



Florida ENERGY STAR® Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period: Frequently Asked Questions for Consumers

1. What items will be exempt from sales tax during the Florida ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period?

The federal government, through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, certifies several energy-efficient products under its ENERGY STAR program. An “ENERGY STAR appliance” has been recognized as meeting or exceeding each agency’s requirements under the ENERGY STAR program and is affixed with an ENERGY STAR label.

During Florida’s ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period, you may purchase ENERGY STAR appliances for noncommercial use, including certain refrigerator/freezer units, water heaters, washing machines, and dryers, exempt from sales tax.

The one-year sales tax exemption period begins on Friday, July 1, 2022, and ends on Friday, June 30, 2023. Items included in the sales tax exemption are the following ENERGY STAR-certified appliances:

- Washing machines selling for \$1,500 or less
- Clothes dryers selling for \$1,500 or less
- Water heaters selling for \$1,500 or less
- Refrigerators or combination refrigerator/freezers selling for \$3,000 or less

Additional information about the tax exemption period is provided in Tax Information Publication (TIP) [No. 22A01-05](#).

2. Is there a limit on the number of qualifying items that can be purchased exempt during the sales tax exemption period?

No, there is no limit on the number of qualifying items that can be purchased noncommercial use tax-exempt.

3. If I purchase an item that costs more than the price limits stated above, do I only owe sales tax 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 price limits stated above, the item is not exempt, and you must pay sales tax on the entire price of the item.

4. What other exclusions apply to the tax-exempt items listed above?

The Florida ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period does not apply to the rental of any of the qualifying items listed above. It also does not apply when a new ENERGY STAR appliance is purchased for trade, business, or resale.

5. If I buy a package or set of items that contains both taxable and tax-exempt items during the ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period, how is sales tax calculated?

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

6. Is the installation of an ENERGY STAR appliance also tax-exempt during the sales tax exemption period?

When an eligible ENERGY STAR product does not become a part of realty and remains tangible personal property when installed, any separately itemized charge for the installation of the product is a part of the sales price of the product and is exempt when the total sales price of the eligible ENERGY STAR product does not exceed the applicable threshold.

Example: A customer purchases an ENERGY STAR washing machine for \$1,299. The store charges a \$99 installation charge to install the washing machine at the customer's home. The washing machine will remain tangible personal property after installation. The selling dealer receives \$1,398 for the washing machine and the installation. The sales price of \$1,398 is less than \$1,500. Therefore, the sale qualifies for the exemption.

7. If I purchase a warranty along with an ENERGY STAR appliance, is it taxable?

The taxation of any charges for a service warranty contract depends on the taxability of the product being sold. If the retail sale of an item is exempt from tax, the charge for a service warranty sold with the item is exempt.

Example: A customer purchases an ENERGY STAR water heater for \$1,100. The customer also purchases a five-year extended protection plan (a service warranty) for \$149. The sales price of \$1,249 for the water heater and the service warranty qualify for the exemption.

8. If the store is offering a “buy one, get one free” or “buy one, get one for a reduced price” special on an ENERGY STAR-certified washer-dryer combo and I purchase one item for \$1,750 and get the other for free, will the transaction be tax-free because I am effectively paying \$875 for each item?

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 total sales price of \$1,750 for the washer-dryer combo is taxable.

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

No. The purchase of the qualifying item must be made during the sales tax exemption period to be tax-exempt. However, when qualifying items are purchased during the sales tax exemption

period using a gift card, the items are tax-exempt; it does not matter when the gift card was purchased.

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

No. The purchase of the qualifying item must be made during the sales tax exemption period 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.

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

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 exemption period are tax-exempt, even if final payment of the layaway is made after the sales tax exemption period. If a customer makes a final payment and takes delivery of the items during the sales tax exemption period, the qualifying items are tax-exempt.

12. Do the exemptions during the ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period also apply to items I purchase online?

Yes. ENERGY STAR-certified appliances purchased online are exempt when the order is accepted by the company during the sales tax exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the tax exemption period.

13. Who is responsible for determining which items are tax-exempt and which aren't?

The ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period is established through the lawmaking authority of the Florida Legislature. Sales tax exemption periods, and the items exempted by the tax exemption period, must be passed into law by the Legislature.

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

Sales tax exemption periods, and the items exempted by them, are passed into law by the Florida Legislature. You may wish to contact your local representative regarding your suggestion.

15. I didn't see my question listed here. Where can I find additional information about the Florida ENERGY STAR Appliances Sales Tax Exemption Period?

If you have a question about a specific item that is not listed in TIP No. [22A01-05](#), contact the Florida Department of Revenue at (850) 488-6800.