

# New Business Tax Basics



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# Business tax basics

This basic tax guide is created to help you understand Washington's tax structure. It's intended to provide an overview of the taxes that apply to various business activities in Washington.

Washington does not have a corporate or personal income tax. Most Washington businesses are subject to three major state taxes, all administered or overseen by the Department of Revenue:

1. **Business and occupation tax (B&O)**
2. **Retail sales tax**
3. **Use tax**

Other taxes may apply to your business, such as:

- Public utility tax
- Specialty taxes
- County and city taxes

## Reminder

State tax laws change regularly. The information provided is current at the time of the publication.

## Questions

Specialists are available to answer your tax questions Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Toll-free: 1-800-647-7706

Live Chat: Go to [dor.wa.gov](https://dor.wa.gov), click Contact Us then click on the Live Chat icon.

## Resources

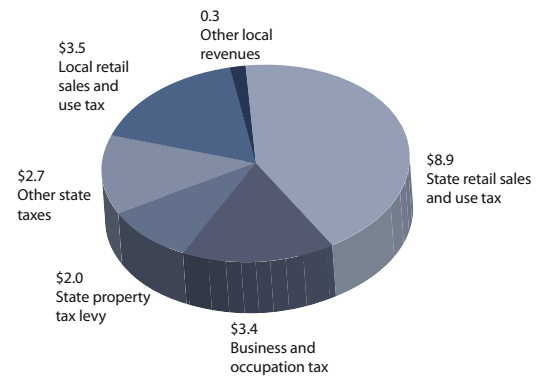
Go to [dor.wa.gov](https://dor.wa.gov), then click Get a Form or Publication

- Industry-specific tax guides
- Special Notices
- Tax Topic articles

## More services

Information on other services and publications can be found at the back of this publication or on our website at [dor.wa.gov](https://dor.wa.gov).

## Where the money comes from (in billions):



- \$8.9 State retail sales and use tax
- \$3.4 Business and occupation tax
- \$2.0 State property tax levy
- \$2.7 Other state taxes
- \$3.5 Local retail sales and use tax
- \$0.3 Other local revenues

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**\$20.8** Total state taxes

# Rights and responsibilities

## **Your rights as a taxpayer include:**

- Written explanations when tax assessments, interest, and penalties are issued.
- Reliable, written advice and reporting instructions provided by the Department specifically to the taxpayer, and to have interest, penalties, and in some instances, tax assessments waived if complying with that information worked against the taxpayer.
- Prompt administrative remedies when tax laws or rules are found to be unconstitutional by the final decision of a court of record.
- Confidentiality of their financial and business information in the Department's possession in accordance with the requirements of RCW 82.32.330.
- Clear and current tax instructions, rules, procedures, forms, and other tax information received upon request.
- Prompt and independent administrative review by the Department of a decision to revoke a tax registration, and to a written determination that either upholds the revocation or reinstates the registration.

## **Your responsibilities as a taxpayer include:**

- Register with the Department of Revenue.
- Know their tax reporting obligations, and to ask the Department for instructions when they are uncertain.
- Keep accurate and complete business records.
- File returns and pay taxes on time.
- Provide accurate information on tax returns.
- Substantiate claims for refund.
- Pay all taxes on time after closing a business, and request cancellation of the registration number.
- Respond to communications from the Department in a timely manner.

# Registering with the Department of Revenue

## **Register if:**

- Your business is required to collect retail sales tax
- Your gross income is \$12,000 per year or more
- You are a buyer or processor of specialty wood products
- Your business is required to pay any other taxes or fees to the Department of Revenue

## **Do not register if:**

- Your gross income is less than \$12,000 per year under both the business and occupation tax and the public utility tax, *and* you are not required to collect or pay any tax or fee to the Department of Revenue.

# Helpful hints

## **Collecting sales tax, spirits liter tax and spirits sales tax**

Set up a separate account for sales tax, spirits liter tax, and spirits sales tax (collected trust funds). Every time you collect these taxes, put the funds in that account. This way, you won't accidentally spend these funds and they'll be available to remit with your return.

## **Changes to your business information**

Contact the Department of Revenue of any changes, including:

- Your address (physical and mailing)
- Update a location address
- Add a new business location
- Close a tax account
- Close a business account

You can update your business license and tax information online. By going to our website at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov), click log in, sign in using your SAW log in. Don't have a SAW account? Click the Sign up link to get started. Need to learn more. Go to our My DOR Help page ([dor.wa.gov/myDORHelp](http://dor.wa.gov/myDORHelp)). Once you are logged into My DOR, from the home page, click the Accounts tab, under the *I Want To...* menu you will find options to add a new business location, close a business account, update a location address, click the View More for a full list.

## **Avoid late payments**

- File electronically through our secure electronic filing system (My DOR). For online filing information see page 20.
- **Mark your calendar.** It is your responsibility to ensure your excise tax return is postmarked or filed electronically by the due date.  
**Tip:** You can sign up for email notifications using our Listserv, [dor.wa.gov/listserv](http://dor.wa.gov/listserv). Our Listserv will automatically send an email reminder of your filing deadlines.

## **Granting access to your account**

Only registered individuals on a business' account are allowed to see confidential tax information. If you choose to hire a representative, such as a bookkeeper or attorney, and give that person access to your information kept by the Department of Revenue, you and your representative must fill out a Confidential Tax Information Authorization, [dor.wa.gov/CTIA](http://dor.wa.gov/CTIA) and submit it to us.

## **For more information**

If you have questions, call us at 1-800-647-7706.

# Business and occupation (B&O) tax

The state business and occupation (B&O) tax is a gross receipts tax measured on the value of products, gross proceeds of sales, or gross income of your business. The B&O tax is part of a business' operating overhead and is levied upon the person or company engaged in the business activity. It is not imposed on the purchaser or customer, like sales tax. Almost all businesses located or doing business in Washington are subject to the B&O tax, including corporations, LLCs, partnerships, sole proprietors, and nonprofit corporations.

The B&O tax is due on gross income from business conducted in Washington. No deductions are allowed for labor, materials, taxes, or other costs of doing business. Your business may qualify for certain exemptions, deductions, or credits.

Unlike the sales tax, a sale does not have to occur for a business to owe B&O tax. For example, if you extract or manufacture goods for your own use, you owe B&O tax.

The B&O tax rate is based on the type of business activity. Your business can have multiple activities (classifications). You are responsible for determining which classification(s) to report your income under. Contact us if you are unsure of the classification(s) you need to report under.

In addition to the major B&O tax classifications, there are several specific classifications. Some have the same rate as the general classifications, but are reported on different lines on the return. Others have their own unique tax rates.

For a list of B&O tax classifications, visit [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) and click on *Find Taxes and Rates*. You can also view them in My DOR.

## B&O tax rates

The most common classifications are:

Retailing	0.471 percent
Wholesaling	0.484 percent
Manufacturing	0.484 percent
Service and other activities	1.5 percent

## Major B&O tax classifications

There are nearly 40 B&O tax classifications for business activities. Following are brief descriptions of four major classifications. You may also refer to the common business activities table on [page 41](#).

### Retailing

Businesses that sell goods and certain services to consumers are retailers. Taxable retail services include:

#### 1. Improving real or personal property, such as:

- Custom construction
- Repairs to real or personal property

#### 2. Certain personal services, such as:

- Tanning
- Use of athletic and fitness facilities
- Recreational services
- Tattooing

#### 3. Specialized activities, such as:

- Lawn mowing, tree and shrub pruning, and trimming
- Escrow services
- Renting equipment with operators
- Extended warranties

Businesses making retail sales are subject to the retailing B&O tax, even when the sales are not subject to sales tax. For example, certain food products are exempt from sales tax, but the income from food sales is taxable under the retailing B&O tax.

### Wholesaling

Wholesalers sell goods and services to businesses who will resell them to others in the regular course of business. The B&O tax is calculated on the wholesale selling price. If you are a wholesaler, you must keep a reseller permit or other approved exemption certificate on file from each buyer to document the transaction as a wholesale sale. Do not send reseller permits to the Department of Revenue.

Retail sales tax is not collected on wholesale transactions. Reseller permits are good as long as the buyer and seller do business with each other once every 12 months. A sample of a reseller permit is on [page 32](#). For more information, see [page 9](#) or visit [dor.wa.gov/resellerpermit](http://dor.wa.gov/resellerpermit).

### **Nexus standard for wholesale sales**

The test for determining whether an out-of-state business is subject to Washington's business and occupation (B&O) tax changed on July 1, 2017. The change extends Washington's "economic nexus" standard to businesses engaging in a retailing activity. As a result, a business engaged in a retailing activity has nexus with Washington State either by having a physical presence in this state or by exceeding an economic nexus threshold. (HB 2163, Chapter 28, Laws of 2017, 3rd Special Session, Part III)

Out-of-state businesses making retail sales into Washington will be subject to B&O tax in 2018 if they meet either of the following economic nexus thresholds:

More than \$267,000 of yearly gross receipts sourced or attributed to Washington in 2017, \$285,000 in 2018, or at least 25 percent of total yearly gross receipts sourced or attributed to Washington in 2017 or 2018.

Meeting either one of these thresholds establishes nexus even if the out-of-state business has no physical presence in Washington. In determining whether the business has exceeded the receipts threshold, retailing income is included along with income taxable under the wholesaling, service and other activities, or royalties B&O tax classifications.

### **Manufacturing**

The manufacturing B&O tax is paid by firms manufacturing items in Washington. Manufactured products used by the manufacturer, but not sold or used prior to sale, also are subject to this tax. The manufacturing B&O tax is based on the value of the products, usually determined by the selling price. In cases when there is no sale, the value is the selling price of similar products.

The producer must also report under the wholesaling or retailing B&O tax. However, because of the multiple activities tax credit, only one tax is due. A multiple activities tax credit (Schedule C) must be completed to claim the credit. See [page 31](#).

### **Service and other activities**

This classification is for businesses that provide personal and professional services. Any business not described under a particular classification of the B&O tax must report under this *catch all* category. Types of businesses and services that fall under this category include:

Consulting services	Lawyers
Management services	Beauticians
Doctors	Tutors
Gambling (less than \$50,000 a year)	Janitors

If you need help figuring out your business classification, call 1-800-647-7706.

## **Economic nexus**

Washington has an economic nexus standard for businesses that report under apportionable B&O tax classifications. For these classifications, your business doesn't need a physical presence to have nexus and be subject to Washington tax.

Apportionable income is earned from engaging in the following activities:

- Wholesaling (beginning September 1, 2015)
- Service and other activities
- Royalties
- Travel agents and tour operators
- International steamship agent, customs house broker, freight forwarder, vessel and/or cargo charter broker in foreign commerce, and/or air cargo agent
- Stevedoring and associated activities
- Disposing of low-level waste
- Insurance producers, title insurance agents, or surplus line brokers
- Public or nonprofit hospitals
- Real estate brokers
- Research and development performed by nonprofit corporations or associations
- Inspecting, testing, labeling, and storing canned salmon owned by another person
- Representing and performing services for fire or casualty insurance companies as an independent resident managing general agent licensed under RCW 48.17 RCW

- Contests of chance
- Horse races
- International investment management services
- Aerospace product development
- Printing or publishing a newspaper (but only with respect to advertising income)
- Printing materials other than newspapers and publishing periodicals or magazines (but only with respect to advertising income)
- Cleaning up radioactive waste and other by-products of weapons production and nuclear research and development, but only with respect to activities that would be taxable as an *apportionable activity* if this special tax classification did not exist

If your business earns income from an apportionable B&O classification in another state or country and meets one of the following thresholds within the prior calendar year, you are eligible to apportion your income attributable to that state or country away from Washington.

- Pay business activities tax in the other state or country
- Have more than \$53,000 of payroll in the other state or country
- Have more than \$53,000 of property in the other state or country
- Have more than \$267,000 of gross income in the other state or country
- Have at least 25 percent of your total property, payroll, or income in the other state

*For periods before September 1, 2015:* The timeframe for determining whether a business exceeds the economic nexus thresholds is the current tax year.

If you are eligible to apportion your income, it may reduce the amount of Washington tax you owe. Businesses that apportion their income must file an annual reconciliation form by October 31 of the following year.

More information and a video tutorial are available at [dor.wa.gov/economicnexus](http://dor.wa.gov/economicnexus).

## Exemptions, deductions and credits

Although Washington's B&O tax applies to most business income, some exemptions, deductions, and credits are available.

### Exemptions

These four activities are exempt and are not subject to B&O tax. There is no need to report these activities to the Department of Revenue on your excise tax return.

If your type of business, business income, or business activities are listed below as exempt, and you do not owe or collect any other taxes for the Department of Revenue, you do not need to register with us.

### Nonprofit and social service organizations

In Washington, nonprofit organizations are subject to tax like any for-profit business, but the organization may qualify for exemptions or deductions. Qualifying activities include:

- Fundraising activities by qualified nonprofit organizations. This does not include the regular operation of a business enterprise such as a bookstore, thrift shop, or restaurant.
- Auctions conducted by public benefit organizations
- Child care provided by churches and child care resource and referral income

### Government

- County, city, school, and fire district income, except utility or enterprise operations in competition with other businesses, which are more than 50 percent funded by user fees
- State and federal grants received by political subdivisions when no significant services are performed in return
- Labor and services in preparing sand and gravel taken from pits that are owned or leased by a city or county, and used by the city or county for road construction and repair
- Printing done by cities, counties, and school districts for their own purposes

### Financial

- International banking facilities
- Federally chartered credit unions



## Farming

Certain farming activities are exempt from B&O tax. Some examples are:

- Farmers making wholesale sales of agricultural products produced by them, on land owned or leased by them
- Raising and selling plantation Christmas trees at wholesale
- Processing hops into extract, pellets, or powder sold to out-of-state buyers

For more information, see our Agricultural Tax Guide at [dor.wa.gov/farmers](http://dor.wa.gov/farmers)

## Deductions

Six common B&O deductions are listed below. Deductions for one B&O tax classification might not apply to another. A complete list of deductions and deduction definitions can be found at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) under *Find taxes & rates*.

Deductions must be included in your gross income, then subtracted as deductions.

1. **Bad debts:** Previously reported income not received—written off in your accrual-based account books for federal income tax purposes ([WAC 458-20-196](#)).  
*Applies to all classifications.*
2. **Cash and trade discounts:** The amount of bona fide discounts from the selling price that are included in the gross amount reported ([WAC 458-20-108](#)).  
*Applies to all classifications.*
3. **Interstate and foreign sales:** Amounts received for items delivered by the seller or by a common carrier to out-of-state locations are deductible. Also applies to apportionable income as described on [page 5](#) under *Economic nexus* ([WAC 458-20-193](#)).  
*Applies to selling and services classifications. Does not apply to manufacturing, processing, or extracting classifications.*
4. **Returns and allowances:** When the buyer returns items purchased and the entire selling price is refunded or credited, the seller may deduct the selling price previously reported. ([WAC 458-20-108](#))  
*Applies to all classifications.*

## 5. Freight on out-of-state deliveries:

Manufacturers, processors, and extractors may take a deduction for actual transportation costs from the point of origin in Washington to the point of delivery outside Washington ([WAC 458-20-112](#)).

*Applies to manufacturing, processing for hire, and extracting classifications.*

## 6. Casual sales:

A casual sale is a sale of tangible personal property by a person who is not engaged in the business of selling the type of property involved.

B&O tax does not apply to casual sales. The amount of the sale must be reported under retailing B&O tax, but a deduction may be taken on the deduction detail sheet.

However, the retail sales tax must be collected on all casual sales made by a person engaging in a business activity.

**Example:** A dealership is upgrading its computer system and sells an old computer to an employee. The dealer is not in the business of selling computers, so no B&O tax is due, but the dealer must charge sales tax on the selling price of the computer ([WAC 458-20-106](#)).

## Deductions not allowed

Businesses are not allowed to deduct any costs for doing business. For most businesses, this generally includes:

- Gasoline or other fuel purchases
- Wages and salaries
- Product costs
- Delivery costs (freight), except for those described under *Freight on out-of-state deliveries*
- Surcharges

## Credits

Credits exist for specific purposes, reducing the B&O tax liability, and in turn, your tax payment.

Examples of credits include:

- Small business B&O tax credit
- International services tax credit
- Rural county B&O tax credit
- Multiple activities tax credit (MATC)
- Commute trip reduction credit program

Credits are also issued when you overpay your taxes in a reporting period.

## Local B&O tax

In addition to the state B&O tax, many cities also tax businesses on their gross income. There is no connection between the state and local B&O taxes. To find out if your city has a B&O tax, call your city's business license office.

# Reseller permit

Businesses buying goods or services for resale must use a reseller permit or other approved exemption certificate to make purchases without paying sales tax.

A sample reseller permit is printed on [page 32](#).

Reseller permits may be used to buy:

- Merchandise and inventory for resale without the buyer using it first
- Ingredients, components, or chemicals used in processing new products for sale
- Feed, seed, seedlings, fertilizer, and spray materials if you are a farmer
- Materials and contract labor for retail/wholesale construction
- Items for dual purposes

Reseller permits may not be used to buy:

- Items for personal or household use
- Items used in a business that are not resold, these include office supplies and equipment
- Promotional items or gifts
- Tools, equipment, or equipment rentals
- Materials and contract labor for public road construction, federal government contracting, or speculative building

## Verify customers' reseller permits are valid

We recommend verifying your reseller permit information at least once per year.

- For a single permit, use our Business Lookup at [dor.wa.gov/businesslookup](http://dor.wa.gov/businesslookup) and print a copy for your records.
- For multiple records, use our Reseller Permit Verification Service at [dor.wa.gov/ResellerPermitVerificationService](http://dor.wa.gov/ResellerPermitVerificationService).
- Keep the confirmation codes for your records.

## Misuse of a reseller permit

Misusing a reseller permit can result in substantial penalties for the buyer, including revocation of the permit. The Department of Revenue examines purchases made with reseller permits to verify they were used appropriately.

Anyone found misusing a permit will owe the tax due plus a 50 percent penalty, even if no fraud was intended. The permit may be revoked as well.

## Other certificates

Buyers may also use specific exemption certificates to make purchases without paying sales tax. These may include:

- Streamlined sales tax exemption certificate
- Multi-state tax exemption certificate
- Farmers' certificate for wholesale purchases and sales tax exemptions

Find information about these exemption certificates at [dor.wa.gov/resellerpermit](http://dor.wa.gov/resellerpermit).

The Department of Revenue routinely verifies purchases made with reseller permits. Sellers are not responsible for uncollected sales tax if they have record of a permit or other valid exemption certificate to support a sale.

## How to apply

Apply for a reseller permit through My DOR at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov)

## Tax paid at source

If you don't have a reseller permit, you can claim a *taxable amount for tax paid at source* deduction on your return or request a refund from the Department of Revenue. For more information, see *Deductions* on [page 7](#).

## Special rules for contractors

Most retail and manufacturing businesses are automatically issued reseller permits. Permits are generally valid for four years and are automatically renewed.

Construction businesses will not be automatically issued a permit. They must apply and provide detailed information about material and labor purchases. Construction business reseller permits are valid for 24 months. The Department of Revenue will notify businesses by mail prior to expiration if a permit will not be automatically renewed.

# Retail sales tax

The retail sales tax, often referred to simply as "sales tax," is Washington's largest tax source. Local sales tax is the second-largest revenue generator for local governments, behind property tax.

All sales tax amounts collected from customers are considered trust funds of the state. These amounts are to be held by the retailer until remitted to the Department of Revenue.

## Definition of a retail sale

Unless specifically exempt by law, a retail sale is every sale of tangible personal property and digital products, including articles produced, fabricated, or imprinted. It also includes sales of services, such as installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, improving, constructing, and/or decorating real or personal property of or for consumers.

Certain services are specifically defined in the law to be retail sales, such as charges for transient lodging, automobile parking, title, and escrow services, touring services, extended warranties, and use of athletic or physical fitness facilities.

## Collecting and reporting sales tax

Retail sales tax applies to the selling price of taxable transactions and must be separately stated on the bill to the customer. The selling price includes shipping and delivery charges. The advertised price may include the amount of tax, if so indicated in an advertisement.

Local sales tax charts are available online or by calling 1-800-647-7706. The charts show combined state and local taxes for each selling price. Sellers must use the correct tax rate and location code for each location where sales are made. See [page 11](#) for a list of online tools.

Tax liability must be reported for all sales made during the reporting period on either the accrual or cash receipts basis of accounting. Sellers are personally liable for remitting the correct amount of sales tax, even if they did not collect the proper amount, or any, from the purchaser.

All amounts collected are legally considered trust funds of the state. Any excess sales tax collected from the customer must be paid to the Department of Revenue unless the over-collected amount is refunded to the customer.

### **Distribution of sales tax**

Retail sales tax is used by the government entity that imposes the tax. The state tax is deposited in the state general fund, while city and county taxes are returned to the local governments. The city and county governments use these taxes for general expenditures. The Regional Transit Authority tax is used to operate local transportation systems. Revenues are returned to taxing districts based on the location of the sale.

### **Sales tax rates**

The state retail sales tax rate is 6.5 percent. Local retail sales tax, ranging from 0.5 to 3.5 percent, is collected by retailers along with the state tax. The local tax may contain four elements:

1. The basic 0.5 percent city/county tax is effective in all areas of the state.
2. An optional city/county tax, of up to an additional 0.5 percent, is used by a majority of counties and all but a few cities.
3. A retail sales and use tax for the support of local transit systems of up to 0.8 percent.
4. A 0.1 percent tax for criminal justice programs, which certain counties may impose with voter approval.

## **Other taxes collected**

In addition to retail sales tax, certain retail sales may require the seller to collect the following:

- Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is a 0.9 percent tax collected on sales made in parts of King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties.
- Motor vehicle sales/leases tax is a 0.3 percent tax that applies to sales, leases, and transfers of motor vehicles (including trucks and motorhomes) licensed for on-road use. This tax does not apply to retail car rentals that are subject to the rental car tax.

For information on other specialized taxes, see *Special taxes and fees* on [page 15](#).

### **Local coding of retail sales**

Retailers must report the total sales by location code for each place of sale so local sales tax revenues are accurately distributed to cities and counties.

Sales of goods and merchandise are coded to the location where the customer receives the goods or services. For most retailers, this is the location of his or her place of business. But when an item is shipped or delivered, the sale is coded to the location where it is received by the customer; that might be a customer's home address, work address, construction site or wherever the buyer takes possession of the item.

Labor and services are coded according to where they are primarily performed. If an installation charge is normally added to the cost of an item, the entire charge for that item is coded to the site where it is installed.

If goods are delivered into Washington from outside the state, the delivery address determines the place of sale for collecting sales tax. Certain sales are excluded from destination sourcing, such as automobiles, boats, planes and florists ([WAC 458-20-145](#)).

## **Rental of tangible personal property**

Local sales tax on the lease or rental of tangible personal property depends upon whether the lease/rental involves periodic payments.

### **Single payment**

If a single payment is made and the lessee picks up the equipment at the location of the rental company, then the location of the rental company determines the sales tax rate and location code.

### **Periodic payments**

If the item is rented or leased for a length of time and periodic payments are made, the first payment is coded to the location where the lessee receives the equipment, normally the location of the rental company. All subsequent payments are coded to the location where the equipment is primarily located or garaged ([WAC 458-20-145](#)).

## Tools to determine sales tax rates and codes

To help businesses assign the correct tax rates we have listed a number of tools available:

- **Local sales & use tax rates and changes flyer**, on [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov), under *Find Taxes and Rates*.
- **Tax rate lookup**, searches according to the address, map, or latitude/longitude.
- **An app for iOS and Android devices**, free from the Apple App Store or Google Play.
- **Real-time web service interface**, downloadable databases.
- **Excel workbook**, and a customer database conversion service that matches location codes to your customers' addresses. Visit [dor.wa.gov/salesandusetaxtools](http://dor.wa.gov/salesandusetaxtools) for more information.

## Retail sales tax deductions

The following retail sales tax deductions must be included in your gross income on the excise tax return and then subtracted as a deduction:

### **Bad debts**

Deductible when written off in account books (i.e. deductible for federal income tax purposes) and reported on a previous tax return.

### **Interstate and foreign sales**

Shipped by common carrier or delivered by seller outside Washington ([WAC 458-20-193](http://WAC 458-20-193)).

### **Sales to the U.S. government**

Bought with U.S. government funds. Doesn't include sales to federal employees ([WAC 458-20-190](http://WAC 458-20-190)).

### **Motor vehicle fuel sales**

Gas stations selling fuel which includes motor vehicle and special fuel taxes in the price. These taxes are administered by the Department of Licensing ([WAC 458-20-126](http://WAC 458-20-126)).

### **Prescription drugs, hearing aids, etc.**

Sales of these items for human use when the buyer presents a prescription ([WAC 458-20-18801](http://WAC 458-20-18801)).

### **Exempt food sales**

Food and food ingredients per [RCW 82.08.0293](http://RCW 82.08.0293) must meet specific criteria (see [WAC 458-20-244](http://WAC 458-20-244) and [Restaurant Tax Guide](#)).

### **Qualified nonresident sales**

Proof of residency in qualifying state required (see [ETA 3054.2014](http://ETA 3054.2014)).

### **Trade-in allowances**

Like-kind exchanges (see [WAC 458-20-247](http://WAC 458-20-247)).

### **Sales of manufacturing machinery**

Must meet specific criteria. (See [WAC 458-20-13601](http://WAC 458-20-13601)).

### **Taxable amount for tax paid at source**

Amount on which sales tax was previously paid on goods purchased for resale without intervening use (see [WAC 458-20-102](http://WAC 458-20-102)).

### **Sales to Indians with delivery on reservation**

Sales to enrolled tribal members with delivery on member's Indian reservation or trust land (see [Indian Guide](#)).

### **Marketplace Fairness**

Effective January 1, 2018 all businesses with \$10,000 in retail sales annually sourced to Washington are subject to Washington sales/use tax.

Sales tax **must** be collected for all sales by sellers with physical presence, including sales through a marketplace.

Marketplace facilitators and marketplace sellers without physical presence in Washington but who meet the \$10,000 threshold must choose to either collect and send in sales tax, or comply with use tax notification and reporting.

Visit [dor.wa.gov/marketplacefairness](http://dor.wa.gov/marketplacefairness) for more information.

### **Other**

Must identify applicable RCW or WAC.

# Use tax

Many people don't realize there are Washington tax obligations for goods purchased or acquired when sales tax was not paid. For instance, even though you don't pay sales tax when you shop in Oregon, your purchases are subject to use tax when you bring them into Washington.

Washington citizens also owe use tax in this state when they purchase items in other states that have a sales tax rate lower than Washington's.

*Use, used, and put to use* are defined as the first act within Washington which the person takes or assumes control of the article (RCW 82.12.010).

The definition applies to tangible personal property, extended warranties, digital goods, digital codes, digital automated services, and some services (RCW 82.04.050(2)(a), (9), (6)(b)).

Unpaid use tax costs state and local governments millions of dollars in revenues each year.

There are many instances when Washington's sales tax is not paid on purchases. In most of these situations, use tax is due. Unless specifically exempted, goods used in this state are subject to either sales tax or use tax, but not both. The tax applies regardless of where, or from whom, the property is purchased.

Here are some situations when use tax is due:

- Goods purchased from out of state by subscription, through the Internet, or from a mail order catalog company when the company doesn't collect Washington sales or use tax.
- Goods purchased from someone not required to collect sales tax. For example, when you purchase furniture or appliances from an individual through a newspaper classified ad or a garage sale.
- Personal property acquired with the purchase of real property. Machinery and equipment used in a manufacturing process may qualify for the Manufacturers' Sales/Use Tax Exemption.

## Taxable amount and rates

The use tax rates are the same as the sales tax rates and can be found at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov).

Use tax, unlike sales tax, is due at the rate applicable to the *location where you first use the article*, not where the sale takes place. The state portion of the tax is 6.5 percent, with local governments imposing their own additional use tax. Depending on the rate of local tax, the combined use tax rates vary.

Use tax is figured on the value of the goods when first used in Washington, which is generally the purchase price. Fair market value may be used if the goods are used outside the state for a lengthy period of time before being used in Washington by the same person.

The value of the goods includes shipping and delivery charges.

## Property used in a trade or business

Use tax is due when goods are purchased for consumption or used by a business and sales tax has not been paid. Some examples of goods purchased without sales/use tax is due include:

- Supplies, fixtures, and equipment purchased from an out-of-state vendor
- Supplies, fixtures, and equipment acquired when an existing business is purchased
- Promotional items, such as hats, T-shirts, matches, calendars, and other items given to customers or other individuals
- Magazine subscriptions
- Advertising or promotional materials printed out of state and distributed in Washington
- Parts installed and labor performed on tangible personal property repaired out of state
- Materials installed when performing federal government, city/county housing authority, or public road construction contracts
- Equipment loaned to a contractor on which sales tax was not previously paid
- Articles withdrawn from inventory and used by the business
- Items leased from out of state companies
- Gifts received (if donor has not paid sales tax)
- Prizes (limited use tax exemption on prizes or purchases from contests of chance that are part of a qualifying fundraising activity (RCW 82.12.225)).

- Articles manufactured by the business for its own use. If the articles are machinery and equipment used directly in a manufacturing operation, they may be exempt from the sales/use tax through the Manufacturers' Sales/Use Tax Exemption.

### **Trade-ins**

If you purchase goods in another state and trade in a like-kind item to reduce the amount you pay for the goods, use tax is due on the amount after the value of the trade-in is subtracted. For example, you purchase a car in another state for \$5,000. The dealer accepts your current car as a trade-in for \$2,000. Therefore, you owe Washington use tax on \$3,000 at the rate in effect where you garage the car (normally your residence).

If the dealer gives you \$2,000 cash instead of subtracting that amount from the new car price, you have not traded-in your vehicle and use tax is due on the full \$5,000 price of the new vehicle.

## **Use tax exemption and credit**

### **Exemption**

Residents of another state who move to Washington are exempt from the use tax on their household goods, personal effects, and private motor vehicles, if they acquired the property more than 90 days prior to the move.

For this exemption, boats, motorhomes, trailers, and other recreational vehicles don't qualify as private motor vehicles or personal effects and are subject to use tax. A credit, in the amount of sales/use tax that was previously paid on the non-exempt item, can be used to offset the amount of Washington use tax owed. Proof of previously paid sales/use tax must be provided.

When items are donated to nonprofit, charitable organizations, local governments, and the state, the use tax isn't due, even if the donor didn't originally pay sales or use tax on the item. The donor is also exempt from the use tax as long as there was no intervening use of the item prior to the donation.

### **Credit**

When you bring goods into Washington that you purchased in another state and paid sales tax at the time of the purchase, you can receive a credit for this tax by subtracting the amount of sales or use tax paid from the amount you owe. However, you must have proof that the tax was actually paid to the other state prior to use of the property in Washington.

See WAC 458-20-178 or RCW 82.12 for more information.

## **Report and pay use tax**

Registered businesses must report use tax under the use tax section of the excise tax return. Individuals must report use tax to the Department of Revenue on the [consumer use tax return](#).

Under state law, the use tax is due when the goods are first used in Washington (see [page 12](#)). For example, if you purchase a new computer while traveling in Oregon, use tax is due when you return to Washington.

# Public utility tax

The public utility tax applies if you engage in any of the following activities in Washington ([RCW 82.16](#)). If the public utility tax applies, B&O tax does not.

- **Water distribution:** operation of a plant or system for the distribution of water for hire or sale
- **Sewer collection:** collection of sewerage
- **Power:** operating a plant or system for generating, producing, or distributing of electrical energy for hire or sale
- **Gas distribution:** operating a plant or system for the producing or distributing, for hire or sale, of natural and/or manufactured gas
- **Motor transportation:** operating any motor propelled vehicle which persons or property of others are moved for hire (except when transportation business).
- **Urban transportation:** operating any motor propelled vehicle by which persons or property of others are moved for hire when:
  - operated entirely within the corporate limits of any city or town or within five miles of the corporate limits of any city or town.
  - operated entirely within or between cities or towns whose corporate limits are not more than five miles apart or are within five miles of each other.
- **Railroad, Railroad car:**
  - **Railroad:** operating any railroad or carrying property for public hire on the line of any common carrier operated in Washington.
  - **Railroad car:** rental, lease, or operation of cars used for transportation of property or persons upon the line of any railroad operated in Washington when the railroad isn't owned or leased by the person engaging in such business.
- **Log transportation:** the business of transporting logs by truck, except when the transportation:
  - meets the definition of urban transportation, or
  - occurs only on private roads, effective August 1, 2015

Income from transporting logs on private roads is subject to the service and other activities B&O tax ([WAC 458-20-179, 180, Trucking Tax Guide](#)).

## Public utility tax income exemption

Public utility businesses earning gross revenues under these amounts must report, but do not owe the tax:

Monthly	\$2,000
Quarterly	\$6,000
Annually	\$24,000



# Special taxes and fees

## **Convention and trade center tax**

Additional tax is charged by hotels/motels with 60 or more units located in King County. Convention and trade center tax location codes are found in the Lodging Information Rates and Changes flyer, available at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov).

## **Special hotel/motel tax**

Some areas levy an additional tax for transient rentals (less than 30 consecutive days) of hotel/motels, RV parks, or any other type of lodging. Special hotel/motel location codes are found in the Lodging Information Rates and Changes flyer, available at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov).

## **Tobacco products tax**

Tax on distributors who sell tobacco products at wholesale, or retailers who purchase tobacco products direct from out-of-state manufacturers.

## **Refuse collection tax**

Paid by customers and remitted by the refuse collectors on the refuse collection charge only. Landfill charges are also subject to the tax (3.6 percent).

## **Hazardous substance tax**

Tax on the first possessor in Washington of substances defined as hazardous by the Department of Ecology.

## **Petroleum products tax**

Paid by the first person possessing petroleum products in Washington. This special fund has a predetermined target amount. When reached, the tax is no longer due. Once the fund falls below the predetermined amount, the tax is again due based on the wholesale value of the petroleum product sold.

## **Solid fuel burning device fee**

A \$30 fee is charged to the consumer by retailers on sales of wood stoves, coal stoves, fireplaces, including masonry and zero clearance fireplace inserts, and other similar devices which burn solid fuel.

## **Syrup tax**

Tax on the volume of syrup used to produce carbonated beverages sold at wholesale and retail in Washington. The business activity of selling such syrups in Washington is also taxed. An exemption is provided for syrup previously subject to this tax in Washington.

## **Tire tax fee**

Requires tire retailers to collect a \$1 fee from the customer for each retail sale of new replacement vehicle tires.

## **Litter tax**

Paid by manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers of products that contribute to the state's litter problem. The tax is due on the gross amount of sales within the state.

Items in the following categories are subject to litter tax:

- Food for human or pet consumption
- Groceries
- Cigarette and tobacco products
- Soft drinks and carbonated waters
- Beer and other malt beverages
- Wine
- Newspapers and magazines
- Household paper and paper products
- Glass containers
- Metal containers
- Plastic or fiber containers made of synthetic material
- Cleaning agents and toiletries
- Non-drug drugstore sundry products

## **Rental car tax**

Paid by the consumer on the rental of a passenger car for a period of less than 30 days in addition to sales tax. The rate varies from 5.9–7.7 percent.

## **Transient rental income**

Businesses providing lodging for less than 30 days must report transient rental income. Lodging businesses include hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, vacation rentals, trailer camps, RV parks, and tent campgrounds. Reporting this income allows cities and counties to receive a distribution from the state portion of the retail sales tax. It is not an additional tax.

### **Tourism promotion area (TPA) charges**

These charges may apply to lodging businesses in participating cities or counties. Different zone rates may apply. For information, please see the Lodging Special Notice for your county, available at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov).

### **Leasehold excise tax**

Paid by private parties using public property in lieu of property tax. Public entities that lease property to lessees or tenants of a community center collect the tax based on the rent paid for the property and report to the Department of Revenue quarterly on a Leasehold Excise Tax Return. The rate is 12.84 percent of the rent paid for the property.

### **Oil spill response tax and oil spill administration tax**

Tax imposed on the person who owns crude oil or petroleum products at a marine terminal in Washington from a waterborne vessel or barge operating on the navigable waters of Washington.

Beginning July 1, 2015, the tax is extended to owners of crude oil or petroleum products received into the storage tanks of a bulk oil terminal from a tank car (transported by rail).

The oil spill tax has two components:

- Oil spill administration tax: four cents per barrel
- Oil spill response tax: one-cent per barrel (suspended when account balance exceeds \$9 million)

### **Spirits (hard liquor) taxes**

Washington has two spirits taxes: the liter tax and the sales tax.

If you sell spirits, collect the taxes from your customer and remit it to the Department of Revenue on your excise tax return monthly using e-file. If you have a waiver to file a paper return, report the sales on the Spirits Sales Tax Addendum.

“Spirits” means any beverage containing alcohol obtained by distillation, including wines with more than 24 percent alcohol by volume.

### **Spirit liter tax**

A tax on the sales of spirits in the original container and is based on the volume sold.

The tax rate for consumers is \$3.7708 per liter. The tax rate for on-premises retailers such as restaurants, bars, etc., is \$2.4408 per liter.

### **Spirits sales tax**

A tax on the selling price of spirits in their original container.

The tax rate for sales to consumers is 20.5 percent. The tax rate for on-premises retailers such as restaurants, bars, etc., is 13.7 percent.

Retail sales tax doesn't apply to sales of spirits unopened in the original container, but does apply to sales of spirits by the drink or glass (RCW 82.08.150).

### **Other special taxes**

For more information on other special taxes and fees, visit [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) or call 1-800-647-7706.

# Tax incentives

## General manufacturing

### **Machinery and equipment sales/use tax exemption**

**Available to:** Manufacturers, processors for hire, manufacturers performing research and development (R&D), and testing operations.

**Qualifying activity:** Purchase of qualifying machinery and equipment used directly for manufacturing or research.

### **High unemployment county/Community Empowerment Zones (CEZ) sales/use tax deferral/waiver**

**Available to:** Manufacturers, R&D laboratories, and commercial testing facilities located in high unemployment counties or a CEZ.

**Qualifying activity:** Certain construction and equipment purchases for new and expanding businesses.

### **Rural county/CEZ B&O credit for new employees**

**Available to:** Manufacturers, R&D laboratories, and commercial testing facilities located in rural counties or within a CEZ.

**Qualifying activity:** Increase in-state employment by 15 percent.

## Aerospace

### **Reduced B&O tax rate for aerospace businesses**

**Available to:** Manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes or component parts of commercial airplanes, non-manufacturers engaged in the business of aerospace product development, certificated FAR repair stations making retail sales, and aerospace tooling manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturers and Processors for Hire: Manufacturing, and sales by the manufacturer, of commercial airplanes or component parts of commercial airplanes; or tooling especially designed for use in manufacturing commercial airplanes and component parts of commercial airplanes.

**FAR repair stations:** Retail sales made by certificated FAR Part 145 repair stations.

**Aerospace non-manufacturers:** Aerospace product development for others.

### **B&O credit for preproduction development expenditures**

**Available to:** Manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes or component parts of commercial airplanes, non-manufacturers engaged in the business of aerospace product development, certificated FAR repair stations making retail sales, and aerospace tooling manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Expenditures for aerospace preproduction development.

### **B&O credit for property/leasehold taxes paid on aerospace manufacturing facilities**

**Available to:** Manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes or component parts of commercial airplanes, non-manufacturers engaged in the business of aerospace product development, certificated FAR repair stations making retail sales, and aerospace tooling manufacturers.

#### **Qualifying activity:**

**For manufacturers:** Payment of property/leasehold taxes on new buildings, land, the increased value of renovated buildings, and equipment eligible for the machinery and equipment exemption that is used exclusively in manufacturing commercial airplanes or components of such airplanes; or in manufacturing tooling specifically designed for use in manufacturing commercial airplanes or components of such airplanes.

**For certificated FAR Part 145 repair stations and aerospace non-manufacturers:** Payment of property/leasehold taxes on new buildings, land, the increased value of renovated buildings, and qualifying computer equipment and peripherals used exclusively in aerospace product development or in providing aerospace services.

### **Sales/use tax exemption for aerospace manufacturers for computer hardware, software, and peripherals**

**Available to:** Manufacturers and processors for hire of commercial airplanes or component parts of commercial airplanes, non-manufacturers engaged in the business of aerospace product development, certificated FAR repair stations making retail sales, and aerospace tooling manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Purchases of computer hardware, software, and computer peripherals, and charges for labor and services for installation of such equipment.

## Biofuel

### **Reduced B&O rate for manufacturers of wood biomass fuel**

**Available to:** wood biomass fuel manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturing qualifying fuel products.

### **Property/leasehold tax exemption for biodiesel/alcohol fuel manufacturers**

**Available to:** Alcohol fuel, biodiesel fuel, biodiesel feedstock, or wood biomass fuel manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturing qualifying fuel or feedstock.

## Food processing

### **B&O tax exemption for manufacturers of fresh fruit & vegetables**

**Available to:** Fresh fruit and vegetable manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturing fresh fruits or vegetables by canning, preserving, freezing, processing, or dehydrating fresh fruits or vegetables; or selling at wholesale fruits or vegetables manufactured by the seller when sold to purchasers who transport the goods outside Washington for business purposes.

### **B&O tax exemption for manufacturers of seafood products**

**Available to:** Seafood product manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturing seafood products that remain in a raw, raw frozen, or raw salted state at the completion of the manufacturing by that person; and selling at retail or wholesale seafood products manufactured by the seller that remain in a raw, raw frozen, or raw salted state to purchasers who transport the goods outside Washington for business purposes.

### **B&O tax deduction for manufacturers of dairy products**

**Available to:** Dairy product manufacturers.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturing dairy products; selling at retail or wholesale dairy products manufactured by the seller to purchasers who

transport the goods outside Washington for business purposes; and wholesale sales by dairy product manufacturer to a customer who uses such dairy products as an ingredient or component in the manufacturing of another dairy product in Washington.

## Other incentives

### **Sales tax remittance on construction of warehouses, grain elevators, and distribution centers**

**Available to:** Wholesalers, retail distribution centers, and third-party warehouse businesses.

**Qualifying activity:** Construction of 200,000 square feet or more warehouse and distribution center, 1 million bushel capacity grain elevators, or purchases of material handling and racking equipment.

### **Reduced B&O rate for extracting/manufacturing timber and wood products**

**Available to:** Extractors, manufacturers, and processors for hire of timber products and wood products.

**Qualifying activity:** Extracting, manufacturing, or processing for hire of qualifying products.

### **Reduced B&O rate for solar energy system manufacturers and wholesalers**

**Available to:** Manufacturers and processors for hire of solar energy systems and silicon components.

**Qualifying activity:** Manufacturing qualifying products.

### **B&O tax credit for workforce training**

**Available to:** All Washington employers.

**Qualifying activity:** Payments to the Employment Training Finance Account through the Customized Employment Training Program.

### **B&O tax credit for international service providers**

**Available to:** Persons providing international services, such as computer; data processing; information; legal; accounting and tax preparation; engineering; architectural; business consulting; business management; public relations and advertising; surveying; geological consulting; real estate appraisal; or financial services in designated geographical areas.

**Qualifying activity:** Creating new jobs in these fields in the designated areas.

### **High unemployment county sales/use tax deferral/waiver for manufacturing facilities**

**Available to:** Manufacturers, persons conditioning vegetable seeds, research and development and commercial testing for manufacturers in a qualifying county or in a CEZ.

**Qualifying activity:** Certain construction and equipment purchases for new and expanding businesses.

### **Sales/use tax exemption for motion picture and video production companies**

**Available to:** Motion picture and video production companies.

**Qualifying activity:** Rental of production equipment and purchase of production services by motion picture and video production companies.

### **Commute trip reduction program–B&O/public utility tax credit**

**Available to:** Employers and property managers.

**Qualifying activity:** Employers and property managers who provide commute trip reduction incentives to or on behalf of their own or other employees.

### **Main Street tax credit–B&O/public utility tax credit**

**Available to:** All businesses that make qualified contributions.

**Qualifying activity:** Contributions made to approved designated revitalization programs or the Main Street Trust Fund.

### **Washington Filmworks contributors B&O tax Credit**

**Available to:** All businesses that make qualified contributions.

**Qualifying activity:** Contributions made to Washington Filmworks (an approved Motion Picture Competitiveness Program).

### **For more information**

To learn more about these and other incentives, visit [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov), then select *Tax Incentive Programs*.

## Personal property tax

Most people know that property tax applies to real property, such as land and improvements to land. Property tax also applies to personal property used in conducting business, when not exempt by law.

The chief characteristic distinguishing personal property from real property is mobility. Personal property includes machinery, equipment, furniture, and supplies. It doesn't include business inventories.

### **Administration**

County assessors and treasurers administer the property tax in Washington. Assessors value property at 100 percent of its true and fair value and treasurers collect the property tax. The Department of Revenue advises assessors and treasurers, and oversees the valuation and taxation of property across the state to ensure uniformity.

### **Personal property tax listing form**

By April 30 of each year, property owners must complete and file a Personal Property Listing Form with the county assessor. Forms are available at your county assessor's office. Each Personal Property Listing Form must list all taxable property located in the county that was owned on January 1 of that year. For multiple locations, property owners must file a separate listing for each location.

### **Penalty for failure to file**

Property owners who do not file a listing of personal property by April 30 are subject to an estimated tax assessment by the assessor. A penalty of 5 percent of the tax will be added for each month after the deadline the listing is filed. The maximum penalty is 25 percent of the tax.

### **For more information**

A personal property tax fact sheet is available at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov). Specific questions should be directed to your county assessor. Questions about property tax statements should be sent to your county treasurer.

# Tax return payment and reporting

## Accounting methods

Unless you keep your books on a cash basis, taxes must be paid for all sales made during the reporting period, even if you have not received payment.

## Paying your taxes

Your state B&O tax is reported on the *excise tax return*. Businesses file tax returns either monthly, quarterly, or annually. After registering your business, we will determine your reporting frequency based on your estimated gross income and your type of business.

If you don't conduct any business or don't owe tax, you are still responsible for filing a no business return.

## Due dates

### Monthly filers

The 25th day of the month following the reporting period

*Monthly filers must file and pay taxes electronically*

### Quarterly filers

Last day of the month following the reporting period

*Quarterly filers must file and pay taxes electronically*

### Annual filers

January 31 of each year

*Annual filers may file and pay taxes electronically*

If the due date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the due date is extended to the next business day.

## Electronic filing (My DOR)

Electronic filing through Revenue's My DOR is a free service that lets you prepare and file your tax return electronically any time of the day. Our electronic filing allows you to:

- Customize your tax return, showing only the lines you need.
- Calculate taxes due and flag potential errors, helping you avoid costly mistakes.
- Choose one of several payment methods – ACH Debit/E-check, ACH Credit, Credit Card, or paper check (paper check is only available to annual filers).
- Save postage and avoid the chance of your return being lost or delayed in the mail.
- File your return early and choose the date you want your payment withdrawn (ACH Debit/E-check) or your bank to send funds (ACH credit).

Electronic filing is fast, convenient, and secure. Visit [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) for more information. If you need help with filing, call 1-877-345-3353.

## Reporting no business activity

Your business must file a tax return each reporting period even if you did not conduct business or receive income. There are three ways to report.

- **Online:** Visit [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) to login to *My DOR*. If you are not registered, follow the instructions to create an online account. Under the Accounts tab, click Excise Tax. Select the Return, and check box next to Report No Business.
- **Phone:** Call our 24-hour automated system at 1-800-647-7706. At the greeting enter 111 then enter your UBI/Account ID and follow the instructions.
- **Mail:** If you receive a paper *excise tax return*, fill in the *No Business activity* box. Sign, date the return and include a daytime number.

Make a copy for your files and mail the original return in the self-addressed envelope provided.

*Note: If you are signed up to e-file, you will not receive a paper return. Follow the instructions above to report no business activity through e-file or by phone.*

For more information, call 1-800-647-7706 or your local Revenue office. Please have your UBI/Account ID available.

## Correcting a previously filed return

If you have reported your taxes incorrectly, you can file an amended return or schedule to correct the error. If additional taxes are due and the original return was late, the amount should be remitted along with the returns and any applicable interest and penalties.

If taxes have been overpaid, a refund will be issued or a credit will be applied to your future taxes. The Department of Revenue can only honor refunds for taxes paid dating back four calendar years before the year the refund request is made ([WAC 458-20-229](#)).

You may amend your return:

- **Online:** From [dor.wa.gov](#), Sign in to My DOR by clicking log in. Under the Accounts tab, click Excise Tax. Select the return you need to amend. In the *I Want To...* box click *File or Amend a Return*. Select *Amend Return and follow* the steps on your screen.  
*Note:* only returns filed electronically may be amended online.
- **Mail:** Print a copy of the return you need to correct and write *Amended Return* in large letters at the top. Using black ink, draw a single line through any incorrect information and write the correct information on the side or above. Recalculate your totals. Prepare a cover letter explaining why you are amending your return.

Mail the amended return and cover letter to:

Taxpayer Account Administration  
Washington State Department of Revenue  
PO Box 47476  
Olympia, WA 98504-7476

If you have multiple periods to correct, you can photocopy each return and mark your changes, or send a spreadsheet, listing each period and the correction to each period. Spreadsheets can be mailed or sent to us electronically through My DOR's Business Licensing and Taxes service by selecting Send a Message, choose the Amended Tax Returns topic, and attach the spreadsheet to your message.

## Penalties

### If you can't file or pay on time

Contact your local Department of Revenue office right away. The penalties on late payments are:

- 9 percent after the due date until the last day of the month following the due date.
- 19 percent after the last day of the month following the due date.
- 29 percent after the last day of the second month following the due date, and anything after.

Filing extensions can be requested and penalties may be waived under limited circumstances.

# Audit process

As a registered business you may be selected for an audit. Audits are routine procedures used to determine whether state excise taxes (B&O, sales, public utility, etc.) have been reported and paid correctly. The majority of businesses we audit are chosen at random using statistical methods.

In general, your records will be reviewed to verify proper tax reporting. Where appropriate, you will also receive helpful instructions and information on how to fill out returns in the future. We are committed to working with you in a professional and cooperative manner.

Audit procedures and programs may include:

- Obtaining electronic files of the accounting records for the audit period.
- Random, non-statistical sampling of specific audit areas.
- Computer-assisted audits using a statistical sampling technique. These are primarily used for large businesses.

## What to expect during an audit

Audits normally cover the four preceding calendar years, plus the current year through the end of the last calendar quarter. All taxes, deductions, and exemptions reported on your excise tax return will be reviewed.

An audit of your business activities will cover several major areas, including:

1. **Gross Income:** verification of proper amounts and classifications reported on the return.
2. **Deductions, credits and exemptions:** verification of proper amounts, classifications, and documentation.
3. **Purchases:** verification of retail sales or use tax paid on capital assets, consumable supplies, or articles manufactured for your own use.

## Recordkeeping requirements

To minimize inconvenience and the time it takes to complete an audit, you will be asked to have records available for the audit period for your meeting with the auditor, these include:

- State excise tax return and work papers
- Federal income tax return for the business

- Summary accounting records and source journals such as the check register, general ledger, sales journal, general journal, cash receipts journal, and any other records you use to record income and expenses
- Sales invoices
- Purchase invoices (accounts payable, receipts)
- Depreciation schedules listing all assets acquired or disposed of during the audit period along with purchase or sales invoices for those assets
- Reseller permits for any wholesale sales
- Supporting documentation for all deductions and exemptions

You have the right to appeal when you disagree with an assessment issued by the Department of Revenue.

Taxpayers who disagree with an assessment may ask for a supervisory conference before the assessment is issued. For example, when your business records are audited, the auditor will meet with you to discuss the results. If you disagree with those results, you can have a conference with the auditor's supervisor.

If the differences can't be resolved at the supervisory level, you can file a petition for review with the Department of Revenue's Admin Review and Hearings Division.



# Appeals process

You must file an appeal before the due date or extension date of the assessment.

## After the due date, you must:

- Pay the assessment
- File a petition for review requesting a refund *within four years* of the close of the tax year in which taxes were paid

Example: If you paid tax in June 2015, you have until December 31, 2019, to petition for a refund.

Appeals must be mailed to:

Admin Review and Hearings Division  
Washington State Department of Revenue  
PO Box 47460  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7460

## For more information

Visit [dor.wa.gov/appeals](http://dor.wa.gov/appeals)

[WAC 458-20-100](#) contains a full discussion of the administrative appeals process. For a copy of the rule, visit [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) or call 1-800-647-7706.

# Services and resources

Our website, [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov), offers a wide variety of information and resources, including:

- **Electronic filing (My DOR):** File and pay taxes online.
- **Business information update:** You can notify us online if your business has moved, closed, or changed activities.
- **Tax Rate Lookup Tool (GIS):** Find the correct code and tax rate for specific locations.
- **Business lookup:** Look up information on businesses registered in Washington, or verify a reseller permit. Public information includes business name, open and close dates, North American Industry Classification Code System (NAICS), UBI/Account ID, and owner type. Reseller permit information includes the permit number, the effective date and expiration date. This information is available for non-commercial purposes only.
- **Publications and forms:** Find our tax guides, fact sheets, reports, news releases, and forms online.
- **Tutorial videos:** Access free videos with answers, resources, and step-by-step tax reporting help.
- **Ruling request:** Request a tax ruling binding on you and the Department of Revenue on a specific tax question.
- **Reporting fraud:** Report Washington State tax and license fraud using our online form. You may also link to other state agencies for information on fraud cases and consumer protection.
- **Research statistics:** Access research publications, data on tax collections, tax-related statistics on business activity by industry and geographical area, and other statistical information about the state's tax structure.
- **Laws and rules (Taxpedia):** Search our online database for Department of Revenue rules and laws. Also research Special Notices, Tax Topic articles, industry guides, advisories, administrative decisions, and court cases through Taxpedia.
- **Local offices:** Find telephone numbers, office hours, and directions to a local office near you.

## Contacts for specific taxes and programs

Additional contact information available at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov). Click *Contact us*, then *Revenue telephone directory*.

### **Brokered natural gas tax**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
(360) 705-6215

### **Business licensing and renewal**

Business Licensing Service  
[bls.dor.wa.gov](http://bls.dor.wa.gov)  
1-800-451-7985

### **Cigarette tax**

Special Programs Division  
(360) 534-1503

### **Corporate withdrawals or dissolutions**

Audit Division  
(360) 704-5704

### **Electronic filing (My DOR)**

[dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov)  
1-877-345-3353

### **Electronic funds transfer (EFT) program**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
(360) 705-6215

### **Enhanced food/fish tax**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
(360) 705-6219

### **Estate tax/escheats**

Special Programs Division  
(360) 534-1503

### **Excise tax status letters**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
[dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov), log in to *My DOR*  
(360) 705-6108

### **Excise tax refunds**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
(360) 705-6215

### **Forest excise tax**

Special Programs Division  
1-800-548-8829

### **Hotel/motel special excise tax**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
(360) 705-6095

### **Leasehold excise tax**

Special Programs Division  
(360) 534-1503

### **Oil spill response and administration tax**

Taxpayer Account Administration Division  
(360) 705-6029

### **Property tax (general information)**

Property Tax Division  
(360) 534-1400

For information regarding a specific property tax assessment, please contact your county assessor.

### **Real estate excise tax refunds**

Special Programs Division  
(360) 534-1503

For information on the real estate excise tax, please contact the county treasurer's office where the property is located.

### **Retainage fees**

Audit Division  
(360) 704-5650

### **Rule hearings**

Interpretations & Technical Advice Division  
(360) 534-1580

### **Sales tax deferrals**

Special Programs  
(360) 534-1503

### **Tax appeal questions**

ARH Division  
(360) 534-1335

### **Unclaimed property**

Special Programs Division  
1-800-435-2429  
[claimyourcash.org](http://claimyourcash.org)

### **Voluntary disclosure**

Audit Division  
(360) 704-5649

# Other agencies to contact

## Labor and Industries

Industrial insurance (worker's compensation)  
(360) 902-4817

[www.lni.wa.gov](http://www.lni.wa.gov)

If you have one or more employees, you **must apply for industrial insurance coverage** with the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. **Industrial insurance is not required for business owners**, but those who want it can complete an application for employer coverage. To apply or for more information, contact the Business Licensing Service at 1-800-451-7985 or [BLS@dor.wa.gov](mailto:BLS@dor.wa.gov)

## Employment Security

Unemployment insurance

Regulatory questions:

1-855-829-9243

[esd.wa.gov](http://esd.wa.gov)

If you have employees, you must apply for unemployment insurance coverage with the Washington State Employment Security Department. To apply or for more information, contact the Business Licensing Service at 1-800-451-7985 or [BLS@dor.wa.gov](mailto:BLS@dor.wa.gov)

## Secretary of State

Corporations Division

(360) 725-0377

[secstate.wa.gov/corps](http://secstate.wa.gov/corps)

[corps@sos.wa.gov](mailto:corps@sos.wa.gov)

Contact the Secretary of State's office to file Articles of Incorporation or a Certificate of Limited Partnership if your business has either type of ownership. The Secretary of State also registers trade marks, as well as trade names for corporations and limited partnerships.

## City and county taxing offices

Washington State Counties

[www.mrsc.org/byndmrsc/counties.aspx](http://www.mrsc.org/byndmrsc/counties.aspx)

## Internal Revenue Service

Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN)

1-800-829-1040

1-800-829-4933

[irs.gov](http://irs.gov)

If you pay employment taxes, such as industrial and unemployment insurance, you need to have a FEIN. In some special cases, businesses without employees may be required to obtain a FEIN.

## Washington cities and towns

[bls.dor.wa.gov/citycounty.aspx](http://bls.dor.wa.gov/citycounty.aspx)

If your city or county has business taxes and you are located within the city limits, you will need to register with the city taxing authority. Businesses located outside city limits should register with the county taxing authority.

The Business Licensing Service processes license applications for many cities and provide contact information for counties, cities and towns that they don't process applications for at this time.

## County assessors

[dor.wa.gov/content/findtaxesandrates/propertytax/links.aspx](http://dor.wa.gov/content/findtaxesandrates/propertytax/links.aspx)

Also, remember to contact your county assessor as soon as your business opens. Businesses are required to report personal property - assets used in the operation of a business - to the assessor. Personal property includes furniture, office equipment, machines, and supplies used in the course of doing business.

See Personal Property Tax on [page 17](#) for more information.

## Washington BusinessHub

(360) 725-4000

[business.wa.gov](http://business.wa.gov)

Find information and services from multiple agencies to help you start, register, operate, and grow your business. Washington BusinessHub is continually updated and improved to make it easier for you to handle tasks such as applying for permits, getting and renewing licenses, paying taxes and more.

**Access Washington:** [access.wa.gov](http://access.wa.gov)

# Appendices

A Combined excise tax return.....	27-28
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MAIL TO: Washington State  
Department of Revenue  
PO Box 47464  
Olympia WA 98504-7464



## Multi-Purpose Combined Excise Tax Return

If you have no business activity, check the box and mail this return  
(unless filed electronically)

Period  /  Year

Account ID

► Use Black Ink &  
Return Original Form

► This Return is Effective  
January 2017, Forward

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRM NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address Changes?  Business Closed?  Date Closed \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ See Additional Information, pg 2 Other Correspondence?

Effective date of change \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Please fill in the appropriate box and note address changes above.

► Use Black Ink & Return The Original Form

### I STATE BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX

Line No.	Tax Classification	Code	Column 1 Gross Amount	Col. 2 Deductions* Totals from Pg. 3 & 4	Column 3 Taxable Amount	Col. 4 Rate	Column 5 Tax Due
1	Extracting, Extracting for Hire	16				.00484	
2	Slaughter, Break Proc, Perish Meat-Whise; Mfg Wheat into Flour; Soybean & Canola Proc	30				.00138	
3	Travel Agent Com/Tour Operators; Intl Charter Freight Brokers; Stevedoring; Assisted Living Facilities	28				.00275	
4	Insurance Producers; Title Insurance Agents; Surplus Line Broker Commissions; Child Care	14				.00484	
5	Prescription Drug Warehousing; Mfg; Wood Biomass Fuel; or Split/Proc Dried Peas	21				.00138	
6	Processing for Hire; Printing and Publishing	10				.00484	
7	Manufacturing	07				.00484	
8	Royalties	80				.015	
9	Wholesaling	03				.00484	
10	Warehousing; Radio & TV Broadcasting; Public Rd Const; Gov Contracting; Chem Dependency Ctr; Canned Salmon Labelers	11				.00484	
11	Public or Nonprofit Hospitals; Qualified Food Co-ops	55				.015	
12	Cleanup of Radioactive Waste for US Gov	83				.00471	
13	Service & Other Activities and/or Gambling Contests of Chance (less than \$50,000 a year)	04				.015	
14	Gambling Contests of Chance (\$50,000 a year or greater)	192				.0163	
15	For Profit Hospitals; Scientific R&D	135				.015	
16	Retailing of Interstate Transportation Equip	19				.00484	
17	Retailing	02				.00471	

GROSS AMOUNTS FOR RETAILING AND RETAIL SALES MUST BE THE SAME

\* Deductions taken but not itemized on pages 3 and 4 will be disallowed.

TOTAL B&O TAX

### II STATE SALES AND USE TAX

18	Retail Sales (also complete local tax section III)	01				.065	
19	Use Tax/Deferred Sales Tax (also complete local use tax section III)	05				.065	

TOTAL STATE SALES & USE TAX

### III LOCAL CITY AND/OR COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX

**Local Sales Tax (Enter applicable rate of tax.) Code 45**  
Total Taxable Amount must be the same as line 18, column 3, Taxable Amount

Line No.	Location Code	Taxable Amount	Local Rate	Tax Due City or Co.
20				
21				
22				
23				
TOTAL TAXABLE			TOTAL	

**Local Use Tax/Deferred Sales Tax (Enter applicable rate of tax.) Code 46**  
Total Value of Articles must be the same as line 19, column 1, Gross Amount

Line No.	Location Code	Value of Articles	Local Rate	Tax Due City or Co.
24				
25				
TOTAL VALUE OF ARTICLES			TOTAL	

Line No.	Tax Classification	Code	Taxable Amount	Rate	Tax Due
26	Motor Vehicle Sales/Leases	120		.003	
27	Litter Tax	36		.00015	

Filing an Amended Return? Check this box and attach a letter of explanation.

► Signature \_\_\_\_\_

► Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

► Ph. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\* 9% Penalty Assessed After Due Date  
19% Penalty Assessed After the Last Day of the Month Following the Due Date  
29% Penalty Assessed After Last Day of the Second Month Following the Due Date

If the due date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the due date is extended to the next business day.

Line No.	Item	VII TOTALS
28	Total All Tax Due from page 1	
29	Total All Tax Due from page 2	
30	Total All Addendums (example: Rental Car Addendum)	
31	Subtotal (add lines 28-30)	
32	Credit (from page 2, section VI, total credit)	
33	Subtotal (subtract line 32 from line 31)	
34	Add Penalty, if applicable * % Minimum \$5.00	
TOTAL AMOUNT OWED (add lines 33 - 34)		

Please make check or money order payable to the Washington State Department of Revenue. Include your account ID on your check.

**IV LODGING TAXES**

TRANSIENT RENTAL INCOME INFORMATION Code 47			
Line No.	Location Code	Income	
35			
36			
37			
38			

(enter location code and income only)

TOURISM PROMOTION AREA LODGING CHARGE Code 170				
Line No.	Location Code	Number of Unit/Days	Unit/Day Rate Charged	Total Charges Due
39				
40				
41				
42				

TOTAL TOURISM PROMOTION AREA LODGING CHARGE

CONVENTION AND TRADE CENTER TAX Code 48				
Line No.	Location Code	Taxable Amount	Rate	Tax Due
43				
44				
45				

TOTAL CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER TAX

SPECIAL HOTEL/MOTEL TAX Code 70				
Line No.	Location Code	Taxable Amount	Rate	Tax Due
46				
47				
48				

TOTAL SPECIAL HOTEL/MOTEL TAX

**V OTHER TAXES**

Line No.	Tax Classification	Code	Column 1 Gross Amount	Col. 2 Deductions* Totals from Pg. 4	Column 3 Taxable Amount	Col. 4	Column 5 Tax Due
49	Tobacco Products/Cigars (less than \$0.69)	20				.95	
50	Refuse Collection	64				.036	
51	Petroleum Products Tax	57				.003	
52	Hazardous Substance	65				.007	
53	Intermediate Care Facilities	79				.06	

Line No.	Tax Classification	Code	Item	Quantity	Rate	Tax Due
54	Solid Fuel Burning Device Fee	59	Number of Stoves, Fireplaces, & Solid Fuel Burning Devices Sold:		30.00	
55	Syrup Tax	54	Number of Gallons (whole numbers only) Sold:		1.00	
56	Tire Fee	73	Number of Tires Sold:		.90	
57	Studded Tire Fee	77	Number of Tires Sold:		4.50	
58	Cigar Tax (\$0.69 or more)	194	Number of Cigars (\$0.69 or more):		.65	
59	Little Cigar Tax (acetate integrated filters)	198	Number of Little Cigars:		.1512	
60	Moist Snuff (1.2 oz. or less)	162	Number of Units:		2.526	
61	Moist Snuff (more than 1.2 oz.)	163	Number of Ounces (including partial ounces):		2.105	

\* Deductions taken but not itemized on page 4 will be disallowed.

TOTAL OTHER TAXES (add lines 49-61)

**VI CREDITS**

Line No.	Credit Classification	Credit I.D.	Amount
62	Multiple Activities Tax Credit (attach Schedule C)	800	
63	International Services Credit	855	
64	<b>Small Business B&amp;O Tax Credit (go to dor.wa.gov)</b>	<b>815</b>	
65	Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery Credit	925	
66	Bad Debt Tax Credit (attach Schedule B)	801	
67	Hazardous Substance	805	
68	Public Utility Tax Credit for Billing Discounts/Qualified Contributions to a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Fund	880	
69	Tobacco Products Tax Credit	930	
70	B&O Credit for Syrup Tax Paid	945	
71	Other Credits (attach appropriate documents)	810	

TOTAL CREDIT (transfer to page 1, line 32)

**◆ Additional Information ◆**

The easiest way to file your return is to use our free electronic filing service at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) or call 1-877-345-3353.

**Penalties and Interest**

**Penalties:**

- Any unpaid tax (including partial payments) is subject to delinquent return penalty at the rate on the front of the return. (RCW 82.32.090)
- A 5% assessment penalty may be assessed if the return is substantially underpaid. (RCW 82.32.090)

**Interest:** Interest will accrue from the first day of the month following the due date, until paid. (RCW 82.32.050)

**Internet Assistance – Go to DOR’s home page at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov)**

- Get tax return information and instructions, penalty waiver information, and more.
- Get the Local Sales and Use Tax Addendum, and other tax-related forms.
- Update your account information or close your account with the Department of Revenue.

**Telephone Assistance**

- If you did not have business activity call 1-800-647-7706. At the greeting, follow the instructions given to file a no business return. Do not mail a paper return back to the Department.

For tax assistance or to request this document in an alternate format, please call 1-800-647-7706. Teletype (TTY) users may use the Washington Relay Service by calling 711.

MAIL TO: Washington State  
Department of Revenue  
PO Box 47464  
Olympia WA 98504-7464



## Multi-Purpose Deduction Detail

Period  /  Year

▶ Name  ▶ Account ID

- If you have deductions, return pages 3 and 4. If you do not have deductions do not return pages 3 and 4.
- We cannot approve deductions taken on the Combined Excise Tax Return that are not itemized on pages 3 and 4.
- Report deductions under the heading that corresponds to your reporting activity.
- Transfer the total deduction amount for each classification from this page to the corresponding line on your tax return in the deduction column.

**If completing, fill out name, account ID and attach to your Combined Excise Tax Return.**

Line 1 - Extracting, Extracting for Hire	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	1601	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	1602	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	1699	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 2 - Slaughter, Break Processing...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	3001	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	3002	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	3099	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 3 - Travel Agent Com; Intl Charter...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	2801	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	2802	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	2899	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 4 - Insurance Producers; Title...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	1401	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	1499	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 5 - Prescription Drug Warehousing...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	2101	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	2102	<input type="text"/>
Freight on Out-of-State Deliveries	2103	<input type="text"/>
Interstate & Foreign Sales (Use for Prescription Drug Warehousing Only.)	2104	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	2107	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	2199	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 6 - Processing for Hire; Printing and...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	1001	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	1002	<input type="text"/>
Freight on Out-of-State Deliveries	1003	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	1007	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	1099	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 7 - Manufacturing	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	0701	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	0702	<input type="text"/>
Freight on Out-of-State Deliveries	0703	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	0707	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	0799	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 8 - Royalties	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	8001	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	8002	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	8007	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	8099	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 9 - Wholesaling	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	0301	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	0302	<input type="text"/>
Interstate & Foreign Sales	0304	<input type="text"/>
Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax	0305	<input type="text"/>
Casual Sales; Accommodation Sales	0306	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	0307	<input type="text"/>
No Local Activity	0308	<input type="text"/>
Dairy, Fruit/Veg, & Seafood Mfd Products (see below) *	0367	<input type="text"/>
Dairy Products Used in Mfg of Dairy Products	0375	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	0399	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

\* Local sales for transport out-of-state

Line 10 - Warehousing; Radio & TV...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	1101	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	1102	<input type="text"/>
Interstate & Foreign Sales	1104	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	1107	<input type="text"/>
Radio/TV Advertising	1109	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	1199	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

Line 11 - Public or Nonprofit Hospitals; Qualified Food Co-ops	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	5501	<input type="text"/>
Cash & Trade Discounts	5502	<input type="text"/>
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	5507	<input type="text"/>
Other (Explain):	5599	<input type="text"/>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

**Not all deductions are allowable from both Retailing (B&O) and Retail Sales Tax.**

Line 12 – Cleanup of Radioactive Waste...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	8301	
Cash & Trade Discounts	8302	
Interstate & Foreign Sales	8304	
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	8307	
Other (Explain):	8399	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 13 – Service & Other Activities and/or Gambling Contests of Chance (less than \$50,000 a year)	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	0401	
Cash & Trade Discounts	0402	
Apportionment (Interstate & Foreign Sales)	0404	
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	0407	
Gambling, Prizes, & Cash Pay-Outs	0410	
Qualified Initiation Fees; Dues; Contributions Received	0411	
Interest on Certain Invest/Loan Obligations	0412	
Artistic/Cultural Activities	0416	
Other (Explain):	0499	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 14 – Gambling Contests of Chance (\$50,000 a year or greater)	I.D.	Amount
Gambling, Prizes, & Cash Pay-Outs	19210	
Other (Explain):	19299	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 15 – For Profit Hospitals; Scientific R&D	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	13501	
Cash & Trade Discounts	13502	
Apportionment (Interstate & Foreign Sales)	13504	
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	13507	
Qualified Initiation Fees; Dues; Contributions Received	13511	
Other (Explain):	13599	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 16 - Retailing of Interstate Transport...	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	1901	
Cash & Trade Discounts	1902	
Interstate & Foreign Sales	1904	
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	1907	
Consignment Sales	1915	
Other (Explain):	1999	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 17 – Retailing (B&O)	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	0201	
Cash & Trade Discounts	0202	
Interstate & Foreign Sales	0204	
Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax	0205	
Advances Reimbursements; Rtrns & Allowances	0207	
No Local Activity	0208	
Casual Sales; Accommodation Sales	0213	
Tax in Gross	0214	
Consignment Sales	0215	
Artistic/Cultural Activities	0216	
Presc. Drugs Sold by Pub. Oper/Nonprofit Hospitals	0217	
Dairy and Seafood Mfd Products (see below)*	0267	
Other (Explain):	0299	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

\* Local sales for transport out-of-state

Line 18 – Retail Sales Tax	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	0101	
Cash & Trade Discounts	0102	
Interstate & Foreign Sales	0104	
Tax in Gross	0114	
Sales to U.S. Government	0118	
Motor Vehicle Fuel Sales	0119	
Prescription Drugs/Hearing Aids/Lenses/etc	0121	
Exempt Food Sales	0122	
Qualified Nonresident Sales	0123	
Trade-in Allowance	0124	
Newspapers	0125	
Sales to Indians with Delivery on the Reservation	0128	
Sales of Feed to Fish Farmers	0129	
Taxable Amount for Tax Paid at Source	0130	
Returns & Allowances	0131	
Sales to Nonprofit Organizations of Artistic/Cultural Art Objects for Displays	0132	
Ride-Sharing Vans	0134	
Purebred Livestock for Breeding	0135	
Tax Deferral/Investment Certificate No. _____	0136	
Sale of Manufacturing Mach/Equip; Install Labor	0156	
Retail Sales Tax Exempt Purchases by Farmers	0159	
Direct Pay Permits	0170	
Retail Sales Tax Reported on SER	0179	
Other (Explain):	0199	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 50 - Refuse Collection	I.D.	Amount
Bad Debts	6401	
Sales to U.S. Government	6418	
Sales to Other Refuse/Solid Waste Collectors	6445	
Other (Explain):	6499	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 51 - Petroleum Tax	I.D.	Amount
Petroleum Products Exported Out of State	5746	
Other (Explain):	5799	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Line 52 - Hazardous Substance	I.D.	Amount
Other (Explain):	6599	
<b>TOTAL</b>		





Washington State  
Department of Revenue  
Taxpayer Account Admin.  
PO Box 47476  
Olympia WA 98504-7476

State of Washington  
Multiple Activities Tax Credit  
Schedule C

NAME _____	Account ID _____
FIRM NAME _____	
ATTACHED TO: _____ EXCISE TAX RETURN	
Period	Year

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PART I**

Use Part I **ONLY** if you have paid taxes to other states with respect to activities also taxable in Washington.

1. Find the Activity (A through E) which applies to your business (more than one activity may apply).
2. Enter in Column 1 the taxable amount pertaining to that activity as reported on the Combined Excise Tax Return.
3. Enter in Column 2 the amount of Washington B & O Tax due on the amount in Column 1.
4. Enter in Column 3 the amount of gross receipts tax paid to other states under the appropriate heading.
5. Enter in Column 4 the lesser of the amounts entered in Columns 2 and 3.
6. Add all amounts in Column 4 and enter in the Subtotal Box.

**PART I - EXTERNAL CREDITS "Taxes Paid To Other States"**

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3			Line Code	Column 4
ACTIVITY WHICH RESULTS IN A TAX CREDIT	Taxable Amount	B & O Taxes Paid	Gross Receipts Taxes Paid				Total Credit
			Other U.S. States	Non-Washington Local Govts.	Foreign Countries and Territories		
A. Sales in Washington of products extracted outside of Washington						67	
B. Sales in Washington of products manufactured outside of Washington						67	
C. Washington manufactured products extracted outside of Washington						67	
D. Washington extracted products sold outside of Washington						68	
E. Washington manufactured products sold outside of Washington						68	
<b>Multiple Activities Tax Credit Subtotal of taxes paid to other states</b>							

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PART II**

Use Part II **ONLY** if you have reported taxable amounts under two or more Washington B & O tax classifications. **Make no entries in the shaded boxes.**

1. Find the Activity (F, G or H) which applies to your business (more than one activity may apply).
2. Enter in Column 1 the taxable amount pertaining to this activity.
3. Enter in Column 2 the B & O Tax applicable to this activity under the appropriate heading(s). (Use the appropriate tax rates for your activities as shown on the Combined Excise Tax Return, Column 5).
4. For Activity F enter in Column 3 the tax amount listed under Extracting.
5. For Activity G combine the amounts entered under wholesaling and retailing and enter the result in Column 3.
6. For Activity H combine the amounts entered under wholesaling and retailing. Enter in Column 3 the lesser of the manufacturing or the combined wholesaling and retailing amount.
7. Add all amounts in Column 3 and enter in Subtotal Box.

**PART II - INTERNAL CREDITS "Taxes Paid To Washington State"**

	Column 1	Column 2				Line Code	Column 3
ACTIVITY WHICH RESULTS IN A TAX CREDIT	Taxable Amount	Business And Occupation Tax Reported					Total Credit
		Extracting	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing		
F. Washington extracted products manufactured in Washington						16	
G. Washington extracted products sold in Washington						16	
H. Washington manufactured products sold in Washington						07	
<b>Multiple Activities Tax Credit Subtotal of taxes paid to Washington State.</b>							

**Enter the total credits from Part I and Part II in this box and transfer the amount to the Multiple Activities Tax Credit line on the Combined Excise Tax Return**

<b>Credit ID 800</b>	
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For tax assistance visit dor.wa.gov or call 1-800-647-7706. To inquire about the availability of this form in an alternate format for the visually



# RESELLER PERMIT

Washington State Department of Revenue  
PO Box 47476 • Olympia, WA 98504-7476 • 1-800-647-7706

**Business Activities:**

**This permit can be used to purchase:**

- Merchandise and inventory for resale without interference
- Ingredients, components, or chemicals used in processing new articles of tangible personal property produced for sale
- Feed, seed, seedlings, fertilizer, and spray materials for a farmer
- Materials and contract labor for retail/wholesale competition
- Items for dual purposes (see Definitions for Dual Purposes on back)

**This permit cannot be used to purchase:**

- Items for personal or household use
- Promotional items or gifts
- Items used in your business that are not resold, such as office supplies, equipment, tools, and equipment rentals
- Materials and contract labor for public road construction or U.S. government contracting (see Definitions on back)
- Materials and contract labor for speculative building

**This permit is no longer valid if the business is closed.**

**The business named on this permit acknowledges:**

- It is solely responsible for all purchases made under this permit
- Misuse of the permit:
  - Subjects the business to a penalty of 50 percent of the tax due, in addition to the tax, interest, and penalties imposed (RCW 82.32.291)
  - May result in this permit being revoked

**Notes (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Important:** The Department of Revenue may use information from sellers to verify all purchases made with this permit were qualified.

Reseller: Keep this original permit on file. Provide copies to sellers from which you make purchases.



Washington State  
 Department of Revenue  
 PO Box 47467  
 Olympia WA 98504-7467

EXC/OLP ONLY

**CONFIDENTIAL TAX  
 INFORMATION AUTHORIZATION**

Attention: Legislative Communications, Legislation & Policy (360) 534-1546 Fax: (360) 705-6733

**I authorize the Department of Revenue to share my confidential tax information as indicated.**

Use this form to authorize the Department of Revenue to share your confidential tax information with Washington state legislators and staff. Tax information is confidential and cannot be shared with anyone without express permission. By completing this form, you are authorizing the Department to share your confidential tax information with the person(s) you name. This request may cover all confidential tax information or it may be limited to certain information and/or periods of time. In section 2, please describe the specific information you want the Department to share and the periods covered by this authorization.

**1. My information** (This information will not be used to update your business record.\*)

Taxpayer or business name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account ID/UBI number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

\*To update your business record, go to <http://dor.wa.gov> and log in to My DOR.

**2. Share my confidential tax information with the legislator(s) listed below and legislative staff.**

Legislator name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Place an X in the appropriate box below:

- Any information for any time period.
- Any information for this time period: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
month/quarter and year month/quarter and year
- Only listed information for this time period: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
month/quarter and year month/quarter and year

Information to be shared

**3. Send my confidential tax information by regular email or fax.**

I am aware that regular email and fax are not guaranteed to be secure, and confidential information may be intercepted by unauthorized persons. I accept these conditions and waive any violation of the Secrecy Clause resulting from use of unsecured email or fax. (RCW 82.32.330)

**4. My Signature**

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am authorized to sign this form. I am listed as the real property owner or as the business owner, partner, corporate officer, or LLC member or manager in official records held by Washington State, or I have attached documentation (e.g., power of attorney, annual report, executor) that grants me the authority to sign.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Taxpayer Signature Title Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name City and state where signed

**This authorization remains in effect until revoked in writing by either party.** Keep a copy for your files. To revoke this authorization, write "Revoke" across the front of this form and return it to the Department as indicated in step 5.

**5. Fax to (360) 705-6733, or email to communications @ dor.wa.gov**

To receive this document in an alternate format, please call 1-800-647-7706. Teletype (TTY) users may use the Washington Relay Service by calling 711.

REV 27 0053LPe (02/23/18)



**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
TAX INQUIRY STATEMENT**

You may use this form as a guide to request a written response to your tax inquiry. You may leave this form with a Department of Revenue employee or mail your question to the address below.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

1. My name is: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Account ID/UBI No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2. My question is (give detailed information about your request. If more space is needed, please attach additional sheets to this form).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Taxpayer Services  
PO Box 47478  
Olympia, WA 98504-7478  
**Fax: (360) 705-6655**

You can expect a reply within 10 working days **if the taxpayer in question is identified.**

For tax assistance or to request this document in an alternate format, visit <http://dor.wa.gov> or call 1-800-647-7706. Teletype (TTY) users may use the Washington Relay Service by calling 711.



## BUYERS' RETAIL SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

**Not to be used to make purchases for resale**

*Type of Certificate*

- Single Use Certificate
- Blanket Certificate

A Single use certificate must be used each time an exempt item is purchased.

Blanket certificates are valid for as long as the buyer and seller have a recurring business relationship. A "recurring business relationship" means at least one sales transaction within a period of twelve months. RCW 82.08.050 (7)(c).

<i>Vendor/Seller</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Street Address</i>	<i>City</i>
	<i>State</i>
	<i>Zip Code</i>

**I, the undersigned buyer, certify I am making an exempt purchase for the following reason: (Enter information and/or check applicable box(es))**

**1. Nonresident:**

Place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of proof of residence accepted (drivers license, fishing license, etc) \_\_\_\_\_, including any identification numbers \_\_\_\_\_, and expiration date \_\_\_\_\_.

- a.  Tangible personal property other than motor vehicles for use outside Washington by a resident of a state, possession, or province of Canada, with a sales tax rate of less than three percent.
- b.  Watercraft (Include make, model and serial number of vessel):

Registered or documented with the US Coast Guard or state of principal use and will leave Washington waters within 45 days; **or**

Buyer is a resident of a foreign country. Purchase is for use outside Washington and will leave Washington waters within 45 days.

**Seller's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Electric Vehicles:**

- a.  Batteries for electric vehicles or the purchase of labor and services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, altering, or improving electric vehicle batteries.
- b.  Tangible personal property that will become a component of electric vehicle infrastructure or the purchase of or charge made for labor and services rendered in respect to installing, constructing, repairing, or improving electric vehicle infrastructure.

**3. Intrastate Air Transport:**

- Airplanes for use in providing intrastate air transportation by a commuter air carrier and the sale of repair and related services for these airplanes.

**4. Interstate or Foreign Commerce or Commercial Deep Sea Fishing Business:**

- a.  Motor vehicles, trailers and component parts thereof used to transport persons or property *for hire* in interstate or foreign commerce.
- b.  Airplanes, locomotives, railroad cars or watercraft and component parts thereof used in transporting persons or property *for hire*.
- c.  Labor and services rendered to construct, repair, clean, alter or improve *for hire* carrier property.
- d.  Items for use connected with private or common carriers engaged in air, rail or water in interstate or foreign commerce. (*Note: Items consumed in the state are subject to use tax.*)
- e.  Fuel to be consumed outside of Washington by a vessel primarily engaged in foreign commerce.

Vessel Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of Fuel: \_\_\_\_\_ Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_

- f.  Watercraft, component parts, labor and services, and/or diesel fuel used in a qualifying commercial deep sea fishing operation.

Registered Vessel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Vessel Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- g.  Purchases of liquefied natural gas (LNG) by private or common waterborne carriers in interstate or foreign commerce. The exemption applies to ninety percent of LNG transported and consumed outside this State by the buyer. (Effective July 1, 2015)

5. Sales to Indians:

- a.  Tangible personal property (other than motor vehicles) or services purchased by Indians or Indian tribes when the goods are delivered to or services provided within the Indian country where the buyer is enrolled. For motor vehicle sales, sellers must use the Declaration for Motor Vehicle Sales to Enrolled Tribal Members with Delivery in Indian Country form.
- b.  Supplies or services purchased by prime contractors hired by Indian tribes to perform construction in Indian country when the goods are delivered to or services provided in Indian country.

6. Other:

**Prescription items: You must use the Sales Tax Exemption Certificate for Health Care Providers to claim exemptions for items prescribed for human use and other medical purchases.**

- a.  Machinery and equipment (*including labor and services to install*) used directly in generating electricity using solar energy in a system capable of generating not more than 10kW of electricity.
- b.  Machinery and equipment (and the labor charges to install the same) used directly in producing thermal heat from collectors or solar hot water systems that produce 3 million BTU per day or less.
- c.  Waste vegetable oil used to produce biodiesel fuel for personal use.
- d.  Equipment rental and purchase of services for use in motion picture and video production.
- e.  Objects of art or cultural value purchased by an artistic or cultural organization.
- f.  Adaptive automobile equipment purchased by disabled veterans.
- g.  Animal pharmaceuticals purchased by veterinarians. This exemption does not apply to pharmaceuticals for pets. (*Describe*): \_\_\_\_\_
- h.  Computer hardware, peripherals, software and related installation, used by the aerospace industry.
- i.  Labor, services, and tangible personal property related to the constructing of new buildings, or new parts of buildings, by a manufacturer of commercial airplanes, fuselages, or wings of a commercial airplane, or by a port district, political subdivision, or municipal corporation to be leased to such a manufacturer.
- j.  Computer hardware, peripherals, software and related installation, purchased by publishers and printers.
- k.  City, County, Tribal, or Inter-Tribal Housing Authorities.
- l.  Tangible personal property for use in a noncontiguous state delivered to the usual receiving terminal of the shipper.  
 Type of Goods Purchased: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Point of Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_ Carrier/Agent: \_\_\_\_\_
- m.  Gases and chemicals used by a manufacturer or processor for hire in the production of semiconductor materials.
- n.  Hog fuel used to produce electricity, steam, heat, or biofuel.
- o.  Tangible personal property under the weatherization assistance program.
- p.  Trail Grooming Services.
- q.  Honey bees/honey bee feed purchased by an eligible apiarist. Apiarist ID #: \_\_\_\_\_
- r.  Federal credit union purchases.
- s.  Wax, ceramic materials, and labor used to create molds consumed during the process of creating investment castings.
- t.  Sales of ferry vessels to the state or local governmental units, components thereof, and labor and service charges.
- u.  Joint Municipal Utilities Services Authority.
- v.  Paratransit vehicles purchased by paratransit service providers.
- w.  Large/private airplanes purchased by nonresidents.
- x.  Standard financial information purchased by qualifying international investment management companies.
- y.  Material and supplies directly used in the packing of fresh perishable horticultural products by persons who receive, wash, sort, and pack fresh perishable horticultural products for farmers.
- z.  Vessel Deconstruction Services.
- aa. **Only** For Delivered Bottled Water  1. No Source of Potable Water  2. Prescribed Water  
 3. Purchased with food stamps (SNAP)

I, the undersigned buyer, understand that by completing and signing this certificate I am certifying that I qualify for the tax-exempt purchase(s) indicated above. I understand that I will be required to pay sales or use tax on purchases that do not qualify for an exemption. In addition, I understand that false or erroneous use of this certificate will result in liability for unpaid tax with interest and may result in additional penalties.

Type of entity:  Individual  Corporation  Sole Proprietor  Partnership  Other (Explain)

Type of Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Account ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Buyer: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Buyer: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Seller must maintain a copy. Do not send to Department of Revenue.**

*Each exemption on this form has specific rules (see instructions)*

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Buyers must ensure entitlement to the exemption before using this Certificate.** For information regarding exemptions, contact Washington State Department of Revenue Taxpayer Information Center at (360) 705-6705 or 1-800-647-7706 or visit the Department's web site at: [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov).

**Line 1a** applies to the purchase of tangible personal property other than motor vehicles for use outside Washington by a resident of a state, possession, or province of Canada with a sales tax rate of less than three percent (e.g. Oregon, Alaska). Reference: RCW 82.08.0273, WAC 458-20-193 (6) (b) and ETA 3054.2011.

**NOTE:** Sales of motor vehicles are not covered by this certificate; please refer to RCW 82.08.0264 and WAC 458-20-177 for certificate and exemption information.

**Line 1b** applies to watercraft purchased by a nonresident for use outside Washington when delivery takes place in Washington. The buyer must provide proof of residency (picture ID) and check the applicable box. By checking the box, the buyer certifies that the vessel will leave Washington State waters within forty-five days. Sellers must examine and document the proof of residency provided by the buyer. **Seller must sign the form.** By signing the form, the seller certifies that the seller has examined and listed the buyer's proof of residency. See WAC 458-20-238 for acceptable proof of residency for corporations, partnerships and limited liability companies. Reference: RCW 82.08.0266, RCW 82.08.02665 and WAC 458-20-238.

**Line 2a** applies to the purchase of electric vehicle batteries or to labor and services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, altering, or improving electric vehicle batteries. Reference: RCW 82.08.816

**Line 2b** applies to the purchase of tangible personal property that will become a component of an electric vehicle infrastructure or to labor and services rendered in respect to installing, constructing, repairing, or improving electric vehicle infrastructure. Reference: RCW 82.08.816

**Line 3** applies to the purchase of airplanes for use in providing intrastate air transportation by a commuter air carrier and the sale of repair and related services for these airplanes. Commuter air carriers are air carriers holding authority under Title 14, part 298 of the code of federal regulations that carries passengers on at least five round trips per week on at least one route between two or more points. Reference: RCW 82.08.0262 and 82.12.0254.

**Line 4a** applies to the purchase of motor vehicles, or trailers by a business operating or contracting to operate for the holder of a carrier permit issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The exemption also applies to component parts and repairs of such carrier property including labor and services rendered in the course of constructing, repairing, cleaning, altering or improving the same. The buyer must attach a list stating make, model, year, serial number, motor number and ICC permit number. Reference: RCW 82.08.0263 and WAC 458-20-174.

**Line 4b** applies to the purchase of airplanes, locomotives, railroad cars, or watercraft for use in conducting interstate or foreign commerce by transporting therein or therewith persons or property **for hire**. The exemption also applies to component parts of such carrier property. Reference:

**Line 4c** applies to charges for labor and services rendered in the course of constructing, repairing, cleaning, altering or improving carrier property when carrier property is used *for hire*. Reference: RCW 82.08.0262 and WAC 458-20-175.

**Line 4d** applies to the purchase of durable goods or consumables, other than those mentioned in line 4b, for use in connection with interstate or foreign commerce by such businesses. The goods must be for exclusive use while engaged in transporting persons or property in interstate or foreign commerce. The exemption **does not** apply to charges for labor or services in regard to the installing, repairing, cleaning or altering of such property. Although exempt from retail sales tax, materials are subject to use tax if consumed in Washington. Unregistered businesses must attach a list stating the description and quantity of items that will be consumed in Washington and pay use tax to the seller. Reference: RCW 82.08.0261 and WAC 458-20-175.

**Line 4e** applies to fuel consumed outside the territorial waters of the United States by vessels used primarily in foreign commerce. Buyers must list the vessel name, type of fuel and quantity. Reference: RCW 82.08.0261 and WAC 458-20-175.

**Line 4f** applies to the purchase of vessels, component parts, or repairs by persons engaged in commercial deep sea fishing operations outside the territorial waters of the state of Washington. The exemption also applies to the purchase of diesel fuel used in commercial deep or commercial passenger fishing operations when annual gross receipts from the operations are at least five thousand dollars. Reference: RCW 82.08.0262, RCW 82.08.0298, and WAC 458-20-176.

**Line 4g** applies to the purchase of LNG by carriers that are registered with the Department of Revenue. Carriers not registered with the Department must pay sales tax on all LNG at the time of purchase, and may later apply for a partial refund directly from the Department.

**Line 5a** applies to the purchase of tangible personal property (other than motor vehicles) or services by an Indian or Indian tribe. The goods or services must be delivered to, or performed within the Indian country in which the buyer is enrolled. The purchaser must present a tribal membership card, a treaty fishing card, a certificate of enrollment, or a letter from a tribal official. Sellers must document the buyer's name, dollar amount of purchase, tribal affiliation and reservation where delivery is made. For motor vehicle sales, sellers must use the *Declaration for Motor Vehicle Sales to Enrolled Tribal Members with Delivery in Indian Country* form. Reference: RCW 82.08.0254 and WAC 458-20-192.

**Line 5b** applies to the purchase of consumable supplies, equipment rentals or services by a prime contractor hired by an Indian tribe to perform construction in its Indian country where the goods or services are delivered to, or performed within Indian country. The purchaser must present a construction contract with the tribe or a letter from a tribal official evidencing that they are working directly with the tribe. Sellers must document the buyer's name, dollar amount of purchase, and Indian country where delivery is made. Reference: RCW 82.08.0254 and WAC 458-20-192.

**Line 6a** applies to the purchase of qualifying machinery and equipment (and charges for labor to install) used directly in generating electricity using the sun. The solar energy system must be no larger than 10kW. Effective July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2018. Reference: RCW 82.08.963

**Line 6b** applies to the purchase of qualifying machinery and equipment (and charges for labor to install) used directly in producing thermal heat using solar collectors or solar hot water systems that produce 3 million BTU per day or less. Effective July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2018. Reference: RCW 82.08.963.

**Line 6c** applies to the purchase of waste vegetable oil from restaurants and food processors to produce biodiesel fuel for personal use. The exemption does not apply to persons that are engaged in selling biodiesel fuel at wholesale or retail. Reference: RCW 82.08.0205.

**Line 6d** applies to the rental of production equipment and purchases of production services by motion picture and video production companies. Reference: RCW 82.08.0315 and Motion Picture-Video Production Special Notice.

**Line 6e** applies to the purchase of objects of art or cultural value, and items used in the creation of a work of art (other than tools), or in displaying art objects or presenting artistic or cultural exhibitions or performances by artistic or cultural organizations. Reference: RCW 82.08.031 and WAC 458-20-249.

**Line 6f** applies to the purchases of add-on adaptive automotive equipment purchased by disabled veterans and disabled members of the armed forces currently on active duty. To qualify the equipment must be prescribed by a physician and the purchaser must be reimbursed by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the reimbursement must be paid directly to the seller. Reference: RCW 82.08.875



**Line 6g** applies to the purchase of animal pharmaceuticals by veterinarians or farmers for the purpose of administering to an animal raised for sale by a farmer. Animal pharmaceuticals must be approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration or the United States Department of Agriculture. This exemption does not extend to or include pet animals. Reference: RCW 82.08.880.

**Line 6h** applies to the purchase of computer hardware, peripherals, and software, and related installation, not otherwise eligible for the M&E exemption, used primarily in development, design, and engineering of aerospace products or in providing aerospace services. Reference: RCW 82.08.975.

**Line 6i** applies to charges for labor and services rendered in respect to the constructing of new buildings, or new parts of buildings, used primarily to manufacture commercial airplanes, fuselages of commercial airplanes, or wings of commercial airplanes. The exemption is available to manufacturers engaged in manufacturing commercial airplanes, fuselages of commercial airplanes, or wings of commercial airplanes. It is also available to port districts, political subdivisions, or municipal corporations who lease an eligible facility to a manufacturer engaged in eligible manufacturing activities. The exemption also applies to sales of tangible personal property that will become a component of such buildings during the course of the constructing, and to labor and services rendered in respect to installing, during the course of constructing, building fixtures not otherwise eligible for the exemption under RCW 82.08.02565(2)(b). Reference: RCW 82.08.980 and RCW 82.32.850.

**Line 6j** applies to the purchase of computer hardware, peripherals, digital cameras, software, and related installation not otherwise eligible for the M&E exemption that is used primarily in the printing or publishing of printed materials. The exemption includes repairs and replacement parts. Reference: RCW 82.08.806.

**Line 6k** applies to all retail purchases of goods and services by City, County, Tribal, or Inter-Tribal Housing Authorities. Reference: RCW 35.82.210.

**Line 6l** applies to the purchase of goods for use in a state, territory or possession of the United States which is not contiguous to any other state such as Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa. For the exemption to apply, the seller must deliver the goods to the usual receiving terminal of the for-hire carrier selected to transport the goods. Reference: RCW 82.08.0269.

**Line 6m** applies to the purchase of gases and chemicals by a manufacturer or processor for hire in the production of semiconductor materials. Limited to gases and chemicals used to grow the product, deposit or grow permanent or sacrificial layers on the product, to etch or remove material from the product, to anneal the product, to immerse the product, to clean the product, and other uses where the gases and chemicals come into direct contact with the product during the production process, or gases and chemicals used to clean the chambers and other like equipment in which processing takes place. Reference: RCW 82.08.9651.

**Line 6n** applies to the purchase of hog fuel to produce electricity, steam, heat, or biofuel. Hog fuel is defined as wood waste and other wood residuals including forest derived biomass. Hog fuel does not include firewood or wood pellets. Reference: RCW 82.08.956.

**Line 6o** applies to the purchase of tangible personal property used in the weatherization of residences under the weatherization assistance program. The tangible personal property must become a component part of the residence. Reference: RCW 82.08.998.

**Line 6p** applies to the purchase of trail grooming services by the state of Washington and nonprofit corporations organized under chapter 24.03 RCW. Trail grooming activities include snow compacting, snow redistribution, or snow removal on state or privately-owned trails. Reference: RCW 82.08.0203.

**Line 6q** applies to all honey bees and honey bee feed (e.g. sugar) purchased by an eligible apiarist. An eligible apiarist is a person who: owns or keeps one or more bee colonies; grows, raises, or produces honey bee products for sale at wholesale; and registers their hives/colonies with the WA State Department of Agriculture as required by RCW 15.60.021. References: RCW 82.08.0204 and RCW 82.08.200

**Line 6r** applies to the purchase of goods and retail services by federally chartered credit unions. Federal credit unions are exempt from state and local consumer taxes under federal law, such as sales tax, lodging taxes and rental car tax. To be exempt, the federal credit union must pay for goods and services directly, such as by a check written on the federal credit union or a credit card issued to the federal credit union. Sellers should keep a copy of the check or credit card used for payment to substantiate the exempt nature of the sale. Reference: WAC 458-20-190

**Line 6s** applies to the purchase of wax and ceramic materials used to create molds consumed during the process of creating ferrous and nonferrous investment castings used in industrial applications. Also applies to labor or services used to create wax patterns and ceramic shells used as molds in this process. Reference: RCW 82.08.983

**Line 6t** applies to sales of ferry vessels to the state of Washington or to a local governmental unit in the state of Washington for use in transporting pedestrians, vehicles, and goods within or outside the territorial waters of the state. The exemption also applies to sales of tangible personal property which becomes a component part of such ferry vessels and sales of or charges made for labor and services rendered in respect to constructing or improving such ferry vessels. Reference RCW 82.08.0285.

**Line 6u** applies to cities, counties, and other municipalities that create a Joint Municipal Services Authority. Reference: RCW 82.08.999

**Line 6v** applies to purchases of small buses, cutaways, and modified vans not more than 28 feet long by a public social service agency (transit authority) or a private, nonprofit transportation provider. Reference: RCW 82.08.0287.

**Line 6w** applies to purchases of private airplanes by nonresidents weighing over 41,000 pounds. It also provides an exemption for charges for repairing, cleaning, altering or improving such airplanes owned by nonresidents. A nonresident qualifies for these exemptions when they are not required to register the airplane with the Department of Transportation. Reference: RCW 82.08.215

**Line 6x** applies to the purchase and use of standard financial information by a qualifying international investment management company. The bill provides definitions for both "standard financial information" and "qualifying international investment management company" and limits the amount of qualifying purchases to \$15 million dollars in a calendar year. The standard financial information may be provided in a tangible format (e.g. paper documents), on a tangible media (e.g. DVD, USB drive, etc.) or as a digital product transferred electronically. Reference: RCW 82.08.207

**Line 6y** applies to purchases of materials and supplies used in packing horticultural products. The exemption applies only to persons who receive, wash, sort, and pack fresh perishable horticultural products for farmers as defined in RCW 82.04.330 and that are entitled to a deduction under RCW 82.04.4287 either as an agent or an independent contractor. Reference: RCW 82.08.0311

**Line 6z** applies to deconstruction of vessels. "Vessel deconstruction" means permanently dismantling a vessel, including: Abatement and removal of hazardous materials; the removal of mechanical, hydraulic, or electronic components or other vessel machinery and equipment; and either the cutting apart or disposal, or both, of vessel infrastructure. For the purposes of this subsection, "hazardous materials" includes fuel, lead, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, and oils. "Vessel deconstruction" does not include vessel modification or repair. In order to qualify for this exemption the vessel deconstruction must be performed at either a qualified vessel deconstruction facility; or an area over water that has been permitted under section 402 of the clean water act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1342) for vessel deconstruction. Reference RCW 82.08.9996

**Line 6aa** this sales tax exemption only applies to bottled water delivered to the buyer in a re-usable container not sold with the water under one of the following three conditions: 1. **No Source of Potable Water** – Retail sales and use taxes do not apply to sales of bottled water for human use to persons who do not have a readily available source of potable water. Potable water is water that is safe for human consumption. 2. **Water dispensed to patients pursuant to a prescription** – Retail sales and use taxes do not apply to sales of bottled water for human use dispensed or to be dispensed to patients, pursuant to a prescription for use in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease or medical condition.

“Prescription” means an order, formula, or recipe issued in any form of oral, written, electronic, or other means of transmission by a duly licensed practitioner authorized by the laws of this state to prescribe.

3. Purchased under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program.

For tax assistance or to request this document in an alternate format, please call 1-800-647-7706. Teletype (TTY) users may use the Washington Relay Service by calling 711.

## Appendix G | Common business activities table

This table shows the common classifications reported on the excise tax return. It provides general guidelines, not specific reporting instructions.

For instance, if you conduct multiple activities, it may be necessary to report under several B&O tax classifications. Specific activities, such as cigarette sales, may also be subject to other taxes. If you have questions, contact us or visit your local Revenue office.

Business activity	Tax classification	Rules/laws
Accounting, bookkeeping, tax preparation	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Actuarial	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Advertising agencies	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-218
Athletic & fitness facilities	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-183, RCW 82.04.050
Appraiser	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Architects	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-170, 224 RCW 82.04.050
Athletic clubs	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-183, RCW 82.04.050
Attorneys	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-207
Beauty salon/barber	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-138, 224, Beauticians Tax Guide
Business consulting	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Car wash	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-173
Catering	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O	WAC 458-20-119, 124
Child care	Child Care B&O (School Age Children)	WAC 458-20-167, Child Care Operators Fact Sheet
Collection contracts (without escrow)	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-156
Commission salespersons/agents	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-159

**Appendix G** | Common business activities table

Business activity	Tax classification	Rules/laws
Computer services	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O	WAC 458-20-15501, 15502, 15503
Consumer goods	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O, Litter Tax	RCW 82.04.050
Construction	Wholesaling B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Public Road Construction B&O, Government Contracting B&O	WAC 458-20-170; 17001; 171; 172; 173; Construction Tax Guide
Court reporters	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Credit bureau services	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	RCW 82.04.050
Data processing	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-15503; RCW 82.04.192, 257
Dentists/orthodontists	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-151
Design services	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-224; 170 RCW 82.04.050
Engineers	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-170; 224
Escrow Services	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-156
Farming for Hire	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-209, RCW 82.04.625
Games of Chance	Service & Other Activities B&O and/or Gambling Contests of Chance B&O (less than \$50,000 a year), Gambling Contests of Chance B&O (\$50,000 a year or greater)	WAC 458-20-131
Graphic Design	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-15503, RCW 82.04.050, 192
Grocery & Convenience Stores	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Litter Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-244, 243, Convenience Store Tax Guide
Hotels, Motels	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Convention & Trade, Special Hotel/Motel, Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-118, 124, 166, Lodging Tax Guide
Insurance Agent, Broker, Solicitor	Insurance Agent Commissions	WAC 458-20-164, 163
Insurance Adjuster	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-164, 224
Internet Service Providers	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224, RCW 82.04.297, 290

**Appendix G** | Common business activities table

Business activity	Tax classification	Rules/laws
Janitorial	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-172
Landscape gardeners	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-226, RCW 82.04.050
Laundry services	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-165, 173
Legal, arbitration & mediation	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-207, 224
Mailing bureaus	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O	WAC 458-20-141
Marijuana producers, processors & retailers	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O, Manufacturing B&O	RCW 82.04.050
Optometrists	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Regional Transit Authority	WAC 458-20-150
Painting	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O, Government Contracting B&O, Public Road Construction	WAC 458-20-173, 170, 171, 17001
Photographers	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O, Service & Other Activities B&O, Royalties	WAC 458-20-140, 142, 224, Photography Tax Guide
Physicians	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-138, 151, 18801
Pressure washing	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O	WAC 458-20-173, RCW 82.04.050
Private investigators	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Protective services	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Recreational services	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O	RCW 82.04.050
Rental of equipment with operator	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O	WAC 458-20-211, RCW 82.04.050, Construction Tax Guide
Repair tangible personal property	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Wholesaling B&O	WAC 458-20-173
Restaurants	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Litter Tax	WAC 458-20-119, 124, Restaurant Tax Guide
Royalties	Royalties B&O	RCW 82.04.2907
Sales of goods to U.S. government	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-190

**Appendix G | Common business activities table**

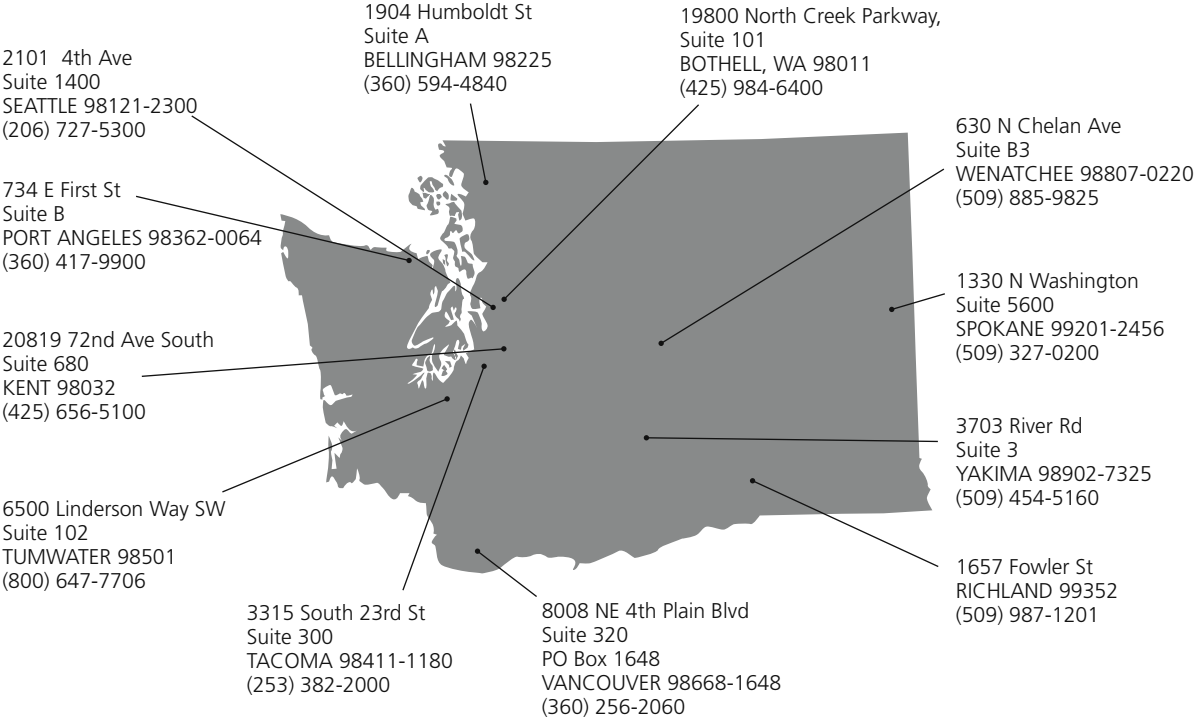
Business activity	Tax classification	Rules/laws
Sales to state/local government/schools	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-189
Secretarial/clerical/stenographers	Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-224
Software	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O, Royalties	WAC 458-20-15501, 15502, 15503 RCW 82.04.215, 2907
Taverns	Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax, Litter Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O, Gambling Contests of Chance B&O (less than \$50,000 a year), Gambling Contests of Chance B&O (\$50,000 a year or greater)	WAC 458-20-119, 124, 131, 243 Tavern Tax Guide
Taxi	Urban Transportation Public Utility Tax, Motor Transportation Public Utility Tax	WAC 458-20-180, 179, Taxicabs Tax Guide
Tour operators	Tour Operator B&O, Travel Agent B&O, Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-183, 258
Travel agents	Travel Agent Commission B&O	WAC 458-20-258
Trucking	Urban Transportation Public Utility Tax, Motor Transportation Public Utility Tax, Service & Other Activities B&O	WAC 458-20-179, 180, 193D, Trucking Tax Guide
Vending machines	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-244, 187
Veterinarians	Service & Other Activities B&O, Retailing B&O, Retail Sales Tax	WAC 458-20-222, Veterinarians Tax Guide

# Contact us


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## Local offices



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