Section: 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 11/11/2022

To determine domicile code, visit Domicile Code Locator.

Authority:
R.S. 47:301 - 303
To view Louisiana Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us/

Definitions:
- **Sales Tax** - Tax imposed on the sale of any motor vehicle, automobile, motorcycle, truck, truck-tractor, trailer, semi-trailer, motor bus, house trailer, or any other vehicle subject to the vehicle registration license tax.
- **Use Tax** - Tax imposed on the use of any motor vehicle, automobile, motorcycle, truck, truck-tractor, trailer, semi-trailer, motor bus, house trailer, or any other vehicle subject to the vehicle registration license tax in Louisiana.
- **Multiple Transfer** – In the event that a vehicle has been transferred multiple times, as indicated on the provided transfer paperwork (i.e. title), a multiple transfer must be conducted. Taxes must be paid per transfer that does not involve a dealership.

Eligibility:
- Vehicles that are eligible/liable for sales and/or use tax include any motor vehicle, automobile, motorcycle, truck, truck-tractor, trailer, etc., unless qualifying for tax-exempt status issued by the Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR).

General:
- As the agent for LDR, the Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) will collect taxes in compliance with rules and regulations and with Louisiana law as construed by LDR.
- LDR shall be the only agency to defend or to institute any legal action involving the tax imposed on the sale or use of any of the aforementioned vehicles.
- Neither the certificate of title nor the vehicle registration license shall be issued until applicable tax is paid.
- In a case where there is more than one private sale, transfer other than dealer inventory sale, indicated on the vehicle paperwork, a “multiple transfer” will be processed. All applicable sales/use tax and fees will be due for each assignment.
  - A multiple transfer will also be processed if a dealer’s license of the dealership who sold the vehicle to the applicant was expired at the time of sale.
- When a bill of sale or dealer invoice indicates a dollar amount plus other valuable consideration, the tax will be based on the total value of consideration involved.
Required Documentation:
- Supporting documentation (i.e. dealer invoice, bill of sale, etc.) is required to determine the amount of taxes due. Refer to Section 4, Policy 2.00, Basic Requirements for Obtaining a Certificate of Title.

Fees:
- Sales tax must be collected on all transfers of motor vehicles based on the selling price as shown on the notarized bill of sale or dealer invoice.
- Use tax must be collected on all transfers of motor vehicles based on the NADA average trade-in value, or cost price when first purchased as shown on a bill of sale or dealer invoice, whichever is less.

Related Policies:
Section 4, Policy 2.00, Basic Requirements for Obtaining a Certificate of Title
Section 4, Policy 48.00, Out-of-State Transfers and Reciprocity with Other States
Section 4, Policy 55.00 Penalty and Interest on Sales Tax