



For more information, contact:
Mike Gowrylow
(360) 534-1610

iPhone Tax Rate Lookup App Now Available

OLYMPIA – July 12, 2012 – A new iPhone mobile app allows users to look up sales and use tax rates for any Washington location, and an Android-compatible app is soon to follow.

The free app developed by the Washington State Department of Revenue is designed to help businesses that make deliveries or provide retail services at multiple locations in the state.

“We are using the latest technologies to constantly adapt to the changing needs of taxpayers,” said Janet Shimabukuro, assistant director of the Department’s Taxpayer Services division. “The new app should help businesses get the right rate and location code quickly.”

The app will be particularly useful to mobile businesses such as contractors who need to code sales tax to the location where a service is performed. It also will help retailers who ship products from one location to another. Under Washington law, the sales tax must be coded to the destination of a shipped or delivered product.

Businesses can use GPS or key in an address to get the rate, location code, and a confirmation code. They also can save the info to a list or forward it to another phone or email address and calculate the total due from the customer.

The app, which also works on the iPad, is available at dor.wa.gov/TaxRateMobile.

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