



Department of Taxation and Finance

Important

The Alcoholic Beverages Tax information in this document is outdated and provided only for historical purposes.

For up-to-date information, see [Alcoholic beverages tax](#).

This TSB-M begins on page 2 below.

Reduction of New York State Alcoholic Beverages Tax Rate on Beer

On May 15, 2000, Governor George E. Pataki signed Chapter 63 of the Laws of 2000 into law. Chapter 63 amended section 424 (1)(a) of the Tax Law to reduce the New York State alcoholic beverages tax rate on beer from 12 ½ cents per gallons to 11 cents per gallon, effective September 1, 2003.

The new beer tax rate applies to all beer delivered by registered distributors on or after September 1, 2003, regardless of the date of the sales contract. It also applies to beer imported into New York State by noncommercial importers on or after September 1, 2003.

Because of this change in the beer tax rate, Form MT-50, *Beer Tax Return (and Similar Fermented Malt Beverages)*, and Form MT-50-I, *Instructions for Form MT-50*, are being revised. The revised forms and related schedules will be sent to all registered distributors in time to file their monthly return for September 2003, which must be filed on or before October 20, 2003.

Registered distributors who file Form MT-50 on an annual basis will receive revised forms and related schedules in time to file their return for the calendar year 2003, which must be filed on or before January 20, 2004. On the annual return, these distributors must account for beer delivered between January 1, 2003, and August 31, 2003, at a tax rate of 12 ½ cents per gallon and for beer delivered between September 1, 2003, and December 31, 2003, at a tax rate of 11 cents per gallon.

Only distributors who have met and maintain the eligibility requirements, and who have filed Form MT-38, *Application for Annual Beer Tax Return Filing Status* and have been approved by the Tax Department, may file annual returns. Refer to TSB-M-00(6)M, *Annual Filing Option Available for Certain Beer Distributors*, and Form MT-50-I for additional information. These documents are available on the department website listed below.