

701—217.4(423) Exempt from the tax. This rule provides various specific circumstances involving nontaxable telecommunication service and ancillary service. The following is a nonexclusive list of services that are not subject to the Iowa sales and use tax:

217.4(1) Detailed communications billing service.

217.4(2) Internet access fees or charges.

217.4(3) Value-added non-voice data service.

217.4(4) Separately stated and separately billed charges. Fees and charges that are separately stated and billed are exempt from the sales and use tax. This exemption includes the following items when separately stated and billed:

a. Fees and charges for securing only interstate telecommunication services.

b. Federal taxes.

c. Fees and charges for only interstate directory assistance.

217.4(5) Government entities. Sales of telecommunication service and ancillary service to the United States government or its agencies or to the state of Iowa or its agencies are not subject to sales or use tax. This exemption includes sales made to all divisions, boards, commissions, agencies or instrumentalities of federal, Iowa, county or municipal government. In order to be a sale to the United States government or to the state of Iowa, the government or agency involved must make the purchase of the services and pay the purchase price of the services directly to the vendor. Telecommunication service providers should obtain an exemption certificate from each agency for their records. An exception to this exemption is sales to any tax-levying body used by or in connection with the operation of any municipally owned utility engaged in selling gas, electricity or heat to the general public; such sales are subject to tax.

217.4(6) Private nonprofit educational institutions. Sales of telecommunication service and ancillary service to private, nonprofit educational institutions in this state for educational purposes are exempt from tax.

217.4(7) 911 surcharge. A 911 emergency telephone service surcharge is a surcharge for a service which routes a 911 call to the appropriate public safety answering point and automatically displays a name, address, and telephone number of an incoming 911 call at that answering point. A surcharge for 911 emergency telephone service is not subject to sales tax if:

a. The amount is no more than \$1 per month per telephone access line; and

b. The surcharge is separately identified and separately billed.

217.4(8) Return of deposit. The return to the customer of any portion of a deposit amount paid by that customer to a company providing telecommunication service is not subject to tax.

217.4(9) Resale exemption. Services or facilities furnished by one telecommunication company to another commercial telecommunication company that the second telecommunication company then furnishes to its customers qualify for the resale exemption under Iowa Code section 423.3(2), including any carrier access charges.

217.4(10) Online services. Any contracted online service is exempt from tax if the information is made available through a computer server. The exemption applies to all contracted online services, as long as they provide access to information through a computer server.

217.4(11) New construction. The repair or installation of inside wire or the repair or installation of any electronic device, including a telephone or telephone switching equipment, that is performed as part of or in connection with new construction, reconstruction, alteration, expansion or remodeling of a building or structure is exempt from Iowa tax. For more information about the exemptions for new construction, see 701—Chapter 219.

[ARC 9814B, IAB 10/19/11, effective 11/23/11; ARC 4309C, IAB 2/13/19, effective 3/20/19; ARC 6508C, IAB 9/7/22, effective 10/12/22]