## Working capital = Current assets minus current liabilities

Calculation of working capital from	the balance sheet da	ated
Current assets	\$	CA
minus current liabilities	\$	CL
= Working capital	\$	<b>WC</b> (CA - CL)

**CA** Current assets are those assets which will turn to cash within one year of the balance sheet date plus prepaid expenses. The following are usually current assets:

Cash	\$
Temporary investments	
Accounts receivable (collectible)	
Inventory	
Supplies	
Prepaid expenses	
Other current assets	
Total current assets	\$ CA

**CL** Current liabilities are the obligations that will be due within 12 months of the balance sheet date and will require the use of a current asset or will create another current liability. Typically, the following are current liabilities:

Total current liabilities	\$ CL
Other current liabilities	
Customer deposits	
Accrued expenses	
Taxes payable	
Wages and fringes payable	
Accounts payable	
Notes payable (due within one year)	\$

## Notes:

Working capital or net working capital is an indicator of an organization's ability to meet its current obligations. A larger amount of working capital is better than a smaller amount.

It is critical that only those accounts receivable and inventory items that will turn to cash within one year of the balance sheet date be included as current assets.

See **Filled-In Form R1** for an illustration. *Learn more about financial ratios at www.AccountingCoach.com.*