

Ulster County Increases Sales and Use Tax Rate Effective February 1, 2014

Beginning February 1, 2014, Ulster County's local sales and use tax rate increases from 3% to 4%. Therefore, the combined state and local tax rate imposed in Ulster County increases from 7% to 8%. This new tax rate applies to all taxable sales, services, deliveries, and uses in Ulster County.

For exceptions, see *Special transitional exceptions* below.

Reporting taxable sales and uses

Main return: Use the *Ulster County 8%* entry line to report taxable sales and uses in Ulster County.

Schedule H: Use the *Ulster County 4%* entry line to report sales and uses of clothing and footwear eligible for exemption.

Schedule FR: Use the *Ulster County 4%* entry line to report the local sales tax on retail sales and uses of qualified motor fuel and highway diesel motor fuel. New York State's cents-per-gallon rate in Ulster County remains 8 cents per gallon.

Special transitional exceptions

Taxable sales and uses made on or after February 1, 2014, are taxed at **8%**, except as described below:

Admissions

Report taxable admissions to an event occurring on or after February 1, 2014, at the higher rate of 8%, whether or not the admission charge was paid before that date, unless the tickets were sold and delivered before February 1, 2014, to the person attending the event.

Hotel occupancy

Report all taxable daily rentals occurring on or after December 1, 2013, but before February 1, 2014, at the lower rate of 7%. Report all taxable daily rentals occurring on or after February 1, 2014, at the higher rate of 8%. If the rental is on other than a daily basis, prorate the amount of rent between the number of days taxable at the higher rate and the number of days taxable at the lower rate.

Layaway sales

Report sales and uses at the lower rate of 7% **only** if **both** the following conditions are met:

- before October 1, 2013, a written agreement was made and the item sold was segregated from other similar property in the possession of the vendor, **and**

- before February 1, 2014, the purchaser has paid at least 10% of the sales price.

Pre-existing lump sum or unit price construction contracts

Contractors purchasing materials in Ulster County for use in construction contracts pay the rate of 7% on purchases made on or after December 1, 2013, and 8% on purchases made on or after February 1, 2014. Contractors who irrevocably entered into a pre-existing lump sum or unit price construction contract before January 23, 2014 (the date on which the local legislation was adopted), may request a credit or refund of the additional 1% local sales and use tax paid on or after February 1, 2014. This credit or refund applies only to purchases of tangible personal property used solely in the performance of the contract.

Social and athletic club dues

Report all dues covering periods that begin on or after December 1, 2013, but before February 1, 2014, at the lower rate of 7%. Report all dues covering any period that begins on or after February 1, 2014, at the higher rate of 8%, regardless of the date the bill is mailed.

Telephone answering services

Report charges for services provided on or after December 1, 2013, but before February 1, 2014, at the lower rate of 7%. Report charges for services provided on or after February 1, 2014, at the higher rate of 8%. For services covering a period beginning before and ending on or after February 1, 2014, prorate the charges.

Telephone bills

Report charges for services furnished before the date of the first bill dated in February 2014 at the lower rate of 7%, even though the services may be furnished on or after February 1, 2014. Report charges for services furnished on or after the date of the first bill dated in February 2014 at the higher rate of 8%.

Utility bills: nonresidential gas and electricity based on meter readings

Report the sale at the higher rate of 8% if the meter is read on or after February 1, 2014, and the number of days from February 1, 2014, to the date of the meter reading is more than half the total number of days covered by the bill. Ulster County does **not** impose tax on residential energy sources and services.

Need help?



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- get information and manage your taxes online
- check for new online services and features



Text Telephone (TTY) Hotline (for persons with hearing and speech disabilities using a TTY): If you have access to a TTY, contact us at (518) 485-5082. If you do not own a TTY, check with independent living centers or community action programs to find out where machines are available for public use.



Telephone assistance

Sales Tax Information Center: (518) 485-2889

To order forms and publications: (518) 457-5431



Persons with disabilities: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, we will ensure that our lobbies, offices, meeting rooms, and other facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you have questions about special accommodations for persons with disabilities, call the information center.