



NCDOR Communication

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North Carolina Holds Sales Tax Holiday Aug. 1-3

Higher cost college textbooks and other instructional supplies like maps and globes join the list of back-to-school related items that are exempt from sales taxes during North Carolina's Sales Tax Holiday, which runs from Friday, Aug. 1 through Sunday, Aug. 3.

This year, school instructional materials that sell for as much as \$300 – college and other kinds of textbooks, workbooks, reference books, reference maps and globes – are exempt from sales taxes during the sales tax holiday. Other items exempt from sales taxes include:

- Clothing priced at \$100 or less
- Sports or recreational equipment priced at \$50 or less
- Computers priced at \$3,500 or less
- Computer supplies priced at \$250 or less
- School supplies priced at \$100 or less
- School instructional materials priced at \$300 or less

Click [here](#) to review a more detailed list.

More Facts About The Sales Tax Holiday

Retailers may not charge sales taxes and require taxpayers to request refunds of those taxes, either from the retailer or the Department of Revenue. In cases where the sales taxes are charged during the holiday on purchases that should be exempt, the purchaser's only option for a refund is the retailer.

Participation in the sales tax holiday is required. Retailers may not "opt out" of the holiday.

Discounts from retailers' coupons are deducted from the price of an item before you determine if the item is eligible for the sales tax exemption. Example: a customer buys a dress priced at \$105 and uses a coupon for a 10 percent discount. That makes the sales price of the item of clothing \$94.50 ($\$105 - \$10.50 = \94.50) and exempt from sales tax

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during the holiday. Manufacturers' coupons are treated just the opposite way; they are not deducted from the sales price before determining eligibility for sales tax exemption.

Rebates do not affect the sales price of an item for the sales tax holiday. Example: a computer priced at \$3,550 with a \$200 rebate is not exempt from sales taxes because the sales price of \$3,550 is unchanged by the rebate.

Read the [technical bulletin](#) for all the details on the sales tax holiday.

Questions, Or To Get More Information

Please call the Taxpayer Assistance and Collections Center at 1-877-252-3052 if you have any questions about this issue.