

<b>Motor Vehicle Procedure Manual</b>
<b>Title and Lien</b>
<b>Sales and Use Tax-Transfer of Motor Vehicles, Mobile Homes, and Vessels</b>

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**Legal Authority**

- [Chapter 212, Florida Statutes, Tax on Sales, Use and Other Transactions](#)
- [Chapter 320, Florida Statutes, Motor Vehicle Licenses](#)
- [Chapter 605, Florida Statutes, Florida Revised Limited Liability Company Act](#)
- [Chapter 607, Florida Statutes, Florida Business Corporation Act](#)
- [Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, Corporations Not for Profit](#)
- [Section 193.075, Florida Statutes, Mobile Homes and Recreational Vehicles](#)
- [Part 1 of Chapter 634, Florida Statutes, Motor Vehicle Service Agreement Companies](#)
- [Rule 12A-1, Florida Administrative Code, Sales and Use Tax](#)
- [Florida Department of Revenue Tax Information Publication, Sales, and Use Tax](#)

**FORMS:**

Form [HSMV 82040](#) Application for Certificate of Title With/Without Registration

Revision Date: 09/21/22

Effective Date: Immediately

Form [HSMV 82091](#) Reassignment Supplement to a Certificate of Title

Form [HSMV 82994](#) Motor Vehicle Dealer Title Reassignment Supplement

Form [DR-123](#) Department of Revenue Affidavit for Partial Exemption of Motor Vehicle Sold to a Resident of Another State.

## Description and Use

This procedure provides information and instructions to guide employees of the tax collector, Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) and license plate agents in determining proper sales tax to be collected when transferring ownership of a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel.

## Documentation and Special Instructions

### A. SALES TAX COLLECTIONS

1. Florida law requires sales tax to be collected on the sales price of a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel. In the case of a straight sale, six (6) percent tax will be collected on the total sales price. Straight sales are those sales that do not involve a trade-in of a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel.
2. Effective July 1, 2022, the sales tax for the purchase of a new mobile home will be three (3) percent. A new mobile home means a mobile home which the equitable or legal title has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor, importer, or dealer to an ultimate purchaser.

For more information on this tax rate reduction, please click the link provided below:

[State Sales Tax Rate Imposed on Retail Sales of New Mobile Homes Reduced to 3%.](#)

3. Effective July 1, 2010, the maximum total sales tax and discretionary sales surtax to be collected on a vessel is \$18,000. See [Sales and Use Tax on Boats.](#)
4. In the case of sales involving trade-ins at a dealership, sales tax must be collected on the amount of the difference between the trade-in allowance of the item being traded and the sale price of the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel being purchased. The trade-in motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel may be provided by a third -party other than the purchaser. The trade-in motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel does not have to be titled in the name of the purchaser to be used for trade-in credit if the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel trade-in and the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel purchase are part of a single transaction. In the case of a casual sale, sales tax must be collected on the amount of the difference between the trade-in allowance of the item being traded and the sale price of the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel being purchased.

Items being traded must be a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel.

In addition to the six (6) percent sales tax, some counties impose a local discretionary sales surtax. See Exhibit F for the Florida Department of Revenue Discretionary Sales Surtax Information for the Calendar Year.

Discretionary sales surtax is calculated on motor vehicles, mobile homes, or vessels when the residence address of the purchaser on the certificate of title or registration is located within a discretionary surtax county. Discretionary sales surtax only applies to the first \$5,000 of the sales price.

5. Sales tax exemption information may be specified on Form [HSMV 82040](#).
  - Power farm equipment does not include vehicles that are required to be licensed as motor vehicles under Chapter 320, Florida Statutes. However, a motor vehicle licensed as a “goat” under [Section 320.08\(3\)\(d\)](#), Florida Statutes, may qualify for the exemption. See Florida Department of Revenue Tax Information publications for information concerning the exemption.

**TIP 05A01-03**

**TIP-15A01-10**

**TIP-15A01-11**

See [RS-44](#), Agricultural (Restricted), Horticultural (Restricted) or Goat License Plates for more information on processing the license plate.

6. If a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel transaction is handled by a dealer, the dealer must collect sales tax and any discretionary sales surtax, if applicable, and advise the department of the amount of sales tax collected. This may be done in the following manner:
  - The amount of tax collected may be shown on the Florida Certificate of Title being transferred.
  - The amount of tax collected may be shown on forms [HSMV 82091](#), Reassignment Supplement to a Certificate of Title or [HSMV 82994](#), Motor Vehicle Dealer Title Reassignment Supplement, when applicable.
  - On new motor vehicles, mobile homes, or vessels or those with out-of-state proof of ownership sold by a dealer, the amount of tax collected may be shown on form [HSMV 82040](#).

When a dealer collects sales tax, they must enter their firm name, dealer license number (if applicable), sales tax registration number and signature when completing one of the above forms. If sales tax is not applicable, the dealer's information (dealer's name, address, and dealer's license number, if applicable) must still be shown on the reassignment document, as this information is required to be entered in FRVIS.

- [Section 212.08\(10\)\(a\) Florida Statute](#), provides that when a sale by a Florida motor vehicle dealer to a resident of another state within the United States is taxable in an

amount equal to the sales tax which would be imposed on such sale in the purchaser's state of residence. For more information, see the Department of Revenue, Tax Information Publication, 18A01-01. However, the amount of sales tax collected from the out-of-state resident must NOT exceed Florida's state sales tax rate of six (6) percent. No Florida discretionary sales surtax is imposed on these types of sales. When the "Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Rates by State and Tax Credit Application" indicates the state charges a "usage" or "excise" tax, sales tax is not applicable (See section F Miscellaneous Information on pages 10-11).

**Example:** Another state charges 0% sales tax on new and used motor vehicles but charges a 6% motor vehicle "usage tax."

**Action:** Florida would not charge the out-of-state resident sales tax for the motor vehicle. At the time of the sale the purchaser shall execute a notarized statement of his intent to license the vehicle in his state of residence within 45 days from the date of purchase and

1. Pay Florida sales tax to the dealer making the sale or to the appropriate tax collector office or license plate agent in the case of a private sale, in an amount equivalent to the sales tax in the purchaser's state of residence, and
2. Furnish the dealer making the sale or the tax collector office or license plate agent with a signed copy of the notarized statement, which the dealer shall retain in his/her records, and
3. Submit the original notarized statement to the appropriate sales tax collection agency in his state of residence.

The Department of Revenue prescribes form [DR-123](#), Affidavit for Partial Exemption of a Motor Vehicle sold for Licensing in Another State, to be completed by the purchaser and furnished to the selling dealer or appropriate sales tax collection agency.

7. The Hope Scholarship Program (Program) provides a public-school student who was subjected to an incident of violence or bullying at school the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to attend an eligible private school. [Offer the form](#) to each customer before sales tax is paid.

**B. SALES OR USE TAX IS APPLICABLE TO THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATE OF TITLE TRANSACTIONS UNLESS AN EXEMPTION APPLIES (See C, pages 6-8)**

1. Transfers from an individual to an individual.

2. Transfers from a partnership to an individual.
3. Transfers from a partnership to a corporation.
4. Transfers from an individual to a corporation.
5. Transfers from a corporation to a corporation (unless transferred due to corporate consolidation or merger).
6. Transfers from a corporation to an individual, even if the individual is the sole shareholder of the corporation.
7. When assuming a lien (transfer of equity). The amount paid and any unpaid balance due the seller or lienholder and assumed by the transferee are taxable.
8. Transfers from a sole proprietorship which incorporates to the new corporation resulting from the incorporation. Any amount paid, and any unpaid amounts assumed are taxable unless the presumption of taxability is overcome. In the absence of a stated consideration, the fair market value will be regarded as the basis for the computation of sales tax.
9. When title to a boat, mobile home, motor vehicle or other vehicle of a class or type required to be registered, licensed, titled or documented in this state or by the United States Government is transferred from a partnership to one of the individual partners or from one of the individual partners to a partnership or from one partnership to another partnership, it is taxable based upon the actual consideration or if the consideration is not stated, on the fair market value of the vehicle.
10. When title to a boat, mobile home, motor vehicle or other vehicle of a class or type required to be registered, licensed, titled - or documented in this state or by the United States Government is transferred from an individual, who may or may not be a stockholder, to a corporation - or from a corporation to an individual who may or may not be a stockholder, or from one corporation to another - or from a partnership to a corporation - or from a corporation to a partnership, it is presumed that a consideration flows from the transferee to the transferor, and if no consideration is stated, then it shall be presumed to be the fair market value of the vehicle. This is true even when the two corporations are owned by the same stockholders.
11. Transfer to or from a trust for a consideration is taxable based on the cash or equivalent paid in exchange for the transfer plus the amount of any outstanding lien assumed. (It is exempt only if transferred for no consideration.)
12. Motor vehicles, mobile homes or vessels won through a contest are subject to sales tax on the retail value of the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel, unless the sales tax has been paid on the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel by the donor of the prize.

13. When the motor vehicle use is classified as a taxicab, or the vessel use is classified as a water taxicab.
14. All permanent residents of Florida must pay sales and use tax when titling or registering motor vehicles, mobile homes, or vessels in Florida. (See D, Taxing Vehicles Previously Titled out of State on page 8 for motor vehicles, mobile homes or vessels registered in another state prior to being registered in Florida.)

An exemption from payment of sales and use tax may apply when a member of the United States Armed Forces, who is a permanent Florida resident, stationed outside Florida, purchases a motor vehicle or vessel outside of Florida and titles and registers the motor vehicle or vessel in Florida. The Armed Forces member must provide documentation showing the sales tax was paid in another state or an affidavit (example shown as Exhibit C) attesting to all the exemption requirements.

15. In the case of a casual sale when a temporary license plate is issued so that the motor vehicle can be driven to the port to send overseas or driven to another state for title issuance, sales and use tax will apply. However, motor vehicles purchased by residents of other states are subject to the partial exemption if the motor vehicle is to be licensed in its home state within 45 days and the purchaser completes the partial exemption affidavit (form [DR-123](#)).

When the sale of a motor vehicle is conducted, and the buyer/dealer arranges for the motor vehicle to be transported by a common carrier, licensed exporter, or freight forwarder for shipment to another state or to the port for shipping overseas, the vehicle is exempted from sales and use tax.

For more information on Sales and Use Tax on Motor Vehicles, please click the link provided below:

[http://floridarevenue.com/Forms\\_library/current/gt800030.pdf](http://floridarevenue.com/Forms_library/current/gt800030.pdf)

16. The removal of one party's name from a title in which the parties are joined by "OR" is not a taxable transfer between the parties. In the case of parties joined by "OR," each party is considered to own 100% of the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel; therefore, the removal of one party does not result in any additional ownership being bestowed on the remaining party.

It is immaterial whether the party being removed from the title considers the party remaining on the title. The removal, addition, or transfer of one party's name from a title in which the parties are joined by "AND", is generally taxable unless one of the exemptions applies.

#### C. THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS ARE EXEMPT FROM SALES TAX

1. Even trade of another motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel.
2. Trade down.

3. Divorce, a copy of the Divorce Decree must be submitted with the application for certificate of title.
4. Inheritance.
5. Gift (No lien assumed) this is a general rule when, at the time of transfer, no lien is assumed. A gift of a motor vehicle between corporations or individuals is a nontaxable title transfer when the title of the vehicle is transferred without any payment and no outstanding lien is assumed by the new owner. To claim the exemption at the time of transfer, the applicant must declare the exemption on an application for certificate of title, license, or registration filed with the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, tax collector, or license plate agent. The new owner is required to declare that the transfer of ownership is exempt from tax as a gift under the "Sales Tax Exemption Certification" section of the application [HSMV 82040](#) or the "Sales Tax and Use Report" section on HSMV 82041.
6. Transfer of certificate of title by a dissolved corporation or limited liability company to one of its stockholders or managing members as part of the stockholder's or member's ratable portion of the corporation's assets. It does not constitute a sale of a motor vehicle or vessel by the dissolved corporation to the stockholder.
7. When a Florida licensed motor vehicle dealer or a vessel dealer applies for a Florida Certificate of Title in the dealership's name with or without a lien and the motor vehicle or vessel is being held in inventory for sale in the regular course of business or is being operated relating to such dealer's business with a dealer's license plate pursuant to [Section 320.13, Florida Statutes](#), if applicable.
8. Transfer of a certificate of title into the name of the surviving corporation because of corporate consolidation or merger in accordance with [Section 607, Florida Statutes](#) or [Section 617, Florida Statutes](#) or a reorganization as defined in Section 368(a)(1), of the Internal Revenue Code, solely in exchange of stock.
9. When a corporation simply changes its name and files the change of name with the Florida Department of State. A copy of the name change documents must be attached to the application for certificate of title.
10. Redemption of a repossessed motor vehicle by the original customer or co-owner named on the title prior to the repossession, who defaulted on the loan, is not a sale and is not taxable (provided the redemption occurs within 90 days of the repossession).
11. Enrolled members of the Miccosukee or Seminole Tribe of Florida may purchase a motor vehicle, vessel, or mobile home exempt from tax when:
  - the sale and delivery take place on tribal trust land or reservation of either the Seminole Tribe of Florida or the Miccosukee Tribe.

- the purchaser is a permanent resident of the reservation or trust land of the tribe of which the purchaser is an enrolled member; and
- the individual purchaser displays a tribal identification card or letter issued by his or her tribe. The office handling such transaction must maintain a record of the sale, including the name of the customer, date of the sale, copy of tribal card or letter, description of the motor vehicle sold, and the amount of each sale.

If delivery of the vehicle does not take place on the reservation, sales tax is due.

12. An outboard motor and accessories are not included in the sales price of a vessel if the sale was made by a non-dealer and the outboard motor and accessories are separately itemized. The vessel is still subject to sales tax.

In the event of such a transaction, a copy of the executed bill of sale must accompany the title transfer application to document the reason for the payment of less than the full amount of the sales tax based on the assignor's total selling price recorded on the title document. The above exception is limited to casual sales between individuals. The sales tax exemption on the motor provisions of the exemption applies only to outboards and accessories.

13. Any Off-Highway vehicle that is used exclusively on a farm or in a forest for agricultural purposes is exempt from sales tax, pursuant to [Section 212.08\(3\), Florida Statutes](#). See Exhibit D for a suggested tax exemption certificate.
14. Transfer of a certificate of title from a partnership to one of the partners as part of the final dissolution of the partnership.
15. The transfer of a motor vehicle title to a limited liability company pursuant to a consolidation or merger in accordance with [Section 605, Florida Statutes](#), is not subject to tax.
16. By order of the court which specifically awards the vehicle, vessel, or mobile home.
17. Any parts, special attachments/lettering, and other like items added or attached to tangible personal property (e.g., motor vehicles) to assist a person with special needs (such as a wheelchair lift) are exempt when purchased pursuant to an individual prescription. The prescription signed by the certifying physician must be submitted with the application for this exemption.

When purchased without an individual prescription, these items are subject to tax. However, the motor vehicle and the standard or optional equipment available on the motor vehicle remain subject to tax. For more information see [FAC 12A-1.020\(8\)](#). Select the word document for final notice adopted effective 07/12/2010 and scroll to (8).

18. Motor vehicles, vessels, and mobile homes sold or donated by a religious institution or nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is to provide special educational, cultural, recreational, and social benefits to minors are exempt. Tax cannot be imposed in the form



of a use tax on the purchaser. Therefore, the transfer of title of a motor vehicle from a religious institution under or [Section 212.08\(7\)\(m\), Florida Statutes](#), a qualified nonprofit organization under [Section 212.08\(7\)\(l\), Florida Statutes](#), to another party is not subject to tax.

For more information, see the Florida Statutes named above and the link below for

DOR TIP:

[DOR TIP-02A01-27R](#).

The exempt religious institution or qualified nonprofit organization should provide the purchaser with a bill of sale identifying the exempt religious institution or qualified nonprofit organization and its Consumer's Certificate of Exemption number. The Consumer's Certificate of Exemption number will identify the entity as a religious institution by the last two digits of the number being 55 or a qualified Youth/Minor nonprofit organization by the last two digits being 60.

Using form [HSMV 82040](#), the purchaser should check the "Other" box under Section 9, Sales Tax Exemption Certification, and make the notation "Exempt under [Section 212.08\(7\)\(m\), Florida Statutes](#)" for a sale by a religious institution or "Exempt under [Section 212.08\(7\)\(m\), Florida Statutes](#)" for a sale by a qualified nonprofit organization. The religious institution's or nonprofit organization's Consumer's Certificate of Exemption number should be noted on the application.

#### D. TAXING VEHICLES PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED OUT OF STATE

The owner of a motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel who purchased it in another state, territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, six months or more prior to the time the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel was brought into this state is not subject to the six (6) percent Florida sales or use tax or local discretionary sales surtax, provided that the owner was subject to the taxing jurisdiction of the other state, territory or District of Columbia. Documentary evidence must be shown that the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel was used for six months or more in such jurisdiction.

If the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel was purchased and used less than six months in another state, territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, the full amount of the six (6) percent Florida sales or use tax and local discretionary sales surtax is required to be paid before title and registration can be issued by the department.

However, a credit is allowed for a like tax paid in another state, territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, against the amount of Florida sales or use tax and local discretionary sales surtax.

See the Department of Revenue Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Rates by State at the following link:

[Tax Information Publication 2019](#)

For credit allowed, ONE of the following would apply:

1. If the credit is equal to or greater than the amount imposed by this state, no additional tax is due.
2. If the credit is less than the amount imposed by this state, only the difference between the two would be due.

See the Department of Revenue Sales and Use Tax at the following link:

[Department of Revenue Sales and Use Tax on Motor Vehicles](#)

If a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel was purchased in a foreign country, six (6) percent Florida sales or use tax and local discretionary sales surtax is required to be paid before a certificate of title and registration can be issued by the department. The amount upon which the tax is applied is the greater of the amount of the outstanding lien on the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel or the fair market value of the motor vehicle, mobile home or, vessel on date of entry. No credit is allowed for any sales or use tax paid to a foreign country.

[Section 212.08\(7\)\(mmm\), Florida Statutes](#), provides that when an active member (or his/her spouse) of the United States Armed Forces imports his/her motor vehicle from a foreign country, they are exempt from use tax if EACH of the following are met:

- The vehicle was purchased and used in a foreign country for six months or longer before being imported into Florida.
- The vehicle is being titled or registered in Florida for personal use by the active member and/or his/her spouse.
- Member provides proof of active military status. If the vehicle is being titled or registered to include the member's spouse or to the member's spouse, verification of the spouse's relationship to the active member is required.

If a vehicle/vessel was originally titled in Florida (sales tax was paid); was taken to another country and is returning from that country in the same owner's name, sales or use tax would NOT be due.

#### E. TAXING MOBILE HOMES

The transfer of a mobile home which bears a "MH" decal issued under the provisions of [Section 320.081, Florida Statutes](#), and which was purchased as living accommodations, or for rental as living accommodations, is taxable. Transfers of mobile homes which have "RP" decals are

exempt provided the land and mobile home are sold together.

Taxation on mobile homes under [Section 193.075, Florida Statutes](#), as tangible personal property does not relieve the owner from the requirement of buying a mobile home decal under [Section 320.05\(2\), Florida Statutes](#).

Sales tax is due on the purchase price of a mobile home if it is not real property.

For a private sale, any attachments may be deducted from the full price. For these cases:

- The mobile home must have a value.
- Deductions cannot be greater or equal to the value of the mobile home.
- An itemized bill of sale is required.

F. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

1. Credit shall be given for a like tax paid on a motor vehicle or vessel in another state including local taxes, i.e., county and/or city, if the tax is legally imposed on the sale of the motor vehicle or vessel. For example, a local property or ad valorem tax imposed on a motor vehicle or vessel in another state would not be a like tax for Florida's credit provisions.
2. For a licensed common carrier to obtain the "partial sales tax exemption (at the time of purchase)," it must extend a copy of its Sales and Use Tax Direct Permit that was issued by the Department of Revenue. Refer to [Rule 12A-1.064\(4\), Florida Administrative Code](#). The carrier must have the permit issued by the Department of Revenue prior to the purchase of the vehicle.
3. To view "Florida Department of Revenue Tax Information Publications" go to the Department of Revenue's website located at:  
<https://floridarevenue.com>.
4. Visit the Department of Revenue's website for a schedule of "[Sales Tax Rates and Tax Credit Application](#)."
5. Effective July 1, 2015, sales tax may not be imposed on that portion of the sales price below \$20,000 for a trailer weighing 12,000 pounds or less purchased by a farmer for exclusive use in agricultural production or to transport farm products from his or her farm to the place where the farmer transfers ownership of the farm products to another. The exemption is not forfeited by using a trailer to transport the farmer's farm equipment. The exemption does not apply to the lease or rental of a trailer. The exemption will apply if the trailer is licensed under [Section 320.51, Florida Statutes](#), for highway use. (See Department of Revenue, Tax Information Publication No. 15A01-10 for further details).

**Example:** Farmer purchases a cattle trailer weighing less than 12,000 pounds for a purchase price of \$26,000.00 for exclusive use in agricultural production or to transport cattle from their farm to a place where the cattle are sold. Sales tax will be imposed only on the purchase price that exceeds \$20,000.00, which in this example is \$6,000.00.

The exemption will not be allowed unless the purchaser furnishes the seller a written certificate that the purchased items qualify for the exemption under [Section 212.08\(3\), Florida Statutes](#).

An “Example of a Suggested Exemption Certificate for Farm Trailers Weighing 12,000 Pounds or Less” is attached as Exhibit E.

6. Rebates provided by manufacturers to purchasers of tangible personal property are not discounts allowed between the dealer and the purchaser. The initial purchase of the item and the honoring of a rebate claim by the manufacturer are two separate and distinct transactions. Sales tax is calculated on the total sales price, without any deduction for the manufacturer’s rebate. However, when a discount is issued by the dealer to the purchaser, sales tax is calculated on the price of the vehicle after the discount is applied.

#### Revision(s)

09/21/22- Added the Armed Forces member must provide documentation showing the sales tax was paid in another state. Removed “The Department” from the procedure and changed to “Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles”. Added to #18, under exemptions: Motor vehicles, vessels, and mobile homes sold or donated by a religious institution or nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is to provide special educational, cultural, recreational, and social benefits to minors are exempt. Added under “Documentation and Special Instructions”: Effective July 1, 2022, the sales tax for the purchase of a new mobile home will be three (3) percent. A new mobile home means a mobile home which the equitable or legal title has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor, importer, or dealer to an ultimate purchaser.

For more information on this tax rate reduction, please click the link provided below:

State Sales Tax Rate Imposed on Retail Sales of New Mobile Homes Reduced to 3%.

Sales tax is due on the purchase price of a mobile home if it is not real property. For a private sale, any attachments may be deducted from the full price. For these cases: The mobile home must have a value. Deductions cannot be greater or equal to the value of the mobile home. An itemized bill of sale is required. Added a sample mobile home bill of sale “For Private Sale”.

12/23/19-Updated Exhibit F with 2020 Discretionary Sales Surtax Information.

12/21/18 - Added Hope Scholarship information and link to form, see section A.6. Fixed broken links to statutes, forms, and websites. Added Sales Tax Exemption information under Documentation and

Special Instructions, A. 4. Relating to vehicles used as goats.

09/11/18 Statutory review. Updated DOR phone number. Updated Exhibit F 2018 Discretionary Sales Surtax Info chart. Added accessories to sales tax exemption (C. 12) if a private sale and the accessories are itemized separately on the bill of sale.

4/30/18 Updated links to Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Rates by State.

1/11/18 Updated link (page 4) regarding Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Rates by State as of Dec. 31, 2017.

**DEFINITIONS**

DISCOUNT	A discount is a portion of the selling price that is deducted in advance of the payment by the dealer. Discounts are NOT taxable.
DISCRETIONARY SALES SURTAX	Additional tax imposed by certain counties on motor vehicles, mobile homes, and vessels purchased by residents of that county.
REBATE	A rebate is a portion of the selling price that is given back to the buyer by either the manufacturer or the dealer after the payment of the full invoice amount. Rebates are taxable.
SALES TAX	A tax imposed by the state of Florida on motor vehicles, mobile homes and vessels sold in the state of Florida (sales tax is collected on the purchase price of the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel less the retail value of the trade-in).
SERVICE WARRANTY	Any contract which indemnifies the holder of the contract for the cost of maintaining, repairing, or replacing tangible personal property. This term includes motor vehicle warranties issued under <a href="#">Part 1 of Chapter 634, Florida Statutes</a> .
USE TAX	A tax imposed by the state of Florida on the purchase of a motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel which was not purchased in Florida but brought into and used in Florida during the first six months of ownership. Proof of an actual sales tax paid in other states may be allowed as a credit against this use tax. Motor vehicles or vessels previously registered in a foreign country are subject to the full use tax regardless of how long they have been owned or how much tax was paid in the foreign country. See the latest Department of Revenue Motor Vehicle <a href="#">Sales Tax Rates by State</a> .

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**When tax is due, any county imposed discretionary sales surtax is also due.**

1. Q. If a lienholder has released the title to add a name that is not on the original loan and is not being added to the loan, is sales tax due? (Example: Title is in the mother’s name with an existing lien and lienholder releases the title to add the daughter’s name, but the daughter’s name is not being added to the loan.)  
  
A. To have an application of sales tax, there first must be a sale of tangible property. Under the definition of the term “sale” in [Section 212.02\(15\)\(a\), Florida Statutes](#), a sale must involve the transfer of title or possession or both, of tangible property for a consideration. Therefore, unless the daughter has paid or will pay consideration to the mother in the form of money, property, services, or other things of value to have her name added on the title, there is no consideration and, hence, no “sale” by statutory definition. Since there is no “sale,” sales tax is not required.
  
2. Q. If a name is being added to a title and the loan, is sales tax due?  
  
A. If the new party is being added to the loan with only joint liability, then the tax would be measured on one half of the outstanding balance of the underlying note at the time of the transfer, plus the amount of any cash or the equivalent paid in exchange for the transfer.

Joint Liability means the party being added is only responsible for their proportionate share of the outstanding liability. If there are 2 parties involved, the new party being added will be assuming 1/2 of the outstanding liability and tax would be due on that amount.

If the new party is being added to the note with joint and several liability, then the tax would be measured on the full outstanding balance of the underlying note at the time of the transfer, plus the amount of any cash or the equivalent paid in exchange for the transfer.

Joint and several liability means all parties are 100% liable for the outstanding liability. The party being added would owe tax on the full amount of the liability.

Lenders rarely, if ever, authorize loans with joint liability. The tax collection agent should assume that the loan is being given with joint and several liabilities, and the customer will bear the burden of proving otherwise.

3. Q. A customer is given a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel as a gift. They borrow money using the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel as collateral and proceed to process the title transfer into their name, recording the lien. Is sales tax due?

A. If the donor (seller) is also the lender (lienholder), the transaction is viewed as a sale and sales tax is due. However, if the donor (seller) of the motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel is not the lender (lienholder), then the “gift” is not viewed as a sale and sales tax would not be required.
4. Q. If a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel was purchased (more than 6 months ago) in another state and never titled or registered in the customer’s name, would the customer pay sales tax on the purchase price or the fair market value?

A. If the customer has evidence of the purchase price of the motor vehicle or vessel, sales tax would be due on the purchase price. However, if the taxpayer does not provide evidence of the purchase price, sales tax would be due on the fair market value of the motor vehicle or vessel.
5. Q. If a motor vehicle/vessel is purchased and driven or shipped to Florida from a foreign country Florida resident, is the resident subject to a Florida title and sales or use tax?

A. Yes.

  - If the foreign title is signed over for transfer to the Florida resident, sales tax would be due on the purchase price.
  - If the foreign title being submitted is already in the Florida resident's name, a use tax would be due on the value of the motor vehicle/vessel at the time of application for title in this state. A credit is not allowed for any taxes paid to a foreign country.
6. Q. If a motor vehicle or vessel is driven or shipped to Florida from a foreign country by a non-resident person, must the non-resident take title while here in Florida and pay a use tax before selling the motor vehicle or vessel?



- A. No. However, the Florida resident purchasing the motor vehicle or vessel from the foreign resident would pay sales tax on the purchase price.
7. Q. If a Florida resident is given a motor vehicle or vessel as a gift (by a resident from a foreign country) or trades even for the motor vehicle/vessel is a use tax due?
- A. No use tax is due in either situation.
8. Q. If an individual brings a motor vehicle or vessel in from out of the country and trades it to a Florida dealer, is sales or use tax due?
- A. No.
9. Q. If an individual transfer a certificate of title to add the name of his/her (sole proprietor) taxicab company to the title, is sales tax due?
- A. No. Even though the motor vehicle or vessel will be used as a taxi, sales tax would not be due. This type of transaction is not a true transfer of ownership, as only the individual's business name is being added to his/her title.
10. Q. When a motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel is purchased in the state of Florida with a service warranty, is the service warranty taxable? (See Exhibit A for the definition of service.)
- A. Yes, sales tax is due. However, the \$5,000 limitation for discretionary sales surtax does not apply to the service warranty.
11. Q. When a motor vehicle, mobile home or vessel is purchased in another state (and is being titled in Florida) with a service warranty, should sales/use tax be collected on the service warranty? (See Exhibit A for the definition of service warranty.)
- A. No.
13. Q. Is a church, synagogue, etc. required to file with the Department of Revenue (DOR) to be exempt from sales tax?

A. Yes. The applicable entity must obtain a “Consumer's Certificate of Exemption” from DOR to claim the exemption. If a non-exempt entity is included as the purchaser, the exempt entity would not be exempt from payment of sales tax.

14. Q. If an out of state resident purchases a motor vehicle in Florida and needs a Florida temporary license plate to drive the motor vehicle back to their home state (which is not reciprocal with Florida), what is the amount of sales tax that should be collected?

A. The amount of sales tax due would be equivalent to the sales tax in the purchaser's state of residence even if that state is not reciprocal with Florida, provided a form DR-123 is completed. However, the amount of sales tax collected from the out of state resident must NOT exceed Florida's state sales tax of six (6) percent, even if the motor vehicle was purchased from a Florida county with a discretionary sales surtax.

It should be pointed out to the customer there is not a reciprocal agreement between their home state and Florida. Therefore, they would be required to pay the taxes again in their state, if their state does not allow credit for taxes paid to another state.

15. Q. If a purchaser receives a motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel as an even trade from the seller for labor, a horse, etc.; would the purchaser be exempt from sales tax?

A. No, sales tax would be due on the fair market value of the motor vehicle, mobile home, or vessel. The even trade item(s) must be a motor vehicle, mobile home, vessel.

16. Q. When a motor vehicle is purchased, can a party purchase a motor vehicle from a dealer use, as credit, a trade-in motor vehicle owned by a third party?

A. There is no provision in [Section 212.09, Florida Statutes](#), which requires that a motor vehicle accepted in trade on the purchase of another new or used motor vehicle, must be titled in the name of the party making the purchase. Therefore, a third party may offer its vehicle as a trade-in on the purchase of a motor vehicle by another related or unrelated party, so long as the purchase and trade-in are structured as a single transaction. For the purchase and trade-in to be considered a single transaction, the third party owning the vehicle being offered as a trade-in must assign the title

directly to the motor vehicle dealer making the sale, and such motor vehicle must be identified on the sales contract as the trade-in motor vehicle.

17. Q. If a member of the military or his/her spouse purchases a motor vehicle in another country while assigned there and now brings the motor vehicle into the state, will sales tax be applicable?
- A. NOT if certain conditions are met. View the applicable conditions at the Department of Revenue website.
18. Q. Are all transfers between a married couple exempt?
- A. Yes, the transfer of title between a married couple of marital property is exempt. This is true even if there is an outstanding lien. This exemption does not extend to other members of the family unless the transfer is a gift.
19. Q. Can a sales tax exemption allowance be given for a leased motor vehicle that was traded in by the lessee towards the purchase of a non-leased motorvehicle?
- A. No, because the lessee is not the actual owner of the motor vehicle that was being traded in.
20. Q. Can a Florida dealer sell a vehicle tax exempt to purchaser if the dealer arranges the shipment of thevehicle?
- A. Yes, if the dealer keeps a copy of the Bill of Lading from the US Customs office and a [DR-123](#) signed by the purchaser.
21. Q. Can a Florida dealer sell a vehicle tax exempt to a purchaser and be issued a Florida Fast Title for US Customs purposes if the dealer arranges the shipment of the vehicle?
- A. Yes, if the dealer keeps a copy of the Bill of Lading from the US Customs office and a [DR- 123](#) signed by the purchaser. The buyer must state the vehicle/vessel will not be used on the highways or waterways of the State of Florida.
22. Q. John owns a trailer that weighs 700 pounds and has had it registered in Florida. He has sold the trailer to Steven and has given him a bill of sale. Steven does not want to

register the trailer as it will not be used on the public roads of Florida. Steven has now sold the trailer to Sam. Sam is registering the trailer in Florida and has a bill of sale from Steven and the bill of sale from John to Steven. Does sales tax have to be collected on the sale from John to Steven before we can register the trailer in Sam's name?

- A. No. Steven was not required to register the trailer because it was NOT being used on the public roads of Florida. Therefore, sales tax is not required to be collected on the sale from John to Steven. See [FAC 12A-1.007](#)

**Exhibit C**

**Certificate of Entitlement for U.S. Armed Forces Personnel (Currently Stationed in a State Other Than Florida) Claiming an Exemption from Florida Sales Tax**

I am a military member who has purchased the motor vehicle/vessel listed below in \_\_\_\_\_ while stationed outside of Florida:  
(State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Year)*                      *(Make of Vehicle/Vessel)*                      *(Vehicle/Vessel identification Number)*

**I am certifying the following:**

- I am a resident of the state of Florida.
- I am currently residing outside of Florida pursuant to military orders.
- The vehicle/vessel will be held outside of Florida for longer than 6 months.
- I will not bring the vehicle/vessel into the state of Florida within 6 months from the date of purchase, even for temporary reasons.
- I recognize that I owe tax to the state in which the motor vehicle was purchased unless a specific exemption applies.
- I do not intend to avoid sales or use tax in any state by registering the vehicle/vessel in Florida.

I understand that if I fraudulently issue this certificate to evade the payment of sales tax, I will be liable for payment of the sales tax plus a penalty of 200% of the tax and may be subject to conviction of a third-degree felony.

**Under the penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing Certificate of Entitlement and the facts stated in it are true.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Date)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature of Military Member)*

**Exhibit D**

**Example of a Suggested Purchaser's Exemption Certificate for  
Certain Power Farm Equipment**

This is to certify that the power farm equipment identified below, purchased on or after

\_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Date of purchase)* *(Selling Dealer's Business Name)*

was purchased, rented, licensed, or leased for the following purpose (check a box below):

- Power farm equipment for exclusive use on a farm or in a forest in the agricultural production of crops or products as produced by those agricultural industries included in [Section 570.02\(1\), Florida Statutes](#).
- or
- Power farm equipment for exclusive use in fire prevention and suppression work for such crops or products, as produced by those agricultural industries included in [Section 570.02\(1\), Florida Statutes](#).

POWER FARM EQUIPMENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if I use the equipment for any purpose other than the one stated, I must pay tax on the purchase or lease price of the taxable item directly to the Department of Revenue. I understand that if I fraudulently issue this certificate to evade the payment of sales tax, I will be liable for payment of the sales tax plus a penalty of 200% of the tax and may be subject to conviction of a third-degree felony.

**Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that the facts stated in it are true.**

Purchaser's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Purchaser's Authorized Representative: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ *(Signature of Purchaser or Authorized Representative)*

Title number: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Title-only if purchased by an authorized representative of a business entity)*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhibit E**

**Example of a Suggested Exemption Certificate for Farm Trailers  
Weighing 12,000 Pounds or Less**

This is to certify that the trailer described below, purchased on or after \_\_\_\_\_ (date) from \_\_\_\_\_ (Selling Dealer's Business Name) is purchased by a farmer for exclusive use in agricultural production or to transport farm products from his or her farm to the place where the farmer transfers ownership of the farm products to another.

DESCRIPTION OF TRAILER INCLUDING WEIGHT:

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**Note: Any portion of the sales price more than \$20,000.00 is subject to sales tax.**

I understand that if I use the equipment for any purpose other than the one stated, I must pay tax on the initial \$20,000 of the purchase price of the trailer directly to the Department of Revenue. I understand that if I fraudulently issue this certificate to evade the payment of sales tax, I will be liable for payment of the sales tax plus a penalty of 200% of the tax and may be subject to conviction of a third-degree felony.

**Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that the facts stated in it are true.**

Purchaser's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Purchaser's Authorized Representative:

---

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Purchaser or Authorized Representative)

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

# MOBILE HOME BILL of SALE

**"FOR A PRIVATE SALE"**

Year

Make

Mobile Home Identification Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser(s) name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Sold: \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL PURCHASE PRICE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**APPURTENANCES:**

Carport \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunroom \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Utility Shed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Freezer \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Refrigerator \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Drapes \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Air Conditioner / Air Compressor  
(Condenser unit located outside) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Furniture (ITEMIZE): \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL DEDUCTIONS:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TAXABLE AMOUNT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read the foregoing document and that the facts stated in it are true.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seller's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seller's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Seller's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Seller's Printed Name



**Exhibit G**



**Discretionary Sales Surtax Information  
for Calendar Year 2022**

DR-15DSS  
R. 11/21  
Page 1 of 2

- A county with more than one surtax is shaded in gray.  
- A new, revised, extended, or expiring surtax is printed in bold.

County	Total Surtax Rate		Effective Date	Expiration Date	County	Total Surtax Rate		Effective Date	Expiration Date
Alachua	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2024	Lafayette	1%		Sep 1, 1991	None
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2030	Lake	1%		Jan 1, 1988	Dec 31, 2032
Baker	1%		Jan 1, 1994	None	Lee	.5%		Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2028
Bay	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 2011	Dec 31, 2030	Leon	1.5%	(1%)	Dec 1, 1989	Dec 31, 2039
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2026			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2003	Dec 31, 2027
Bradford	1%		Mar 1, 1993	None	Levy	1%		Oct 1, 1992	None
Brevard	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 2015	Dec 31, 2026	Liberty	1.5%	(1%)	Nov 1, 1992	None
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2026			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2026
Broward	1%		Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2048	Madison	1.5%	(1%)	Aug 1, 1989	None
Calhoun	1.5%	(1%)	Jan 1, 1993	None			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2007	None
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2009	Dec 31, 2028	Manatee	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 2003	Dec 31, 2032
Charlotte	1%		Apr 1, 1995	Dec 31, 2026			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2031
Citrus	None				Marion	1%		Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2024
Clay	1.5%	(1%)	Feb 1, 1990	Dec 31, 2039	Martin	.5%		Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2025
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2021	Dec 31, 2050	Miami-Dade	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 1992	None
Collier	1%		Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2025			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2003	None
Columbia	1%		Aug 1, 1994	None	Monroe	1.5%	(1%)	Nov 1, 1989	Dec 31, 2033
DeSoto	1.5%	(1%)	Jan 1, 1988	None			(.5%)	Jan 1, 1996	Dec 31, 2025
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2015	Dec 31, 2035	Nassau	1%		Mar 1, 1996	None
Dixie	1%		Apr 1, 1990	Dec 31, 2029	Okaloosa	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2028
Duval	1.5%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 1989	None			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2021	Dec 31, 2030
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2001	Dec 31, 2030	Okeechobee	1%		Oct 1, 1995	None
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2021	Dec 31, 2035	Orange	.5%		Jan 1, 2003	Dec 31, 2025
Escambia	1.5%	(1%)	Jun 1, 1992	Dec 31, 2028	Osceola	1.5%	(1%)	Sep 1, 1990	Aug 31, 2025
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 1998	Dec 31, 2027			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2036
<b>Flagler</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>(.5%)</b>	<b>Jan 1, 2003</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2022</b>	Palm Beach	1%		Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2026
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2013	Dec 31, 2032	Pasco	1%		Jan 1, 2005	Dec 31, 2024
Franklin	1%		Jan 1, 2008	None	Pinellas	1%		Feb 1, 1990	Dec 31, 2029
Gadsden	1.5%	(1%)	Jan 1, 1996	None	Polk	1%	(.5%)	Jan 1, 2004	Dec 31, 2033
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2009	Dec 31, 2038			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2005	Dec 31, 2044
Gilchrist	1%		Oct 1, 1992	None	Putnam	1%		Jan 1, 2003	Dec 31, 2032
<b>Glades</b>	<b>1%</b>		<b>Jan 1, 2022</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2031</b>	St. Johns	.5%		Jan 1, 2016	Dec 31, 2025
Gulf	1%		Jan 1, 2010	None	St. Lucie	1%	(.5%)	Jul 1, 1996	Dec 31, 2026
Hamilton	1%		Jul 1, 1990	Dec 31, 2029			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2028
Hardee	1%		Jan 1, 1998	None	<b>Santa Rosa</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>(.5%)</b>	<b>Oct 1, 1998</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2028</b>
Hendry	1%		Jan 1, 1988	None			<b>(.5%)</b>	<b>Jan 1, 2017</b>	<b>Dec 31, 2026</b>
Hernando	.5%		Jan 1, 2016	Dec 31, 2025	Sarasota	1%		Sep 1, 1989	Dec 31, 2024
Highlands	1.5%	(1%)	Nov 1, 1989	Dec 31, 2033	Seminole	1%		Jan 1, 2015	Dec 31, 2024
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2017	Dec 31, 2036	Sumter	1%		Jan 1, 1993	None
Hillsborough	1.5%	(.5%)	Dec 1, 1996	Nov 30, 2026	Suwannee	1%		Jan 1, 1988	None
		(.5%)	Oct 1, 2001	None	Taylor	1%		Aug 1, 1989	Dec 31, 2037
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2028	Union	1%		Feb 1, 1993	None
Holmes	1.5%	(1%)	Oct 1, 1995	Dec 31, 2028	Volusia	.5%		Jan 1, 2002	Dec 31, 2031
		(.5%)	Jan 1, 2021	Dec 31, 2026	Wakulla	1%		Jan 1, 1988	Dec 31, 2037
Indian River	1%		Jun 1, 1989	Dec 31, 2034	Walton	1%		Feb 1, 1995	None
Jackson	1.5%	(1%)	Jun 1, 1995	Dec 31, 2025	Washington	1.5%	(1%)	Nov 1, 1993	None
		(.5%)	Jul 1, 1996	Dec 31, 2025			(.5%)	Jan 1, 2019	Dec 31, 2028
Jefferson	1%		Jun 1, 1988	None					

For 2022, the following counties have surtax rate changes:

- Glades**      **1% Total Surtax Rate**
- **New** 1% small county surtax begins 1/1/2022 and expires 12/31/2031.
  - 1% local government infrastructure surtax expired 12/31/2021.
- Santa Rosa**    **1% Total Surtax Rate**
- Current .5% local government infrastructure surtax is **extended** and expires 12/31/2026.
  - Current .5% school capital outlay surtax remains in effect and expires 12/31/2028.

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