

# **Communications Services Use Tax Return**

DR-700019 R. 08/10

**General Information and Instructions** 

Rule 12A-19.100 Florida Administrative Code Effective 02/11

This form is for reporting use tax only. For more information, see "Who must file a use tax return?" Registered communications services providers should not use this form. Registered providers must file Form DR-700016.

## What is the communications services tax?

Communications services tax is imposed by Chapter 202, Florida Statutes. The tax is imposed on voice, data, audio, video, or any other information or signal, including cable services that are transmitted by any medium.

Examples of services subject to the tax include:

- Local, long distance and toll telephone.
- Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone
- Cable television.
- · Direct-to-home satellite.
- · Mobile communications.
- · Private communications.
- Pager and beeper.
- Telephone charge made by a hotel or motel.
- Facsimiles (fax), when not provided in the course of professional or advertising services.
- · Telex, telegram, and teletypewriter.

Examples of services not subject to the tax include:

- Information services (these services may include electronic publishing, web-hosting services, or end user 900-number services).
- Internet access services, electronic mail services, electronic bulletin board services, or similar online computer services.
- Sale or recharge of prepaid calling arrangements.
- Pay telephone charges.

#### What is the tax rate?

Except for direct-to-home satellite services, the communications services tax rate includes a state portion, a gross receipts portion, and a local portion. The rate for the state portion is 6.65 percent (.0665). The total rate for the gross receipts portion is 2.52 percent (.0252), which is composed of .15 percent (.0015) and 2.37 percent (.0237). Each local taxing jurisdiction (municipality, charter county, or unincorporated county) has a specific local tax rate. To verify current local rates, visit the Department's Internet site at <a href="https://www.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/cst.html">www.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/cst.html</a> or call Taxpayer Services at 1-800-352-3671. Direct-to-home satellite services are taxed at 13.17 percent (.1317).

# Partial exemption for residential service

Communications services sold to a residential household are exempt from the state portion (6.65 percent) and the .15 percent gross receipts portion of the tax. This exemption does not apply to the sale of mobile communications service, cable service, direct-to-home satellite service, or any residence that constitutes all or part of a transient public lodging establishment as defined in Chapter 509, F.S. Residential service is subject to the 2.37 percent gross receipts tax and local tax.

#### Who must file a use tax return?

If you purchase communications services from a seller that does not collect tax, you are required to report and remit use tax. Complete this form, detach the coupon, and send it with your payment to the Department of Revenue. If you are no longer purchasing taxable services, check the box on the reverse side of the coupon to indicate that this is your final return.

Note: Registered communications services providers should not use this form. Registered providers must file Form DR-700016 (Communications Services Return) to report tax.

## When is the use tax return due and payable?

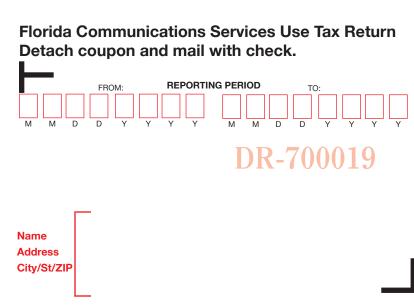
The filing frequency is semi-annual (June and December). Returns and payments for the collection period ending June 30 are due on July 1 and late after July 20. Returns and payments for the collection period ending December 31 are due on January 1 and late after January 20. However, if the 20th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal or state holiday, returns and payments are not considered late if postmarked on the first business day following the 20th.

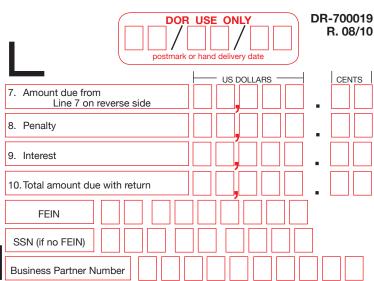
## Penalty and interest

Penalty and interest are due on late payments. See line-by-line instructions for more information.

#### Where to send payments and returns

Make check payable to and send with return to: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE PO BOX 6520 TALLAHASSEE FL 32314-6520





# How can I get more information?

If you have questions about this form or the filing requirements for this tax, contact Taxpayer Services, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., ET, at 800-352-3671. Hearing or speech impaired persons may call our TDD at 800-367-8331 or 850-922-1115.

# **Completing the Return**

This form is machine-readable. Please follow the hand print or machine print instructions. Use black ink.



**Business partner number -** This is a unique identifier assigned by the Department.

**Rounding rule** - All dollar amounts should be rounded up to the nearest hundredth (.01).

# **Line-by-Line Instructions**

Enter all demographic information requested on the front of the coupon, if the return is not personalized.

**Line 1 - Total purchases.** Enter the total amount of communications services purchased during this reporting period. Note that direct-to-home satellite services have a different tax rate than other services. If part of your total purchases includes direct-to-home satellite services, you must calculate this tax separately and report it on Line 2.

Line 2 - Tax due on direct-to-home satellite services. Multiply your total purchases of direct-to-home satellite services by the tax rate of 13.17 percent (.1317). Enter the result on Line 2. If all your purchases were direct-to-home satellite services, do not complete lines 3, 4, 5, or 6.

Line 3 - State portion of tax. Multiply your total purchases of communications services (excluding direct-to-home satellite services, if any) by the 6.8 percent (.068) rate, which is comprised of the 6.65 percent state and .15 percent gross receipts tax rates. Enter the result on Line 3. If your purchases qualify for the partial exemption for residential services, enter zero.

**Line 4 - Gross receipts portion of tax.** Multiply your total purchases of communications services (excluding direct-to-home satellite services, if any) by the gross receipts tax rate of 2.37 percent (.0237). Enter the result on Line 4.

Lines 5a and 5b - Local portion of tax. Multiply your total purchases of communications services (excluding direct-to-home satellite services, if any) by the local tax rate of the jurisdiction where the services were used. To find the local tax rate for your jurisdiction, go to our Internet site at <a href="www.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/cst.html">www.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/cst.html</a>. If you are unsure of your taxing jurisdiction, click on "Address Lookup." If you do not have Internet access, contact Taxpayer Services. Write the name of the taxing jurisdiction and the tax amount on Line 5a. If you have locations in more than one jurisdiction, you must calculate the tax for each one separately and report the local tax on a separate line (Line 5b). If you need to report more than two locations, contact Taxpayer Services.

Line 6 - Total local portion of tax. Enter the total of Lines 5a and 5b.

**Line 7 - Total tax due.** Add lines 2, 3, 4, and 6. This is the total amount of communications services tax due. Enter this amount in Line 7 on the front and back of the coupon.

**Line 8 - Penalty.** A 10 percent (.10) penalty is due for each 30-day period, or fraction thereof, that your return or payment is late. The maximum penalty is 50 percent of the amount due. Multiply Line 7 by the applicable penalty percentage and enter the result.

**Line 9 - Interest.** Interest is due on late payments, from the date tax is due until paid. A floating rate of interest applies to underpayments and late payments of tax. The rate is updated January 1 and July 1 of each year by using the formula established in section 213.235, F.S. Obtain current interest rates from the Internet site. Multiply Line 7 by the applicable interest rate and enter the result.

**Line 10 - Amount due with return.** Add lines 7, 8, and 9 and enter the result. Enclose a check for this amount, payable to the Florida Department of Revenue.

Signature. The return must be signed. Failure to sign the return will delay processing.

Social security numbers (SSNs) are used by the Florida Department of Revenue as unique identifiers for the administration of Florida's taxes. SSNs obtained for tax administration purposes are confidential under sections 213.053 and 119.071, Florida Statutes, and not subject to disclosure as public records. Collection of your SSN is authorized under state and federal law. Visit our Internet site at <a href="https://www.myflorida.com/dor">www.myflorida.com/dor</a> and select "Privacy Notice" for more information regarding the state and federal law governing the collection, use, or release of SSNs, including authorized exceptions.

	US DOLLARS —   CENTS
1. Total purchases	
Tax due on direct-to-home satellite services (.1317)	
3. 6.65% state plus .15% gross receip tax (.068)	ts
4. Gross receipts tax (.0237)	
5.a. Local tax for jurisdiction	
5.b. Local tax for jurisdiction	
6. Total local tax (add Lines 5a and 5b)	
7. Total tax due (add Lines 2, 3, 4, and 6). Enter this amount in Line 7 on front of coupon.	

Check here if this is your final return.		
Under penalties of perjury, I hereby certify that this return has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is a true and complete return. [ss. 92.525(2), 203.01(1), and 837.06, Florida Statutes].		
Taxpayer's name (type or print)	Telephone number	
Taxpayer's signature	Date	
Address		
City/State/ZIP		
Preparer's name (type or print)	Telephone number	
Preparer's signature	Date	