. McLaren & Associates' clients include, but are not limited to, small and micro businesses.

McLaren & Associates' Policies and Practices

In alignment with the requirements and principles stated in B Lab's position statement for companies that provide tax advisory services, McLaren & Associates has a philosophy statement for the tax advice that they provide to their clients and their own engagement with governments and tax regulators, which has been shared with all their employees. The philosophy statement reads as follows:

"McLaren & Associates is proud of our status as a Certified B Corp. As part of that commitment and in recognition of the role that taxes play in contributing to a healthy society, we use our professional judgment to provide advice regarding tax positions with multiple potential interpretations that accurately reflect the income and operations of the client in each jurisdiction"



for which the client seeks our advice based on the details of the client's income and operations provided to us, and do not advise clients to take a position unless we believe it has at least a reasonable basis for being sustained by applicable tax authorities. If a client takes a tax position despite our advice to the contrary, we reserve the right to stop work for and terminate such client. In accordance with this tax philosophy, we engage with government and tax authorities on a collaborative basis and limit our advocacy activities with such authorities to (a) work for specific clients in need of regulatory compliance assistance and (b) providing financial support to Massachusetts Society of Certified Public Accountants which advocates for the interests of the accounting industry as a whole (which may sometimes include limited tax advocacy). We maintain compliance with this policy through regular training of our employees and partners, internal policies on conduct, engagement documentation with our clients, and client retention reviews."

McLaren & Associates follows the AICPA Code of Conduct as well as ethical standards as provided by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Massachusetts Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the American Board of Forensic Accounting as well as the Internal Revenue Code and Rules and Regulations. All work conducted is verified by the company's partners to ensure all policies and codes of conduct are being followed and applied. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) also checks McLaren & Associates' work to ensure complete compliance with applicable regulations and legal requirements.

All tax advice is checked by partners before being provided and implemented for the client to ensure there is no tax avoidance but proper compliance. McLaren & Associates claims to require all their clients to pay taxes in the jurisdiction that it was earned. They do not allow transfers of profit to low-tax jurisdictions. All their employees as well as clients and new hires are educated on the above.

McLaren & Associates has never faced any litigations nor penalties by the government agencies in their country of operation for their tax advisory service. The company also claims not to be engaged in any advocacy nor lobby activities related to tax legislation.