



Information Bulletin

PST-44 Issued: April, 1995

Revised: December, 2002

THE PROVINCIAL SALES TAX ACT

Was this bulletin useful?

Click here to complete our short
READER SURVEY

INFORMATION FOR OPTOMETRISTS

This bulletin has been prepared to help you apply and collect the Provincial Sales Tax. It is a general guide and not a substitute for the legislation.

The changes to this bulletin are indicated by a (I).

The contents of this bulletin are presented under the following sections:

- A. Optometry Services
- B. Retail Sales
- C. Goods and Services for Your Own Use
- D. Sales of Used Business Assets
- E. Saskatchewan Electronic Tax Service (SETS)

A. OPTOMETRY SERVICES

Optometrists are not required to collect tax on charges for eye examinations and eye care services.

B. RETAIL SALES

The sale of prescription eyeglasses, prescription sunglasses, prescription magnifiers and contact lenses are not subject to tax.

Optometrists and laboratories must collect tax on sales of non-prescription eyeglasses, non-prescription magnifiers, non-prescription sunglasses, binoculars, cameras, barometers, eyeglass and contact lens cases, contact lens solutions and glass cleaner.

Eyeglass cases, contact lens cases and packaging materials that are sold with taxable and non-taxable products (not invoiced separate) are not subject to tax.

Clip on sunglasses sold with prescription glasses are not subject to tax.

Sales of non-prescription drugs and medicines are subject to tax.

C. GOODS AND SERVICES FOR YOUR OWN USE

Businesses are required to pay tax on purchases of equipment, services, and supplies used in their business. If they are purchased from a licensed supplier, the tax must be paid to the supplier. If they are purchased from an unlicensed supplier located outside Saskatchewan, the tax must be submitted with the return on the laid down cost, which includes exchange, transportation charges, customs and excise duties, and importation charges, but not the GST.

If taxable items are given away at no charge to the customer, the tax must be paid on the purchase price of these items. This would include eyeglass and contact lens cases given away subsequent to the sale of eyewear.

Ophthalmic supplies incorporated into eyeglasses prescribed by an optometrist or physician are exempt from tax.

Optometrists who make retail sales are not required to pay tax on the purchase of inventory or non-returnable containers and packaging materials that are sold with products.

D. SALES OF USED BUSINESS ASSETS

Businesses are required to collect tax on the sale of used assets, such as vehicles and equipment. When used assets are being sold as part of the closure of a business, the purchaser is required to self-assess and report the tax.

E. SASKATCHEWAN ELECTRONIC TAX SERVICE (SETS)

Saskatchewan Finance has made it possible for collectors to report and remit tax electronically through the use of a standard Internet connection. The Saskatchewan Electronic Tax Service (SETS) offers a secure, fast, easy and convenient alternative to filing returns in paper format. Several E-File services are currently available through SETS.

Businesses may use SETS to file and pay returns for Provincial Sales Tax and other provincial taxes.

SETS allows businesses to:

- File and pay returns or make payments on account.
- File a return and post-date the payment to the due date.
- View account balance and statement information.
- Authorize your accountant to file on your behalf.
- Subscribe to an E-mail Notification Service that allows the option to be notified by e-mail that a tax return should be filed (replaces the paper forms normally received in the mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Write: Saskatchewan Finance
Revenue Division
2350 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 4A6

Telephone: Toll Free 1-800-667-6102
Regina 306-787-6645

E-mail: sask.tax.info@finance.gov.sk.ca

Fax: 306-787-6653

Internet: Provincial Sales Tax bulletins, forms and information are available on the Internet at:

<http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/revenue/pst/pst.htm>

To receive automatic e-mail notification when this (or any other) bulletin is revised, click on the [Bulletin Index](#) and then click on the "Subscribe" button next to the bulletins you are interested in.