



Florida's Annual Back to School Sales Tax Holiday: Frequently Asked Questions for Consumers

1. What items will be exempt from sales tax during the Florida Back to School Sales Tax Holiday?

During the Florida Back to School Sales Tax Holiday, which takes place annually from **August 1 through August 31**, the following items are exempt from Florida sales tax if they meet the specified price limits and other conditions:

- **Personal computers or personal computer-related accessories purchased for noncommercial home or personal use having a sales price of \$1,500 or less**

- Personal computers* include:

- Calculators
- Desktops
- Electronic book readers
- Handhelds
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Tower computers

** The term does not include cellular telephones, video game consoles, digital media receivers, or devices that are not primarily designed to process data.*

- Personal computer-related accessories*+ include:

- Keyboards
- Mice
- Modems
- Monitors
- Nonrecreational software
- Other peripheral devices
- Personal digital assistants
- Routers

** The listed accessories are tax-exempt regardless of whether they are used in association with a personal computer base unit.*

+ The term does not include furniture or systems, devices, software, monitors with a television tuner, or peripherals that are designed or intended primarily for recreational use.

- **Wallets and bags* having a sales price of \$100 or less per item, including:**

- Backpacks
- Diaper bags
- Fanny packs
- Handbags

** Briefcases, suitcases, and other garment bags are excluded.*

- **School supplies having a sales price of \$50 or less per item, including:**
 - Binders
 - Cellophane tape
 - Compasses
 - Composition books
 - Computer disks
 - Construction paper
 - Crayons
 - Erasers
 - Folders
 - Glue or paste
 - Legal pads
 - Lunch boxes
 - Markers
 - Notebooks
 - Notebook filler paper
 - Pencils
 - Pens
 - Poster board
 - Poster paper
 - Protractors
 - Rulers
 - Scissors
 - Staplers and staples used to secure paper products
- **Learning aids and jigsaw puzzles having a sales price of \$30 or less:**
 - Flashcards or other learning cards
 - Interactive or electronic books and toys intended to teach reading or math skills
 - Matching or other memory games
 - Puzzle books and search-and-find books
 - Stacking or nesting blocks or sets
- **Clothing, footwear, and accessories having a sales price of \$100 or less per item, including:**
 - Shirts, pants, dresses, skirts, shorts, and other apparel
 - Shoes, boots, sandals, and other footwear
 - Accessories such as belts, hats, gloves, and scarves

A list of items that are exempt from tax during the Back to School Sales Tax Holiday is provided in [Tax Information Publication \(TIP\) No. 25A01-08](#). For more information, please visit floridarevenue.com/backtoschool.

2. If I purchase an item that costs more than the limits stated above, do I owe sales tax only on the portion of the price that exceeds the limit for that item?

If you purchase an item that would otherwise qualify for the sales tax exemption but costs more than the limits listed above, the item is not exempt, and you must pay sales tax on the entire price of the item.

3. Is there a limit on the number of items that can be purchased exempt during the sales tax holiday?

No. The exemption is based on the sales price of each item, not on the number of items purchased.

4. What types of items are not exempt?

The Florida Back to School Sales Tax Holiday does not apply to:

- Any school supply item with a sales price of more than \$50
- Clothing with a sales price of more than \$100
- Learning aids and jigsaw puzzles with a sales price of more than \$30
- Books that are not otherwise exempt
- Computers and computer-related accessories with a sales price of more than \$1,500
- Computers and computer-related accessories purchased for commercial purposes
- Rentals of any eligible items
- Repairs or alterations of any eligible items
- Sales of any eligible items within a theme park, entertainment complex, public lodging establishment, or airport

5. If I buy a package or set of items that contains both taxable and tax-exempt items during the Back to School Sales Tax Holiday, how is sales tax calculated?

If a tax-exempt item is sold in a package with a taxable item, sales tax must be calculated on the sales price of the entire package or set.

6. If the store is offering a “buy one, get one free” or “buy one, get one for a reduced price” special on backpacks and I purchase one for \$200 and get another for free, will the transaction be tax-free because I am effectively paying \$100 for each backpack?

No. The total price of items advertised as “buy one, get one free” or “buy one, get one for a reduced price” cannot be averaged for both items to qualify for the exemption. In this case, the purchase of the backpacks is taxable.

7. If I purchase a gift card during the sales tax holiday, can I then purchase a qualifying item tax-exempt using the gift card after the tax holiday ends?

No. The purchase of the qualifying item must be made during the sales tax holiday to be tax-exempt. However, when qualifying items are purchased during the tax holiday using a gift card, the items are tax-exempt; it does not matter when the gift card was purchased.

8. If a store issues me a rain check during the sales tax holiday, can I use it after the sales tax holiday to purchase the item tax-exempt?

No. The purchase of the qualifying item must be made during the sales tax holiday to be tax-exempt. When a rain check is issued, a sale has not occurred. The sale occurs when the rain check is redeemed and the item is purchased.

9. If I place an item on layaway, is it eligible for the tax exemption during the sales tax holiday?

Yes. A layaway is when an item is set aside for a customer who makes a deposit, agrees to pay the balance of the purchase price over a period of time, and receives the merchandise at the end of the payment period. Qualifying items placed on layaway during the sales tax holiday are tax-exempt, even if final payment of the layaway is made after the tax holiday. If a customer makes a

final payment and takes delivery of the items during the tax holiday, the qualifying items are tax-exempt.

10. Does the Back to School Sales Tax Holiday also apply to items I purchase online?

Yes. Items purchased online are exempt when the order is accepted by the company during the sales tax holiday for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the tax holiday.

11. I purchased an exempt item during the sales tax holiday, but the business charged sales tax.

How can I get a refund for the tax I paid?

You should take your receipt to the business and request a refund of the tax collected in error. You may provide the business with a copy of [TIP No. 25A01-08](#) or direct the seller to floridarevenue.com for more information.

12. Who is responsible for determining which items are exempt and which aren't?

The Back to School Sales Tax Holiday is established through the lawmaking authority of the Florida Legislature. Sales tax holidays and the items exempted by them must be passed into law by the Legislature.

13. How can I request that a certain type of product be added to the list?

Sales tax holidays and the items exempted by them are passed into law by the Florida Legislature. You may wish to contact your local legislators regarding your suggestion. You can find your local legislators at stateofflorida.com/state-legislators.

14. I didn't see my question listed here. Where can I find additional information about the Florida Back to School Sales Tax Holiday?

If you have a question about a specific item that is not listed in [TIP No. 25A01-08](#), contact the Florida Department of Revenue at (850) 488-6800.

15. I heard there is another sales tax holiday this year. Where can I find more information about it?

House Bill 7031 from the 2025 regular legislative session was signed into law on June 30, 2025. The new law contains a [Hunting, Fishing, and Camping Sales Tax Holiday](#), to take place from September 8 through December 31, 2025.