CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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5ep. 29, 2006

From

the Oct. 2006 Review of Not-for-Profit Accounting Systems

Since

branching off into specialty editions, QuickBooks has increased its customer base quite effectively. One of those specialty editions is QuickBooks: Premier Nonprofit Edition 2006. Designed for the smaller nonprofit organization, QuickBooks:

Premier Nonprofit is a good choice for startup nonprofits.

EASE OF USE/FLEXIBILITY — 5 Stars

QuickBooks has worked hard to keep its user interface easy to navigate. The updated user interface found in this edition features a drop-down menu bar at the top of the screen that contains access to all installed functions. Beneath the menu bar is a toolbar that provides one-click access to frequently used functions such as Customer Center, Employee Center, Chart of Accounts, Class List, Sales Receipt, Payment, Deposit, etc. Below that is a navigational flowchart that features access to Company, Banking, Vendors, Customers/Donors and Employees.

The main screen also has a grid to the right that displays account balances at-a-glance. Data-entry screens are easily navigated, with lookup capability throughout. Importing and exporting data to and from Excel and Word is possible, and a new Customer Center lets you easily keep track of customer/donor data without the use of third-party software products.

MODULES/SCALABILITY — 4 Stars

Your home page can be easily customized to better reflect your preferences. As well, several new functions are included in QuickBooks: Premier Nonprofit Hello. It looks like you're using an ad blocker that may prevent our website from working properly. To receive the best experience possible, please make sure any blockers are switched off and refresh the page.

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with QuickBooks: Premier Nonprofit Edition. Data can also be accessed remotely by subscribing to a special service.

FEATURES/FUNCTIONALITY — 4 Stars

The EasyStep Interview is designed to simplify setting up a new organization, but company information can also be set up independently. Upon installation, the QuickBooks Learning Center will display on the main screen with links to tutorials and other learning tools. QuickBooks utilizes the UCOA (Unified Chart of Accounts) for nonprofits. This chart of accounts will be automatically imported when you set up a nonprofit organization. Budgets can be set up by Profit and Loss or Balance Sheet criteria. Further customization is available by setting up budgets by customer, job or class. Budgets can be created from scratch or last year's data can be used. Statements can be produced for donors self-defined criteria such as due date, line detail and those donors with no current activity. Invoices can be printed for all donors, one donor or a selected group of donors. Once a donation is pledged, pledge letters can be immediately processed. The "Send Letters To Your Donors" option allows for the creation of various types of letters with customization for letter templates.

REPORTING — 4.5 Stars

The Report Center contains links to all standard reports, and over 120 pre-formatted reports are included with QuickBooks: Premier Nonprofit Edition. Clicking on the tabs to the left will display all reports in that particular group, including Customers and Receivables; Sales; Jobs, Time and Mileage; Vendors and Payables; Banking; and Budgets and Forecasts. The provided link instantly displays reports on-screen. A variety of options are available at the top of the report, including modifying the report, e-mailing the report and exporting to another program. You can also adjust your report date, choose to include totals only or change the sorting criteria. If any criterion is changed, clicking on "refresh"

will update the report. This is a terrific feature for those needing immediate

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and various training options including seminars, interactive training on CD, and one-on-one training at your business.

RELATIVE VALUE — 4.5 Stars

A single-user system starts at \$399.95. A five-user system is \$1,399.95. QuickBooks has been providing financial solutions to small companies and organizations for 15 years and continues to update its affordable products. QuickBooks: Premier Nonprofit Edition is an excellent entry-level solution for small nonprofit organizations.

2006 Overall Rating: 4.5 Stars

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