



TAX HELP

FOR VETERANS
AND ACTIVE MILITARY



TAX TIPS FOR VETERANS

Own Limited Property? Veterans who own a limited amount of property—\$5,000 or less if they are single and \$10,000 or less if they are married—may be eligible for a property tax exemption.

Buying a Car? If the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is paying any portion of a vehicle purchase directly to the dealer, that portion is generally not subject to sales tax.

Disabled? Veterans who have received a 100 percent disability rating may qualify for an exemption or partial exemption from property tax on their principal place of residence. A new law allows veterans to claim a refund for up to eight years of prior eligibility.

Mobile Vendor? Certain items sold by qualified itinerant veteran vendors are not subject to tax. Qualified itinerant veteran vendors are generally those who were honorably discharged, unable to obtain a livelihood by manual labor due to a service-connected disability, have no permanent place of business in California, and are sole proprietors with no employees.

Nonprofit? Nonprofit veterans' organizations selling merchandise or goods generally must hold a seller's permit. However, in some cases, the sale of American flags, certain memorial lapel pins, or meals served at veterans organization events are exempt from tax. Used items purchased from certain specified thrift stores located on California military bases are exempt from sales and use tax.

Learn more at
www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/veterans.htm

TAX TIPS FOR ACTIVE MILITARY

Need help with your taxes? Take advantage of free tax help for military members and their families through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA). VITA offers free tax preparation and e-filing at sites both on and off base, even overseas.

Have You Been Relocated? Purchases of tangible personal property by U.S. Armed Forces members, U.S. Armed Forces and National Guard active duty reserves, their spouses, and registered domestic partners are exempt from use tax when the purchase is made outside California prior to the report date on the official orders transferring the service member to this state. This exemption does not apply to purchases of vehicles, vessels, or aircraft.

What About Vehicles, Vessels, and Aircraft? If a vehicle purchased by an active duty service member is delivered to or received at a location outside California, sales or use tax may not apply if they moved to California, and brought the vehicle into California, because of an official transfer and the contract to purchase the vehicle is made before they receive the official transfer orders. If the vehicle is purchased after the service member receives transfer orders to California, tax generally applies.





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The State Board of Equalization thanks you for your bravery and sacrifice in choosing to serve and protect your country. The access to the benefits you valiantly earned is just a small token of appreciation for all that you have done in your courageous service of our nation.

Understanding tax issues related to veterans can be time-consuming and complicated. This brochure and the website, www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/veterans.htm, are designed to help you understand the tax topics that are important to veterans and veterans' organizations.

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TAX HELP FOR VETERANS

California is home to nearly two million veterans who served with honor and distinction. The State Board of Equalization offers information about state and federal tax exemptions and credits, as well as resources to aid those who served.

Should you have any questions regarding any of the services available to you, call 1-800-400-7115 (TTY:711) or visit www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/veterans.htm.

More helpful websites:

Tax Information for Members of the Military

www.irs.gov/individuals/military

Tax Help for Military Members and Veterans

www.taxhelp.org/resources/military

California Department of Veterans Affairs

www.calvet.ca.gov

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

www.va.gov

Veterans of Foreign Wars, California

www.vfwca.org

Publication 558.3 (8-16)

