



Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 47.00 Sales Tax on Vehicle Transfers

Section: 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 01/05/2026

To determine domicile code, visit [Domicile Code Locator](#).

Authority:

[R.S. 47:301 - 303](#)

To view Louisiana Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

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 is issued by the Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR).¹

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 interpreted 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 applicable vehicles.
- Title and/or registration will **not** be issued until applicable taxes are paid.
- In a case where there is more than one private sale or 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.
- Sales/Use tax will be assessed on the sale price of the vehicle, in addition to the applicable, taxable items listed on the dealer invoice or bill of sale.
- **Commercial or Business Use** - The total rate of tax due is determined by the location of the business, unless the vehicle is primarily assigned, garaged, or used outside the business location, including mobile homes. In such case, the tax would be determined by the location where the vehicle is primarily used.
- **Used Homes**- Used homes will not be charged state or parish/municipality tax.
 - Factory built homes purchased and titled in another state will not be charged state sales tax, even if purchased in a state with which Louisiana does not have a reciprocal agreement.

- **Tax Assessment**

Type	Taxes Due	From
Purchased Vehicles	Within 40 days*	Date of purchase or delivery date
Transfer from Another State	Within 40 days*	Date the vehicle comes into the state, as evidenced on the <i>Out-of-State Declaration</i> section on the <i>Vehicle Application</i> (DPSMV1799) form
Factory Built Homes	By the 20 th of the following month *	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date delivered to the purchaser • Purchased date for homes remaining in same location

*If paid after this date, [penalty and interest](#) is due.

Required Documentation:

- [Supporting documentation](#) (i.e. dealer invoice, bill of sale, etc.) is required to determine the amount of taxes due.
- **Factory Built Homes** - Must provide either proof of the date of delivery (in the form of a delivery receipt/ticket signed by the customer or installer/deliverer or an affidavit from the dealer or lienholder) or a statement from the buyer stating that no delivery was required.
 - The proof of delivery must indicate the customer's name, description of the factory built home (make, year, and vehicle identification number (VIN)), and date of delivery.
- **Out-of-State Residency for Vehicle Purchases** – If a vehicle was purchased from out-of-state, **one** of the following is required:
 - Photocopy of the seller's out-of-state driver's license or identification card. An international driver's license is **not** accepted as proof of out-of-state residency.
 - A notarized document required for the vehicle transfer (i.e. title, bill of sale, etc.). The notarization must occur out-of-state.
 - Notarized affidavit from the registered owner(s) indicating that they are not a resident of Louisiana, which must also include the out-of-state address.
 - **Note:** If proof of out-of-state residency is not submitted, a multiple transfer will be processed, and the following taxes will be assessed in one of the following ways:
 - **Use Tax:** Assessed on the out-of-state transfer since proof of out-of-state residency cannot be established.
 - If the date of sale is within 90 days Louisiana state and local use taxes will also be levied, not to exceed \$90.00.
 - If the date of sale is over 90 days, the tax will be based on the value of the vehicle, determined using one of the following valuation tools. The lowest value obtained from any of these acceptable sources should be used:
 - JD Power Average Trade
 - Trade Evaluation from a dealership
 - **Sales Tax** on the transfer from the seller(s) to the buyer(s). Sales tax will be assessed based on the selling price of the vehicle.

Fees:

- Sales tax must be collected on all transfers of motor vehicles based on the selling price, as shown on the title, bill of sale, or dealer invoice.
- Use tax must be collected on all transfers of motor vehicles based on the JD Power Official Used Car Guide average trade-in value, cost price when first purchased (as shown on a bill of sale or dealer invoice), or trade-in evaluation from a dealership, 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](#)

References:

¹ – Louisiana State Legislature. *Collection* (R.S. 47:303), retrieved from
<https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=101870>.