

VENDING COMPANIES

INDUSTRY GUIDANCE

Category:	Vending Companies	Tax Type:	Sales & Use Tax
Brief Description:	Vending Companies Tax Matrix	Effective Date:	10-31-2022

The taxability of sales and purchases of tangible personal property and labor services by vending companies are summarized below. While this document provides general information as to the taxability of sales and purchases of tangible personal property and labor services by businesses in the vending industry, it may not necessarily cover every situation as the taxability may depend on facts and circumstances around the specific transaction. Should a more definitive determination be desired, businesses may request a letter ruling from the Department. [MODOR Letter Ruling Page](#)

This list is not all-inclusive.

Missouri sales or use tax applies to those purchases identified or designated as taxable in the chart below. The applicable Missouri sales or Missouri consumer's use tax must be paid to the vendor or accrued and remitted directly to the Missouri Department of Revenue. Purchases from Missouri vendors may be reported using the retailer's sales tax return. Purchases from outside this state which are delivered to this state are to be reported on the Missouri consumer's use tax return.

Note: For vending machines, "*gross receipts*" means the net invoice price of the property vended during the reporting period, multiplied by one hundred thirty-five percent (135%). Exceptions to "*gross receipts*" are sales of photocopies, cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco-related products, by a vendor through a vending machine, which are taxed on the gross receipts of the sales of these items.

Sales by Vending Companies:	Taxable/Exempt
Food products	Taxable
Newspapers	Taxable
Gumball machines	Taxable
Fishing bait	Taxable
Stamps	Exempt
Cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco products	Taxable
Prepaid phone cards	Taxable
Tangible personal property through vending machines located in religious or charitable organizations, or in public elementary or secondary schools	Exempt

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Sales by Vending Companies (continued):	Taxable/Exempt
Feminine hygiene and family planning items	Taxable
Personal hygiene items such as deodorants and soaps	Taxable
Over the counter medications and supplies such as aspirin and band-aids	Taxable
Gift cards	Exempt
Lottery tickets	Exempt

Purchases by Vending Companies:	Taxable/Exempt
Any products to be sold through a vending machine	Exempt
Vending machines used in a commercial vending business where sales tax is owed on the sale of the product sold through the machine	Exempt
Repair or replacement parts for vending machines used in a commercial vending business where sales tax is owed on the sale of the product sold through the machine	Exempt
Tools or machines purchased by vending machine owners to perform repairs on the vending machines	Taxable
Swipe card readers attached to vending machines	Exempt
Material handling and storage equipment, including fork lifts, dollies, racks and refrigerated storage areas.	Taxable
Books, newspapers, and magazine subscriptions	Taxable
Canned software and software upgrades to maintain or update software delivered via CD Rom	Taxable
Canned software provided via electronic download through the internet	Exempt
Custom software and software upgrades to maintain or update software developed for a single end user	Exempt
Utilities	Taxable
Lease or rental of any copier, fax, vehicle, etc.	Taxable
Copiers, scanners, computers, printers, and fax machines	Taxable
Complimentary bottled water, coffee, soft drinks, creamer, sugar, cups and stir sticks, candy, etc.	Taxable
Promotional items including but not limited to: calendars, mugs, pens, clothing, balloons, etc.	Taxable
Educational materials such as posters, printed materials and literature, etc.	Taxable

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Purchases by Vending Companies (continued):	Taxable/Exempt
Office supplies such as office forms, staplers, paper, pens, pencils, labels, business cards, ink, toner, ribbon cartridge, etc.	Taxable
Furniture and fixtures, including but not limited to: desks, lamps, tables, chairs, artwork, signs, plants and planters, shelving, etc.	Taxable
Shelving, display racks, checkout counters, storage cabinets, display cases, scanners, cash drawers, bins and boxes, etc.	Taxable
Breakroom supplies such as microwaves, refrigerators, cups, and paper products	Taxable
Donations of tangible personal property	Taxable
Specialty advertising	Taxable
Media advertising	Exempt
Uniforms	Taxable
Repair and replacement parts for repairing, altering, or maintaining tangible personal property such as computers, printers, copiers, security equipment etc.	Taxable
Repairs, maintenance, and remodeling services to existing structure/facility through a hired contractor	Exempt
Security cameras & other security related equipment	Taxable
Security monitoring services	Exempt
Streaming music services	Exempt
Trash & cleaning services	Exempt
Shredding services	Exempt
Janitorial supplies	Taxable
Pest control services	Exempt
Professional services such as legal or accounting	Exempt
Warranty or service agreements for tangible personal property such as computers, printers, copiers, security equipment, etc.	Exempt