

CHAPTER 220
EXEMPTIONS PRIMARILY OF BENEFIT TO CONSUMERS
[Prior to 9/7/22, see Revenue Department[701] Ch 231]

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 8/28/29

701—220.1(423) Newspapers, free newspapers and shoppers' guides.

220.1(1) *In general.* The sales price from the sale of newspapers, free newspapers, and shoppers' guides is exempt from tax. The sales price from the sale of magazines, newsletters, and other periodicals that are not newspapers is taxable.

220.1(2) *General characteristics of a newspaper.* A "newspaper" is a periodical, published at short, stated, and regular intervals, usually daily or weekly. It is printed on newsprint with news ink, and usually contains photographs. The format of a newspaper is that of sheets folded loosely together without stapling. The larger the cross section of the population that reads a periodical in the area where the periodical circulates, the more likely it is that the department will consider that periodical to be a "newspaper."

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(55).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.2(423) Food and food ingredients.

220.2(1) Most substances can easily be classified either as food, food ingredients, or nonfood items in accordance with Iowa Code section 423.3(57). There are, however, certain substances that are not readily distinguishable as food or nonfood and may present problems in judgment. The following guidelines apply to some of the more unique categories of eligible foods and food ingredients and ineligible nonfood items about which questions may arise. The guidelines and their lists are not to be considered all-inclusive:

a. Foods eligible for purchase with food coupons. Sales of almost all substances that may be purchased with food coupons issued by the United States Department of Agriculture are exempt from Tax. Sales of certain substances that can be purchased with food stamps but are neither food nor food ingredients are taxable.

These taxable sales include garden seeds and plants sold for use in gardens to produce food for human consumption. Seeds and plants eligible for purchase with food coupons include vegetable seeds and food-producing plants such as tomato and green pepper plants and fruit trees, food-producing roots, bushes, and bulbs (e.g., asparagus roots and onion sets) and seeds and plants used to produce spices for use in cooking foods. Sales of all these substances are taxable. Sales of chewing gum are taxable as sales of "candy."

b. Distilled water and ice. These substances, although having some nonfood uses, are largely used as food or as ingredients in food for human consumption. Unless these substances are specifically labeled for nonfood use or the recipient indicates that they will be used for some purpose other than as food for human consumption or as ingredients in food for human consumption, their sales are exempt from tax.

c. Specialty foods. This category of exempt foods includes special dietary foods (e.g., diabetic and dietetic), enriched or fortified foods, infant formulas, and certain foods commonly referred to as health food items. These substances are food products that are substituted for more commonly used food items in the diet, and thus they are purchased for ingestion by humans and are consumed for their taste or nutritional value. Examples of items in this category of eligible foods are Metrecal, Enfamil, Sustegen, wheat germ, brewer's yeast, sunflower seeds that are packaged for human consumption, and rose hips powder that is used for preparing tea. It is not possible to formulate a comprehensive list of exempt specialty foods. The guideline to be used to determine the eligibility of a specific product is the ordinary use of the product.

NOTE: If the product is primarily used as a food or as an ingredient in food, then it is an exempt item; if it is primarily used for medicinal purposes as either a therapeutic agent or a deficiency corrector and only occasionally used as a food, the product is not exempt under this provision.

d. Snack foods. These substances are food items and, therefore, are usually eligible for the exemption. Typical examples of snack foods are cheese puffs; corn chips; popcorn; peanuts; potato chips and sticks; packaged cookies, cupcakes, and donuts; and pretzels. Subrule 220.3(2) contains more information on candy and snack foods that are not exempt from tax and remain taxable.

e. Others. There are certain eligible food substances that are normally consumed only after being incorporated into foods sold for ingestion or chewing by humans. Sales of substances that are ingredients of items identical to those that are eligible for exemption when sold as finished products are sales eligible for exemption. Since these substances are food ingredients, their sales are exempt. An example is pectin. Pectin is the generic term for products marketed under various brand names and commonly used as a base in making jams and jellies. When pectin is incorporated into jams or jellies, it becomes part of a food for human consumption and, therefore, is an eligible food item. Other examples are lard and vegetable oils.

f. The following general classifications of food products are also exempt from tax unless taxable as prepared food; see rule 701—220.4(423):

- Bread and flour products
- Bottled water, unless it is a sweetened bottled water and thus taxable as a soft drink
- Cereal and cereal products
- Cocoa and cocoa products, unless taxable in the form of candy as in rule 701—220.3(423)
- Coffee and coffee substitutes, unless taxable as soft drinks; see paragraph 220.2(2)“*f*”
- Dietary substitutes, other than dietary supplements; see paragraph 220.2(2)“*c*”
- Eggs and egg products
- Fish and fish products
- Frozen foods
- Fruits and fruit products including fruit juices, unless taxable as soft drinks; see paragraph 220.3(2)“*f*”
- Margarine, butter, and shortening
- Meat and meat products
- Milk and milk products, including packaged ice cream products
- Milk substitutes, such as soy and rice milk substitutes
- Spices, condiments, extracts, and artificial food coloring
- Sugar and sugar products and substitutes, unless taxable in the form of candy as in rule 701—220.3(423)
- Tea, unless taxable as a soft drink; see paragraph 220.2(2)“*f*”
- Vegetables and vegetable products

220.2(2) Substances excluded from the term “food and food ingredients.” Sales of alcoholic beverages, candy, dietary supplements, food sold through vending machines, prepared food, soft drinks, and tobacco are not sales of “food” and are not exempt from tax by this rule.

a. “Alcoholic beverages” means beverages that are suitable for human consumption and contain one-half of 1 percent or more of alcohol by volume.

b. “Candy.” See rule 701—220.3(423).

c. “Dietary supplement” means any product, other than tobacco, intended to supplement the diet that contains one or more of the following dietary ingredients:

- (1) A vitamin.
- (2) A mineral.
- (3) An herb or other botanical.
- (4) An amino acid.
- (5) A dietary substance for use by humans to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake.
- (6) A concentrate, metabolite, constituent, extract, or combination of any of the ingredients in subparagraphs 220.2(2)“*c*”(1) through (5) that is intended for ingestion in tablet, capsule, powder, softgel, gelcap, or liquid form, or if not intended for ingestion in such a form, is not represented as conventional food and is not represented for use as a sole item of a meal or of the diet; and is required to be labeled as a dietary supplement, identifiable by the “supplement facts” box found on the label and as required pursuant to 21 Code of Federal Regulations 101.36.

Dietary supplements, as their name indicates, serve as supplements to food or food products rather than as “food,” and, therefore, are not included within the definition of that word. Since these substances serve as deficiency correctors or therapeutic agents to supplement diets deficient in essential nutrition rather than as foods, they are not eligible for the food and food ingredients exemption. In addition to vitamin and

mineral tablets or capsules, this category includes substances such as cod liver oil, which is used primarily as a source of vitamins A and D. It is not possible to provide a comprehensive list of other such items that are primarily used for medicinal purposes or as health aids and that may be stocked by authorized firms.

d. “Food sold through vending machines” means food dispensed from a machine or other mechanical device that accepts payment, other than food that would be qualified for exemption if purchased with coupons (commonly known as “food stamps”) issued under the federal Food Stamp Act of 1977, 7 United States Code 2011 et seq. Alcoholic beverages, candy, dietary supplements, prepared food, soft drinks, and tobacco sold through vending machines are sold subject to tax in all instances because they are specifically excluded from this rule’s definition of “foods”; see subrule 220.2(2) generally. This paragraph “*d*” should be interpreted in such a fashion that if the sale of a substance is exempt from tax because it is a sale of “food” when the substance is sold by means other than a vending machine, then the sale of that same substance through a vending machine will also be exempt from tax. Conversely, if the sale of a substance by any means other than through a vending machine is taxable, then the sale of that same substance through a vending machine will also be taxable.

e. “Prepared food.” See rule 701—220.4(423).

f. “Soft drinks” means nonalcoholic beverages that contain natural or artificial sweeteners. Soft drinks may be noncarbonated. “Soft drinks” does not include beverages that contain milk or milk products; soy, rice, or similar milk substitutes; coffee and tea that are not sweetened; effervescent, noneffervescent, and mineral water sold in containers; and beverages that contain greater than 50 percent of vegetable or fruit juice by volume.

Taxable soft drinks are noncarbonated water and soda water if naturally or artificially sweetened; soft drinks carbonated and noncarbonated including but not limited to colas, ginger ale, near beer, and root beer; bottled and sweetened tea and coffee; lemonade, orangeade, and all other drinks or punches with natural fruit or vegetable juice less than 50 percent by volume.

Beverage mixes and ingredients intended to be made into soft drinks are taxable. Beverage mixes or ingredients may be liquid or frozen, concentrated or nonconcentrated, dehydrated, powdered, granulated, sweetened or unsweetened, seasoned or unseasoned. Sales of beverage mixes to which a sweetener is to be added before drinking are taxable. Concentrates intended to be made into beverages that contain natural fruit or vegetable juice of less than 50 percent by volume are taxable.

Beverages, the sales of which are otherwise exempt, are taxable if sold as prepared food under rule 701—220.4(423).

Nondairy coffee “creamers” in liquid, frozen or powdered form are not beverages. Sugar or other artificial or natural sweeteners sold separately are not taxable as beverage ingredients. Specialty foods that are liquids or that are to be added to a liquid and that are intended to be a substitute in the diet for more commonly used food items are not beverages and are not taxable as beverages. These foods include infant formula.

g. “Tobacco” means cigarettes, cigars, chewing or pipe tobacco, or any other item that contains tobacco.

220.2(3) Other substances that are not food or food ingredients. Various products are not purchased for ingestion or chewing by humans or, if they are, are not consumed for their taste or nutritional value. Therefore, they are not purchased exempt from tax under this rule. They include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. *Health aids.* Over-the-counter medicines and other products used primarily as health aids or therapeutic agents are not foods since they are consumed for their medicinal value as opposed to their nutritional value or taste. Such products include aspirin, cough drops or syrups and other cold remedies, antacids, and all over-the-counter medicines or other products used as health aids. In addition to these commonly used health aids, any product used primarily for medicinal purposes is ineligible. An example of such products is slippery elm powder, a demulcent that is used to soothe sore throats.

b. *Items not exempt.* The following general classifications of products are subject to tax:

Cosmetics

Household supplies

Paper products

Pet foods and supplies
 Soaps and detergents
 Tobacco products
 Toiletry articles
 Tonics

Lunch counter foods or foods prepared for consumption on the premises of the retailer

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(57).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.3(423) Candy.

220.3(1) Definitions.

a. *Candy.* For the purposes of this rule, “candy” is a preparation of sugar, honey, or other natural or artificial sweeteners in combination with chocolate, fruits, nuts or other ingredients or flavorings in the form of bars, drops, or pieces. “Candy” shall not include any preparation containing flour and shall require no refrigeration. Any preparation to which flour has been added only for the purpose of excluding the candy’s sales from tax and not for any legitimate purpose, culinary or otherwise, shall not be sold exempt from tax under this rule. This definition is intended to be used when a person is trying to determine if a product that is commonly thought of as “candy” is in fact “candy.” For example, the definition would be applied in a situation where a person is trying to determine if a product is “candy” as opposed to a cookie. The definition is not intended to be applied to every type of food product sold. Many products, such as meat products, breakfast cereals, potato chips, and canned fruits and vegetables are not commonly thought of as “candy.” The definition of “candy” is not applicable to products such as these since they are not commonly thought of as candy.

b. *Preparation.* Candy must be a “preparation” that contains certain ingredients, other than flour. A “preparation” is a product that is made by means of heating, coloring, molding, or otherwise processing any of the ingredients listed in the definition of “candy.” For example, reducing maple syrup into pieces and adding coloring to make maple candy is a form of preparation.

c. *Bars, drops or pieces.* Candy must be sold in the form of bars, drops, or pieces.

(1) A “bar” is a product that is sold in the form of a square, oblong, or similar form. For example, if Company A sells one-pound square blocks of chocolate, the blocks of chocolate are “bars.”

(2) A “drop” is a product that is sold in a round, oval, pear-shaped, or similar form. For example, if Company B sells chocolate chips in a bag, each individual chocolate chip contains all of the ingredients indicated on the label and the chocolate chips are “drops.”

(3) A “piece” is a portion that has the same makeup as the product as a whole. Individual ingredients and loose mixtures of items that make up the product as a whole are not pieces.

EXCEPTION: If a loose mixture of different items that make up the product as a whole are all individually considered candy and are sold as one product, that product is also candy.

EXAMPLE 1: Company C sells jellybeans in a bag. Each jellybean is made up of the ingredients indicated on the label. Each jellybean is a “piece” or “drop.”

EXAMPLE 2: Company D sells trail mix in a bag. The product being sold (trail mix) is made up of a mixture of carob chips, peanuts, raisins, and sunflower seeds. The individual items that make up the trail mix are not “pieces,” but instead are the ingredients, which, when combined, make up the trail mix. Therefore, the trail mix is not sold in the form of bars, drops, or pieces.

EXAMPLE 3: Company E sells a product called “candy lovers mix.” Candy lovers mix is a product that is made up of a loose mixture of jellybeans, toffee, and caramels. Individually, the jellybeans, toffee, and caramels are all candy. The sale of the mixture is the sale of candy since all of the individual items that make up the product are individually considered to be candy.

EXAMPLE 4: Company F sells cotton candy that is packaged and sold in grocery stores. Cotton candy contains sugar, corn syrup, water, coloring, and flavoring; it does not contain flour. Cotton candy is not “candy” because it is not sold in the form of a bar, drop, or piece. Cotton candy is, however, “prepared food” under Iowa Code section 423.3(57) “f.”

d. *Flour.* In order for a product to be treated as containing “flour,” the product label must specifically list the word “flour” as one of the ingredients. There is no requirement that the “flour” be grain-based, and

it does not matter what the flour is made from. Many products that are commonly thought of as “candy” contain flour, as indicated on the ingredient label and therefore are specifically excluded from the definition of “candy.” Ingredient labels must be examined to determine which products contain flour and which products do not contain flour. Any preparation to which flour has been added only for the purpose of excluding its sales from tax and not for any legitimate purpose, culinary or otherwise, shall not be sold exempt from tax under this rule. For example, a candy bar that contains flour, for a legitimate purpose, is excluded from the definition of “candy.”

EXAMPLE 1: The ingredient list for a breakfast bar lists “flour” as one of the ingredients. This breakfast bar is not “candy” since it contains flour.

EXAMPLE 2: The ingredient list for a breakfast bar lists “peanut flour” as one of the ingredients. This breakfast bar is not “candy” because it contains flour.

EXAMPLE 3: The ingredient list for a breakfast bar that otherwise meets the definition of “candy” lists “whole grain” as one of the ingredients, but does not specifically list “flour” as one of the ingredients. This breakfast bar is “candy” because the word “flour” is not included in the ingredient list.

EXAMPLE 4: Company E sells a box of chocolates that are not individually wrapped. The ingredient list on the label for the box of chocolates identifies flour as one of the ingredients. The box of chocolates is not “candy” since flour is identified as one of the ingredients on the label.

EXAMPLE 5: Company F sells a box of chocolates that are not individually wrapped. The ingredient list on the label for the box of chocolates, which otherwise meets the definition of “candy,” does not identify flour as one of the ingredients. The box of chocolates is “candy.”

EXAMPLE 6: Company G sells high-end licorice—licorice A and licorice B. Licorice A would otherwise be “candy,” but its wrapper lists “flour” as an ingredient. Licorice A is not “candy.” Licorice B is the same as licorice A, except it does not contain “flour.” Licorice B is “candy.”

e. Other ingredients or flavorings. “Other ingredients or flavorings” as used in this rule means other ingredients or flavorings that are similar to chocolate, fruits or nuts. This phrase includes candy coatings such as carob, vanilla and yogurt; flavorings or extracts such as vanilla, maple, mint, and almond; and seeds and other items similar to the classes of ingredients or flavorings. This phrase does not include meats, spices, seasonings such as barbeque or cheddar flavor, or herbs that are not similar to the classes of ingredients or flavorings associated with chocolate, fruits, or nuts, unless the product otherwise meets the definition of “candy.”

EXAMPLE 1: Retailer A sells barbeque-flavored peanuts. The ingredient label for the barbeque- flavored peanuts indicates that the product contains peanuts, sugar and various other ingredients, including barbeque flavoring. Since the barbeque-flavored peanuts contain a combination of sweeteners and nuts, and flour is not listed on the label and the nuts do not require refrigeration, barbeque-flavored peanuts are “candy.”

EXAMPLE 2: Retailer B sells barbeque potato chips. Potato chips are potatoes, a vegetable, and are not commonly thought of as candy. The barbeque potato chips are “food and food ingredients” and not “candy.” The fact that the ingredient label for the barbeque potato chips indicates that the product contains barbeque seasoning that contains a sweetener does not change the fact that the barbeque potato chips are not commonly thought of as candy.

f. Sweeteners. The term “natural or artificial sweeteners” as used in this rule means an ingredient of a food product that adds a sugary sweetness to the taste of the food product and includes, but is not limited to, corn syrup, dextrose, invert sugar, sucrose, fructose, sucralose, saccharin, aspartame, stevia, fruit juice concentrates, molasses, evaporated cane juice, rice syrup, barley malt, honey, maltitol, agave, and artificial sweeteners.

g. Refrigeration. A product that otherwise meets the definition of “candy” is not “candy” if it requires refrigeration. A product “requires refrigeration” if it must be refrigerated at the time of sale or after being opened. In order for a product to be treated as requiring refrigeration, the product label must indicate that refrigeration is required. If the label on a product that contains multiple servings indicates that it “requires refrigeration,” smaller size packages of the same product are also considered to “require refrigeration.” A product that otherwise meets the definition of “candy” is “candy” if the product is not required to be refrigerated, but is sold refrigerated for the convenience or preference of the customer, retailer, or manufacturer.

EXAMPLE 1: Company A sells sweetened fruit snacks in a bag that contains multiple servings. The label on the bag indicates that after opening, the sweetened fruit snacks must be refrigerated. The sweetened fruit snacks “require refrigeration.”

EXAMPLE 2: Company A sells sweetened fruit snacks in single-serving containers. Other than for packaging, the sweetened fruit snacks are identical to the sweetened fruit snacks in Example 1 above. However, since this container of sweetened fruit snacks only contains one serving, it is presumed that it will be used immediately, and the label does not indicate that after opening, the product must be refrigerated. Even though the label does not contain the statement that after opening the sweetened fruit snacks must be refrigerated, these sweetened fruit snacks are considered to “require refrigeration.”

EXAMPLE 3: Company A sells chocolate truffles. The label on the truffles indicates to keep the product cool and dry, but does not indicate that the product must be refrigerated. Since the chocolate truffles are not required to be refrigerated, even though the label indicates to keep them cool, the chocolate truffles do not “require refrigeration.”

220.3(2) *Nonexclusive examples.*

a. *Taxable candy.* Examples of items taxable as candy include, but are not limited to: preparations of fruits, nuts, or other ingredients in combination with sugar, honey, or other natural or artificial sweeteners in the form of bars, drops, or pieces; caramel-coated or other candy-coated apples or other fruit; candy-coated popcorn; hard or soft candies including jellybeans, taffy, licorice not containing flour, marshmallows, and mints; dried fruit leathers or other similar products prepared with natural or artificial sweeteners; candy breath mints; chewing gum; and mixes of candy pieces.

Sales of items that are normally sold for use as ingredients in recipes but that can be eaten as candy are taxable. Examples of these items include, but are not limited to, sweetened baking chocolate in bars or pieces; white and dark chocolate almond bark; toffee bits; M&M’s, including those sold for baking; candy primarily intended for decorating baked goods; and sweetened baking chips, including mint chips, peanut butter chips, butterscotch chips, and chocolate chips.

b. *Nontaxable items.* Sales of the following are generally not taxable as candy: jams, jellies, preserves, or syrups; frostings; dried fruits without added sweetener; breakfast cereals; prepared fruit in a sugar or similar base; ice cream or other frozen desserts covered with chocolate or similar coverings; cotton candy; cakes, cookies, and similar products covered with chocolate or other similar coating; and granola bars. However, these and similar items are taxable if sold as prepared food under rule 701—220.4(423).

220.3(3) *Bundled transaction including candy.*

a. *Candy and food.* Products that are a combination of items that are defined as “candy” under this rule and items that are defined as “food and food ingredients” under rule 701—220.2(423) are “bundled transactions” when the items are distinct and identifiable and are sold for one nonitemized price, unless the seller’s sales price or purchase price of the candy accounts for 50 percent or less of the seller’s sales price or purchase price of the bundled transaction as provided under Iowa Code section 423.2(8)“d”(4). For example, a bag of multiple types of individually wrapped bars that is sold for one price is two or more distinct and identifiable products sold for one nonitemized price. For purposes of determining whether such a bag of individually wrapped bars is a “bundled transaction,” the following criteria apply:

(1) *Ingredients listed separately.*

1. If a package contains individually wrapped bars, drops, or pieces and the product label on the package separately lists the ingredients for each type of bar, drop, or piece included in the package, those bars, drops, or pieces that have “flour” listed as an ingredient are “food and food ingredients” and those bars, drops, or pieces that do not have “flour” listed as an ingredient are “candy.” The determination of whether the package as a whole meets the definition of “bundled transaction” is based on the percentage of bars, drops, or pieces that meet the definition of “food and food ingredient” as compared to the percentage of bars, drops, or pieces that meet the definition of “candy.”

2. *Determining the percentage.* For purposes of determining the percentage of the sales price or purchase price of the bars, drops, or pieces that meet the definition of “candy” as compared to all of the bars, drops, or pieces contained in the package, the retailer may presume that each bar, drop, or piece contained in the package has the same value.

3. Presumption of product amount. A retailer may presume that there is an equal number of each type of product contained in the package, unless the package clearly indicates otherwise.

EXAMPLE: Retailer B sells bulk food and food ingredients by the pound. Each food and food ingredient is in a separate bin or container. Some of the food and food ingredients are “candy” and some of them are not because they contain flour. However, regardless of the items chosen, the retailer charges the customer \$3.49/lb. Customer C selects some items that are “candy” and some that are not and puts them in a bag. Since some of the items in the bag are “candy,” the retailer shall treat the entire package as a bundled transaction containing primarily “candy,” unless the retailer ascertains that the sales price or purchase price of the candy in the bag is less than 50 percent of the sales price or purchase price of the entire bag. See Iowa Code section 423.2(8).

(2) Ingredients listed together. If a package contains individually wrapped bars, drops, or pieces and all of the ingredients for each of the products included in the package are listed together, as opposed to being listed separately by each product included as explained in subparagraph (1) above, and even if the ingredient lists “flour” as an ingredient, the product will be treated as “candy,” unless the retailer is able to ascertain that the sales price or purchase price of the candy in the package is less than 50 percent of the sales price or purchase price of the entire bag. See Iowa Code section 423.2(8).

The retailer may presume that each bar, drop, or piece contained in the package has the same value. The retailer may presume that there is an equal number of each type of product contained in the package, unless the package clearly indicates otherwise.

b. Combination of ingredients. Products whose ingredients are a combination of various unwrapped food ingredients that alone are not “candy,” along with unwrapped food ingredients that alone are “candy,” such as breakfast cereal and trail mix with candy pieces, are considered “food and food ingredients” and are not “candy.” Sales of these products are not “bundled transactions” because there are not two or more distinct and identifiable products being sold. The combination of the ingredients results in a single product.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 423.2(8) and 423.3(57).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.4(423) Prepared food. Sales of “prepared food” are subject to tax.

220.4(1) Prepared food. “Prepared food” means any of the following:

- a. Food sold in a heated state or heated by the seller, including food sold by a caterer.
- b. Two or more food ingredients mixed or combined by the seller for sale as a single item.
- c. Food sold with eating utensils provided by the seller, including plates, knives, forks, spoons, glasses, cups, napkins, or straws. A plate does not include a container or packaging used to transport food.

The types of retailers who are generally considered to be offering prepared food for sale include restaurants, coffee shops, cafeterias, convenience stores, snack shops, and concession stands including those at recreation and entertainment facilities. Other retailers that often offer prepared food include vending machine retailers, mobile vendors, and concessionaires operating facilities for such activities as education, office work, or manufacturing.

If food is sold for consumption on the premises of a retailer, the food is rebuttably presumed to be prepared food. “Premises of a retailer” means the total space and facilities under control of the retailer or available to the retailer, including buildings, grounds, and parking lots that are made available or that are available for use by the retailer, for the purpose of sale of prepared food and drink or for the purpose of consumption of prepared food and drink sold by the retailer. Availability of self-service heating or other preparation facilities or eating facilities such as tables and chairs and knives, forks, and spoons, indicates that food, food products, and drinks are sold for consumption on the premises of the retailer and are subject to tax as sales of prepared food.

The following examples are intended to show some of the situations in which sales are taxable as sales of prepared food and drink.

EXAMPLE A: A movie theater owner operates a movie theater and a concession stand in the lobby of the theater. There is not a separate area set aside for eating facilities. Sales of prepared food and drink through the concession stand are taxable.

EXAMPLE B: As a convenience to employees, a manufacturer owns and operates several food and drink vending machines located on the premises of the plant. No separate seating or other facilities for eating are provided. Sales of prepared food and drink through the vending machines are taxable.

EXAMPLE C: Mobile vendor units located throughout an office are operated by the owner of the business and are stocked with snack food priced to cover the cost of the items to the employer. No separate eating facilities are provided. Sales of prepared food through the mobile vendors are taxable.

EXAMPLE D: An insurance company hires a caterer to run a cafeteria that provides food, at a low cost, to its employees. The insurance company also pays the caterer an amount, per month, which varies with the number of meals the caterer serves to provide this food service. The caterer does not lease the cafeteria premises; thus the premises remains under the control of the insurance company. In this case, the caterer sells the food in a space made “available to the retailer [caterer],” and the amount that the insurance company pays, on a monthly basis, to the caterer is presumed to be the taxable sales price from the sale of prepared food, as well as the amount paid by the employees to the caterer.

220.4(2) Examples. The following are additional examples of foods that either are or are not “prepared foods,” the sales price of which is taxable.

EXAMPLE A: A supermarket retailer cuts Bibb and romaine lettuce, mixes them together, and places them in a bag for sale. This is food that is only cut and repackaged. Its sale is not the sale of prepared food; thus its sale is exempt from tax.

EXAMPLE B: The same factual situation as Example A above applies, except that the lettuce is mixed with a salad dressing, placed in a container, and sold as a salad that is ready to eat. Sale of the salad is a taxable sale of “prepared food.”

EXAMPLE C: A supermarket retailer slices a roll of cotto salami and a roll of regular salami. The retailer places ten slices of each in the same container and sells the combination as an Italian luncheon meat variety pack. This is, again, the sale of food that is only cut and repackaged. The sale of the salami is exempt from tax.

EXAMPLE D: The same factual circumstances as in Example C apply, except that the retailer takes the sliced salami, places it between two slices of bread, adds some condiments, surrounds the meat, bread, and condiments with plastic, and sells the result as a ready-to-eat sandwich. This is prepared food, “two or more food ingredients . . . combined by the seller for sale as a single item,” and more is done to the ingredients than cutting and repackaging. Sales of the sandwiches are taxable.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(57).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.5(423) Prescription drugs. The sales price from the sale of prescription drugs dispensed for human use or consumption in accordance with subrules 220.5(3) and 220.5(4) shall be exempt from tax. The sales price from the sale of oxygen or insulin purchased for human use or consumption (whether or not the oxygen or insulin is prescribed) is exempt from tax as a prescription drug.

220.5(1) Ultimate user. The term “ultimate user” means an individual who has lawfully obtained and possesses a prescription drug or medical device for the individual’s own use or for the use of a member of the individual’s household, or an individual to whom a prescription drug or medical device has been lawfully supplied, administered, dispensed or prescribed. The term is limited to natural persons, and does not include any legal persons such as corporations.

220.5(2) Tax exemption. The sale of a prescription drug is exempt from tax only if the drug is intended to be prescribed or dispensed to an ultimate user. A drug is intended to be prescribed or dispensed to an ultimate user only if the drug is obtained by or supplied or administered to an ultimate user for placement on or in the ultimate user’s body.

EXAMPLE A: A physician prescribes a tranquilizer for a patient who is chronically nervous. The patient uses the prescription to purchase the tranquilizer at a pharmacy. The purchase is exempt from tax.

For purposes of this subrule, any drug prescribed in writing by a licensed physician, surgeon, osteopath, osteopathic physician or surgeon, or other person authorized by law to an ultimate user for human use or consumption shall be deemed a drug exempt from tax if a prescription is required or permitted under Iowa state or federal law.

EXAMPLE B: A common painkiller is sold over the counter in doses of 200 milligrams per tablet. In doses of 600 milligrams per tablet, federal law requires a prescription before the drug can be dispensed. Sales of 600 milligram tablets by prescription are exempt from tax.

EXAMPLE C: A federal law permits but does not require the painkiller mentioned in Example B to be prescribed by a practitioner in dosages of 200 milligrams per tablet. A practitioner might prescribe the painkiller in the over-the-counter dosage, for example, to impress upon a patient the importance of taking the drug. Sales of 200 milligram tablets by prescription are exempt from tax.

220.5(3) *Persons authorized to dispense prescription drugs.* In order for a prescription drug or device to qualify for an exemption, it must be dispensed by anyone authorized under Iowa law to dispense prescription drugs or devices in this state or by anyone licensed in another state in a health field in which, under Iowa law, licensees in this state may legally prescribe drugs or devices.

220.5(4) *Disposition of prescription drugs.* Prescription drugs may be dispensed either directly from one of the persons licensed in subrule 220.5(3) who may also prescribe drugs or by a pharmacist upon receipt of a prescription from one of the persons licensed to prescribe. A prescription received by a licensed pharmacist from one of the persons licensed in subrule 220.5(3) who may also prescribe drugs shall be sufficient evidence that a drug is exempt from tax. When a person who prescribes a drug is also the dispenser, the drug will not require a prescription by such person, but the drug must be recorded as if a prescription would have been issued or required. If this condition is met, the sales price from the sale of the drug is exempt from tax.

220.5(5) *Others required to collect sales tax.* Any person other than those who are allowed to dispense drugs or devices under subrule 220.5(3) is required to collect sales tax on any prescription drugs.

220.5(6) *Prescription drugs purchased by hospitals for resale.* This subrule applies to for-profit hospitals only. Hospitals have purchased prescription drugs for resale to patients and not for use or consumption in providing hospital services only if the following circumstances exist: (1) the drug is actually transferred to the patient; (2) the drug is transferred in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value; (3) the hospital and the patient intend the transfer to be a sale; and (4) the sale is evidenced in the patient's bill by a separate charge for the identifiable drug.

A hospital's purchase of a prescription drug for purposes other than resale will still be exempt from tax if a drug is intended to be prescribed to an ultimate user and the hospital's use of the drug is otherwise exempt under subrule 220.5(1).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(60).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.6(423) Other medical devices. The sales price from the sale of other medical devices is exempt from tax. The term “other medical devices” means medical equipment or supplies intended to be dispensed for human use with or without a prescription to an ultimate user. The term “other medical devices” does not include prosthetic devices, durable medical equipment, or mobility enhancing equipment. For purposes of this rule, the term “ultimate user” has the same meaning as in subrule 220.5(1).

220.6(1) Definitions.

“*Anesthesia trays*” includes, without limit, paracervical anesthesia trays, saddle block anesthesia trays, spinal anesthesia trays, and continuous epidural anesthesia trays.

“*Biopsy*” means the removal and examination of tissue from a living body, performed to establish a precise diagnosis.

“*Biopsy needles*” includes, without limit, needles used to perform liver, kidney, other soft tissue, bone, and bone marrow biopsies. Menghini technique aspirating needles, Rosenthal-type needles, and “J” Jamshidi needles are all examples of biopsy needles.

“*Cannula*” means a tube inserted into a body duct or cavity to drain fluid, insert medication including oxygen, or to open an air passage. Examples are lariat nasal cannulas and abelson cricothyrotomy cannulas.

“*Catheter*” means a tubular, flexible, surgical instrument used to withdraw fluids from or introduce fluids into a body cavity, or for making examinations. Examples are: Robinson/nelaton catheters, all types of Foley catheters (e.g., pediatric and irrigating), three-way catheters, suction catheters, IV catheters, angiocath catheters and male and female catheters.

“*Catheter trays.*” Universal Foley catheter trays, economy Foley trays, urethral catheterization trays and catheter trays with domed covers are nonexclusive examples of these trays.

“*Diabetic testing materials*” means all materials used in testing for sugar or acetone in the urine, including, but not limited to, Clinitest, Tes-tape, and Clinistix; also, all materials used in monitoring the glucose level in the blood, including, but not limited to, bloodletting supplies and test strips.

“*Drug infusion device*” means a device designed for the slow introduction of a drug solution into the human body. The term includes devices that infuse by means of pumps or gravity flow (drip infusion).

“*Fistula*” means an abnormal passage usually between the internal organs or between an internal organ and the surface of the body.

“*Hypodermic syringe*” means an instrument for applying or administering liquid into any vessel or cavity beneath the skin. This includes the needle portion of the syringe if it accompanies the syringe at the time of purchase, and it also includes replacement needles.

“*Insulin*” means a preparation of the active principle of the pancreas, used therapeutically in diabetes and sometimes in other conditions.

“*Kit*” means a combination of medical equipment and supplies used to perform one particular medical procedure that is packaged and sold as a single item.

“*Myelogram*” means a radiographic picture of the spinal cord. A “radiographic picture” is one taken using radiation other than visible light.

“*Nebulizer*” means a mechanical device that converts a liquid to a spray or fog.

“*Oxygen equipment*” means all equipment used to deliver medicinal oxygen including, but not limited to, face masks, humidifiers, cannulas, tubing, mouthpieces, tracheotomy masks or collars, regulators, oxygen concentrators and oxygen accessory racks or stands.

“*Set.*” See “kit” above.

“*Tray.*” See “kit” above.

220.6(2) The sales price from the sale of the following other medical devices is exempt from tax:

- a. Sales of insulin, hypodermic syringes, and diabetic testing materials.
- b. Sales and rentals of oxygen equipment.
- c. Sales of hypodermic needles, anesthesia trays, biopsy trays and needles, cannula systems, catheter trays, invasive catheters, dialyzers, drug infusion devices, fistula sets, hemodialysis devices, insulin infusion devices, irrigation solutions, intravenous administering sets, solutions and stopcocks, myelogram trays, nebulizers, small vein infusion kits, spinal puncture trays, transfusion sets and venous blood sets, all of which are not taxable.

220.6(3) Component parts. The sales price from the sale of any component parts of the trays, systems, devices, sets, or kits listed above are taxable unless the sales price from the sale of the component part, standing alone, is otherwise exempt. For instance, the sales price from the sale of a biopsy needle or an invasive catheter will be exempt from tax whether or not it was purchased for use as a component part in a biopsy tray or catheter tray, so long as the needle or catheter will be dispensed for human use to an ultimate user. Conversely, the sales price from the sale of catheter introducers, disposable latex gloves, rayon balls, forceps, and specimen bottles is exempt from tax when those items are sold as part of a catheter tray, but are not exempt when those items are sold individually.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(60).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.7(423) Prosthetic devices, durable medical equipment, and mobility enhancing equipment.

220.7(1) *Prosthetic devices.* The sales price from the sale of prosthetic devices is exempt from tax.

220.7(2) *Durable medical equipment and mobility enhancing equipment.* The sales price from the sale of durable medical equipment and mobility enhancing equipment prescribed for human use that meet the provisions of subrules 220.7(3) and 220.7(4) is exempt from tax. “Prescribed” refers to a prescription issued in any form of oral, written, electronic, or other means of transmission by any of the persons described in subrule 220.5(3).

220.7(3) *Definitions.*

- a. “*Durable medical equipment*” means equipment, including repair and replacement parts, but does not include mobility enhancing equipment, to which all of the following apply:

- (1) Can withstand repeated use.
- (2) Is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose.
- (3) Generally is not useful to a person in the absence of illness or injury.
- (4) Is not worn in or on the body.
- (5) Is for home use only.
- (6) Is prescribed by a practitioner.

b. *“Mobility enhancing equipment”* means equipment, including repair and replacement parts, but does not include durable medical equipment, to which all of the following apply:

- (1) Is primarily and customarily used to provide or increase the ability to move from one place to another and which is appropriate for use either in a home or a motor vehicle.
- (2) Is not generally used by persons with normal mobility.
- (3) Does not include any motor vehicle or equipment on a motor vehicle normally provided by a motor vehicle manufacturer.
- (4) Is prescribed by a practitioner.

c. *“Prosthetic device”* means a replacement, corrective, or supportive device including repair and replacement parts for the same worn on or in the body to do any of the following:

- (1) Artificially replace a missing portion of the body.
- (2) Prevent or correct physical deformity or malfunction.
- (3) Support a weak or deformed portion of the body.

The term “prosthetic device” includes, but is not limited to, orthopedic or orthotic devices, ostomy equipment, urological equipment, tracheostomy equipment, and intraocular lenses.

The following is a nonexclusive list of prosthetic devices:

Artificial arteries	Drainage bags	Prescription eyeglasses
Artificial breasts	Hearing aids	Stoma bags
Artificial ears	Ileostomy devices	Tracheal suction catheters
Artificial eyes	Intraocular lenses	Tracheostomy care and cleaning starter kits
Artificial heart valves	Karaya paste	Tracheostomy cleaning brushes
Artificial implants	Karaya seals	Tracheostomy tubes
Artificial larynx	Organ implants	Urinary catheters
Artificial limbs	Ostomy belts	Urinary drainage bags
Artificial noses	Ostomy clamps	Urinary irrigation tubing
Artificial teeth	Ostomy cleaners and deodorizers	Urinary pouches
Cardiac pacemakers	Ostomy pouches	
Contact lenses	Ostomy stoma caps and paste	
Cosmetic gloves	Ostomy stoma caps and paste	
Dental bridges and implants	Penile implants	

d. *“Orthotic device”* means a piece of special equipment designed to straighten a deformed or distorted part of the human body, such as corrective shoes or braces. An orthotic device is an orthopedic device.

e. *“Orthopedic device”* means a piece of special equipment designed to correct deformities or to preserve and restore the function of the human skeletal system, its articulations and associated structures. A hot tub or spa is not an orthopedic device.

The following is a nonexclusive list of orthopedic devices:

Abdominal belts	Clavicle splints	Nerve stimulators
Alternating pressure mattresses	Corrective braces	Orthopedic implants
Alternating pressure pads	Corrective shoes	Orthopedic shoes
Anti-embolism stockings	Crutch cushions	Patient lifts
Arch supports	Crutch handgrips	Plaster (surgical)
Arm slings	Crutch tips	Rib belts
Artificial sheepskin	Crutches	Rupture belts
Bone cement	Decubitus prevention devices	Sacroiliac supports
Bone nails	Dorsolumbar belts	Sacrolumbar belts

Bone pins	Dorsolumbar supports	Sacrolumbar supports
Bone plates	Elastic bandages	Shoulder immobilizers
Bone screws	Elastic supports	Space shoes
Bone wax	Exercise devices	Splints
Braces	Head halters	Traction equipment
Canes	Hernia belts	Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulators (tens units)
Casts	Iliac belts	Trapezes
Cast heels	Invalid rings	Trusses
Cervical braces	Knee immobilizers	Walkers
Cervical collars	Lumbosacral supports	Wheelchairs
Cervical pillows	Muscle stimulators	

f. *“Related devices.”* The sales price from the sale of devices that are used exclusively in conjunction with prosthetic, orthotic, or orthopedic devices is exempt from tax.

g. *“Medical equipment and supplies.”* The scope of the term “medical equipment and supplies” is broader than the terms “prescription drugs,” “prosthetic devices,” “durable medical equipment,” “mobility enhancing equipment,” and “other medical devices.” While all exempt prescription drugs are medical supplies and all exempt medical devices are medical equipment, not all medical equipment and supplies are exempt medical devices or prescription drugs. The following is a nonexclusive list of items that are medical equipment or supplies, but are not prescription drugs or medical devices exempt from tax under subrules 220.7(1) and 220.7(2) and rules 701—220.5(423) and 701—220.6(423). The sales price from the sale of the following items is generally taxable.

Adhesive bandages	Contact lens solution	Hot water bottles
Aneurysm clips	Convuluted pads	Ice bags
Arterial bloodsets	Corrective pessaries	Ident-a-bands
Aspirators	Cotton balls	Incontinent garments
Athletic supporters	Diagnostic kits	Incubators
Atomizers	Dialysis chairs	Infrared lamps
Autolit	Dialysis supplies	Inhalators
Back cushions	Dietetic scales	Iron lungs
Bathing aids		Irrigation apparatus
Bathing caps	Disposable gloves	IV connectors
Bedpans	Disposable underpads	Laminar flow equipment
Bedside rails	Donor chairs	Latex gloves
Bedside tables	Dressings	Leukopheresis pumps
Bedside trays	Dry aid kits for ears	Lymphedema pumps
Bedwetting prevention devices	EKG paper	Manometer trays
Belt vibrators	Ear molds	Massagers
Blood cell washing equipment	Electrodes (other than tens units)	Maternity belts
Blood pack holders	Emesis basins	Medigrade tubing
Blood pack trays	Enema units	Modulung oxygenators
Blood pack units	First-aid kits	Moist heat pads
Blood pressure meters	Foam slant pillows	Myringotomy tubes
Blood processing supplies	Gauze bandages	Nebulizers (hypodermic)
Blood tubing	Gauze packings	Overbed tables
Blood warmers	Gavage containers	Page turning devices
Breast pumps	Geriatric chairs	Pap smear kits
Breathing machines	Grooming aids	Paraffin baths
Cardiac electrodes	Hand sealers	Physicians’ instruments
Cardiopulmonary equipment	Hearing aid carriers	Pigskin
Chair lifts	Hearing aid repair kits	Plasma extractors
Clamps	Heart stimulators	Plasma pheresis units
Clip-on ashtrays	Heat lamps	Plastic heat sealers

Commode chairs	Heat pads	Prescribed device repair kits and batteries
Connectors	Hemolators	Respirators
Contact lens cases	Hospital beds	Resuscitators
Sauna baths	Steri-peel	Transfer boards
Security pouches	Stools	Tube sealers
Servipak dialysis supplies	Suction equipment	Underpads
Shelf trays	Sunlamps	Urinals
Shower chairs	Surgical bandages	Vacutainers
Side rails	Surgical equipment	Vacuum units
Sitz bath kit	Suspensories	Vaporizers
Specimen containers	Sutures	Vibrators
Sponges (surgical)	Thermometers	Whirlpools
Stairway elevators	Toilet aids	X-ray film
Staples	Tourniquets	

220.7(4) Power devices. The sales price from the sale of power devices especially designed to operate prosthetic, orthotic or orthopedic devices shall be exempt from tax. This exemption does not include batteries that can be used to operate a number of devices, but batteries designed solely for use in hearing aids are exempt.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(60).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.8(423) Exempt sales of clothing and footwear during two-day period in August. Tax is not due on the sale or use of a qualifying article of clothing or footwear if the sales price of the article is less than \$100 and the sale takes place during a period beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first Friday in August and ending at 12 midnight of the following Saturday. For example, in the year 2004, this period began at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 6, and ended at 12 midnight on Saturday, August 7. Eligible purchases of clothing and footwear are exempt from local option sales taxes as well as Iowa state sales tax.

220.8(1) Definitions. The following words and terms, when used in this rule, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

“*Accessories*” includes, but is not limited to, jewelry, handbags, purses, briefcases, luggage, wallets, watches, cufflinks, tie tacks and similar items carried on or about the human body, without regard to whether worn on the body in a manner characteristic of clothing.

“*Clothing or footwear*” means an article of wearing apparel designed to be worn on or about the human body. For the purposes of this rule, the term does not include accessories or special clothing or footwear or articles of wearing apparel designed to be worn by animals.

“*Eligible property*” means an item of a type, such as clothing, that qualifies for Iowa’s sales tax holiday.

“*Special clothing or footwear*” is clothing or footwear primarily designed for athletic activity or protective use and which is not normally worn except when used for the athletic activity or protective use for which it is designed.

220.8(2) Exempt sales.

a. Required price. The exemption applies to each article of clothing or footwear selling for less than \$100, regardless of how many items are sold on the same invoice to a customer. For example, if a customer purchases two shirts for \$80 each, both items qualify for the exemption even though the customer’s total purchase price (\$160) exceeds \$99.99. The exemption does not apply to the first \$99.99 of an article of clothing or footwear selling for more than \$99.99. For example, if a customer purchases a pair of pants costing \$110, sales tax is due on the entire \$110.

b. Order date and back orders. For the purpose of the sales tax holiday, eligible property qualifies for exemption if: the item is both delivered to and paid for by the customer during the exemption period; or the customer orders and pays for the item and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period. The seller accepts an order when the seller has taken action to fill the order for immediate shipment. Actions to fill an order include

placement of an “in date” stamp on a mail order or assignment of an “order number” to a telephone order. An order is for immediate shipment when the customer does not request delayed shipment. An order is for immediate shipment notwithstanding that the shipment may be delayed because of a backlog of orders or because stock is currently unavailable to, or on back order by, the seller.

220.8(3) Taxable sales. This exemption does not apply to sales of the following goods or services:

a. Any special clothing or footwear that is primarily designed for athletic activity or protective use and that is not normally worn except when used for the athletic activity or protective use for which it is designed. For example, golf cleats and football pads are primarily designed for athletic activity or protective use and are not normally worn except when used for those purposes; therefore, they do not qualify for the exemption. However, tennis shoes, jogging suits, and swimsuits are commonly worn for purposes other than athletic activity and qualify for the exemption.

b. Accessories, including jewelry, handbags, purses, briefcases, luggage, umbrellas, wallets, watches, and similar items carried on or about the human body, without regard to whether they are worn on the body in a manner characteristic of clothing.

c. The rental of any clothing or footwear. For example, this exemption does not apply to rentals of formal wear, costumes, diapers, and bridal gowns, but would apply to sales of the above items.

d. Taxable services performed on clothing or footwear, such as garment and shoe repair, dry cleaning or laundering, and alteration services. Sales tax is due on alterations to clothing, even though the alteration service may be performed, invoiced and paid for at the same time as the clothing is being purchased. If a customer purchases a pair of pants for \$90 and pays \$15 to have the pants cuffed, the \$90 charge for the pants is exempt, but tax is due on the \$15 alteration charge.

e. Purchases of items used to make, alter, or repair clothing or footwear, including fabric, thread, yarn, buttons, snaps, hooks, belt buckles, and zippers.

220.8(4) Special situations.

a. Articles normally sold as a unit. Articles that are normally sold as a unit must continue to be sold in that manner if the exemption is to apply; they cannot be priced separately and sold as individual items in order to obtain the exemption. For example, if a pair of shoes sells for \$150, the pair cannot be split in order to sell each shoe for \$75 to qualify for the exemption. If a suit is normally priced at \$225 and sold as a unit on a single price tag, the suit cannot be split into separate articles so that any of the components may be sold for less than \$100 in order to qualify for the exemption. However, components that are normally priced as separate articles (e.g., slacks and sport coats, and suit coats and suit pants sold separately prior to the two-day period) may continue to be sold as separate articles and qualify for the exemption if the price of an article is less than \$100.

b. Sales of exempt clothing combined with gifts of taxable merchandise. When exempt clothing is sold in a set that also contains taxable merchandise as a free gift and no additional charge is made for the gift, the exempt clothing may qualify for this exemption. For example, a boxed set may contain a tie and a free tie tack. If the price of the set is the same as the price of the tie sold separately, the item being sold is the tie, which is exempt from tax if sold for less than \$100 during the exemption period.

c. Layaway sales. A layaway sale is a transaction in which merchandise is set aside for future delivery to a customer who makes a deposit, agrees to pay the balance of the purchase price over a period of time and, at the end of the payment period, receives the merchandise. A sale of eligible property under a layaway sale qualifies for exemption if: final payment on a layaway order is made by, and the property is given to, the purchaser during the exemption period; or the purchaser selects the property and the retailer accepts the order for the item during the exemption period, for immediate delivery upon full payment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period.

d. Returns. For a 60-day period immediately after the sales tax holiday exemption period, when a customer returns an item that would qualify for the exemption, no credit for or refund of sales tax shall be given unless the customer provides a receipt or invoice that shows tax was paid, or the seller has sufficient documentation to show that tax was paid on the specific item. This 60-day period is set solely for the purpose of designating a time period during which the customer must provide documentation that shows that sales tax was paid on returned merchandise. The 60-day period is not intended to change a seller’s policy on the time period during which the seller will accept returns.

e. Different time zones. The time zone of the seller's location determines the authorized time period for a sales tax holiday when the purchaser is located in one time zone and the seller is located in another.

220.8(5) *Calculating taxable and exempt sales price—discounts, coupons, buying at a reduced price, and rebates.*

a. Discounts. A discount allowed by a retailer and taken on a taxable sale can be used to reduce the sales price of an item. If the discount reduces the sales price of an item to \$99.99 or less, the item may qualify for the exemption. For example, a customer buys a \$150 dress and a \$100 blouse from a retailer offering a 10 percent discount. After applying the 10 percent discount, the final sales price of the dress is \$135, and the blouse is \$90. The dress is taxable (it is over \$99.99), and the blouse is exempt (it is less than \$99.99).

b. Coupons. When a coupon is issued by a retailer and is actually used to reduce the sales price of any taxable item, the value of the coupon is excludable from the tax as a discount if the retailer is not reimbursed for the coupon amount by a third party. Therefore, a retailer's coupon can be used to reduce the sales price of an item to \$99.99 or less in order to qualify for the exemption. For example, if a customer purchases a pair of shoes priced at \$110 with a coupon worth \$20 off, the final sales price of the shoes is \$90, and the shoes qualify for the exemption. A manufacturer's coupon cannot be used to reduce the sales price of an item.

c. Buy one, get one free or for a reduced price or "two for the price of one" sales. The total price of items advertised as "buy one, get one free," or "buy one, get one for a reduced price," or "two for the price of one" cannot be averaged in order for both items to qualify for the exemption. The following examples illustrate how such sales should be handled.

EXAMPLE 1: A retailer advertises pants as "buy one, get one free." The first pair of pants is priced at \$120; the second pair of pants is free. Tax is due on \$120. Having advertised that the second pair is free, the store cannot ring up each pair of pants for \$60 in order for the items to qualify for the exemption. However, if the retailer advertises and sells the pants for 50 percent off, selling each pair of \$120 pants for \$60, each pair of pants qualifies for the exemption.

EXAMPLE 2: A retailer advertises shoes as "buy one pair at the regular price, get a second pair for half price." The first pair of shoes is sold for \$100; the second pair is sold for \$50 (half price). Tax is due on the \$100 shoes, but not on the \$50 shoes. Having advertised that the second pair is half price, the store cannot ring up each pair of shoes for \$75 in order for the items to qualify for the exemption. However, if the retailer advertises the shoes for 25 percent off, thereby selling each pair of \$100 shoes for \$75, each pair of shoes qualifies for the exemption.

EXAMPLE 3: A retailer advertises shirts as "buy two for the price of one" for \$140. Tax is due on \$140. Each shirt cannot be rung up as costing \$70. However, as described in Examples 1 and 2 above, the \$140 cost of each shirt can be discounted to bring the price of each shirt within the exemption's limitation.

d. Rebates. Rebates occur after the sale and do not affect the sales price of an item purchased. For example, a customer purchases a sweater for \$110 and receives a \$12 rebate from the manufacturer. The retailer must collect tax on the \$110 sales price of the sweater. Reference 701—subrule 203.3(2) for additional information regarding rebates.

e. Shipping and handling charges. Shipping charges separately stated and separately contracted for are not part of the amount used to determine whether the sales price of an item qualifies it for exemption. Handling charges, however, are part of the amount used to make this determination if it is necessary to pay those charges in order to purchase an item.

220.8(6) *Treatment of various transactions associated with sales.*

a. Rain checks. A rain check allows a customer to purchase an item at a certain price at a later time because the particular item was out of stock. Eligible items purchased during the exemption period using a rain check will qualify for the exemption regardless of when the rain check was issued. However, issuance of a rain check during the exemption period will not qualify an eligible item for the exemption if the item is actually purchased after the exemption period.

b. Exchanges.

(1) If a customer purchases an item of eligible clothing or footwear during the exemption period and later exchanges the item for a similar eligible item (different size, different color, etc.), no additional tax will be due even if the exchange is made after the exemption period.

EXAMPLE: A customer purchases a \$35 shirt during the exemption period. After the exemption period ends, the customer exchanges the shirt for the same shirt in a different size. Tax is not due on the \$35 price of the shirt.

(2) If a customer purchases an item of eligible clothing or footwear during the exemption period and after the exemption period has ended returns the item and receives credit on the purchase of a different item, the appropriate sales tax will apply to the sale of the newly purchased item.

EXAMPLE: A customer purchases a \$35 shirt during the exemption period. After the exemption period ends, the customer exchanges the shirt for a \$35 jacket. Because the jacket was not purchased during the exemption period, tax is due on the \$35 price of the jacket.

(3) If a customer purchases an item of eligible clothing or footwear during the exemption period and later during the exemption period returns the item and purchases a similar but nonexempt item, the purchase of the second item is not exempt from tax.

EXAMPLE: During the exemption period, a customer purchases a \$90 dress that qualifies for the exemption. Later, during the exemption period, the customer exchanges the \$90 dress for a \$150 dress. Tax is due on the \$150 dress. The \$90 credit from the returned item cannot be used to reduce the sales price of the \$150 item to \$60 for exemption purposes.

(4) If a customer purchases an item of eligible clothing or footwear before the exemption period and during the exemption period returns the item and receives credit on the purchase of a different item of eligible clothing or footwear, no sales tax is due on the sale of the new item if it is purchased during the exemption period and otherwise meets the qualifications for exemption.

EXAMPLE: Before the exemption period, a customer purchases a \$60 dress. Later, during the exemption period, the customer exchanges the \$60 dress for a \$95 dress. Tax is not due on the \$95 dress because it was purchased during the exemption period and otherwise meets the qualifications for the exemption.

220.8(7) *Nonexclusive list of exempt items.* The following is a nonexclusive list of clothing or footwear, sales of which are exempt from tax during the two-day period in August:

Aerobic clothing	Formal clothing—sold not rented	Raincoats and hats
Antique clothing	Fur coats and stoles	Religious clothing
Aprons—household	Galoshes	Riding pants
Athletic socks	Garters and garter belts	Robes
Baby bibs	Girdles	Rubber thongs—“flip-flops”
Baby clothes—generally	Gloves—cloth, dress and leather	Running shoes without cleats
Baseball caps	Golf clothing—caps, dresses, shirts and skirts	Safety shoes (adaptable for street wear)
Bathing suits	Graduation caps and gowns—sold not rented	Sandals
Belts with buckles attached	Gym suits and uniforms	Shawls
Blouses	Hats	Shirts
Boots—general purpose	Hiking boots	Shoe inserts and laces
Bow ties	Hooded (sweat) shirts	Stockings
Bowling shirts	Hosiery, including support hosiery	Suits
Bras	Jackets	Support hose
Bridal apparel—sold not rented	Jeans	Suspenders
Camp clothing	Jerseys for other than athletic wear	Sweatshirts
Caps—sports and others	Jogging apparel	Sweatsuits
Chefs’ uniforms	Knitted caps or hats	Swim trunks
Children’s novelty costumes	Lab coats	Tennis dresses
Choir robes	Leather clothing	Tennis skirts
Clerical garments	Leg warmers	Ties
Coats	Leotards and tights	Tights
Corsets	Lingerie	Trousers
Costumes—Halloween, Santa Claus, etc., sold not rented	Men’s formal wear—sold not rented	Tuxedos (except cufflinks)—sold not rented
Coveralls	Neckwear, e.g., scarves	Underclothes
Cowboy boots	Nightgowns and nightshirts	Underpants
Dresses	Overshoes	Undershirts
Dress gloves	Pajamas	Uniforms—generally
Dress shoes		Veils

Ear muffs	Pants	Vests—general, for wear with suits
Employee uniforms other than those primarily designed for athletic activity or protective use	Pantyhose	Walking shoes
	Prom dresses	Windbreakers
	Ponchos	Work clothes

220.8(8) Nonexclusive list of taxable items. The following is a nonexclusive list of items, sales of which are taxable during the two-day period in August:

Accessories—generally	Fabric sales	Safety clothing
Alterations of clothing	Fishing boots (waders)	Safety glasses
Athletic supporters	Football pads	Safety shoes—not adaptable for street wear
Backpacks	Football pants	Shoes with cleats or spikes
Ballet shoes	Football shoes	Shoulder pads for dresses and jackets
Barrettes	Goggles	Shower caps
Baseball cleats	Golf gloves	Skates—ice and roller
Baseball gloves	Ice skates	Ski boots, masks, suits and vests
Belt buckles sold without belts	In-line skates	Special protective clothing or footwear not adaptable for streetwear
Belts for weight lifting	Insoles	Sports helmets
Belts needing buckles but sold without them	Jewelry	Sunglasses—except prescription
Bicycle shoes with cleats	Key cases and chains	Sweatbands—arm, wrist and head
Billfolds	Knee pads	Swim fins, masks and goggles
Blankets	Laundry services	Tap dance shoes
Boutonnieres	Life jackets and vests	Thread
Bowling shoes—rented and sold	Luggage	Vests—bulletproof
Bracelets	Monogramming services	Weight lifting belts
Buttons	Pads—elbow, knee and shoulder, football and hockey	Wrist bands
Chest protectors	Patterns	Yard goods
Clothing repair	Protective gloves and masks	Yarn
Coin purses	Purses	Zippers
Corsages	Rental of clothing	
Dry cleaning services	Rental of shoes or skates	
Elbow pads	Repair of clothing	
Employee uniforms primarily designed for athletic activities or protective use	Roller blades	

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(68).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.9(423) Sales of diapers.

220.9(1) In general. The sales price of diapers, whether cloth or disposable, is exempt from sales tax. This includes children's diapers and adult diapers.

220.9(2) Definitions.

“Adult diapers” means diapers other than children's diapers.

“Children's diapers” means diapers marketed to be worn by children.

“Diaper” means an absorbent garment worn by humans who are incapable of, or have difficulty, controlling their bladder or bowel movements.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(109).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

701—220.10(423) Sale of energy to residential customers.

220.10(1) Generally. The sales price from the sale, furnishing, or service of metered natural gas, electricity and fuels, including propane and heating oils, to residential customers for use as energy for residential dwellings and units of apartment, and condominium complexes for human occupancy, is exempt from sales and use tax.

220.10(2) Definitions. The following definitions are applicable to this rule:

“Energy” means a substance that generates power to operate fixtures or appliances within a residential dwelling or that creates heat or cooling within a residential dwelling.

“Fuel” means a liquid source of energy for a residential dwelling, individual apartment unit, or condominium. “Fuel” includes propane, heating fuel, and kerosene. However, “fuel” does not include blended kerosene used as motor fuel or special fuel.

“*Metered gas*” means natural gas that is billed based on metered usage to provide energy to a residential dwelling, individual apartment unit, or individual condominium.

“*Residential dwelling*” means a structure used exclusively for human occupancy. This does not include commercial or agricultural structures, nor does it include nonresidential buildings attached to or detached from a residential dwelling, such as an outbuilding. However, a garage attached to or detached from a dwelling that is used strictly for residential purposes qualifies for the exemption.

“*Units of apartment and condominium complexes.*” A building containing apartment units or individual condominiums is not considered to be qualifying property for purposes of this rule. However, if each unit has a separate meter, the unit qualifies for the exemption if it is classified as a qualifying property by the utility.

220.10(3) Other nonqualifying structures. Structures excluded from this exemption include but are not limited to nursing homes, adult living facilities, assisted living facilities, halfway houses, charitable residential facilities, YMCA residential facilities, YWCA residential facilities, and group homes.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(84).

[ARC 8162C, IAB 7/24/24, effective 8/28/24]

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