



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION CATEGORIES

THE INFORMATION BELOW IS MERELY AN AID. FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION PLEASE REFER TO THE SPECIFIC CODE SECTIONS LISTED IN THE FOOTNOTES.

As of: July 1, 2015

- 1) Gift between spouses<sup>1</sup>  
But only if vehicle already has DC title. To prove relationship status, must present marriage certificate or court order.
- 2) Gift between domestic partners<sup>1</sup>  
But only if vehicle already has DC title. To prove domestic partnership status, must present copy of a "Certificate of Domestic Partnership" issued by the Department of Health.
- 3) Gift from parent to child or from child to parent<sup>1</sup>  
But only if vehicle already has DC title. To prove relationship status, must present birth certificate or adoption order.
- 4) Owned by Federal or DC government entity<sup>2</sup>
- 5) Owned by utility or public service company, or commercial vehicles with either: a) two axles and GVWR of 26,000 pounds or more or b) three or more axles or c) weight of combination exceeds 26,000 pounds<sup>3</sup>  
But only if:
  - a) Used in furnishing commodity or service; and
  - b) Receipts from furnishing commodity or service are subject to gross receipts or mileage tax.<sup>4</sup>
- 6) New vehicle replacing defective vehicle<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(1) The term domestic partners is defined in section 2(3) of the Health Care Benefits Expansion Act of 1992, effective June 11, 1992 (D.C. Law 9-114; D.C. Official Code § 32-701(3)).

<sup>2</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(A)

<sup>3</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(D), (I).

<sup>4</sup> "Gross receipts tax" means a tax, other than a sales tax, which is imposed on or measured by the gross volume of business, in terms of gross receipts or in other terms, and in the determination of which no deduction is allowed which would constitute the tax an income tax.

But only if replacement is within 60 days of purchase. Must present bill of sales for defective and replacement vehicles.

*If the value of replacement vehicle is more than the value of the defective vehicle, additional tax must be collected; if the value of the replacement vehicle is less than the defective vehicle, a portion of the tax paid must be refunded.*

- 7) Rental or leased vehicles or trailers<sup>6</sup>  
But only vehicles subject to the gross receipts tax under D.C. Code § 47-2002 (3)(C).  
Must present rental or lease agreement.
- 8) Taxis<sup>7</sup>  
As defined in D.C. Code § 50-303(8).
- 9) Vehicles moving to DC<sup>8</sup>  
But only if:  
Vehicle was registered or titled in another state by the owner, before the owner established residency in the District.
- 10) Fuel efficient vehicle<sup>9</sup>  
But only if the vehicle gets 40 mpg in the city as indicated by [www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov).  
Does not apply to motorcycles or motorized bicycles.
- 11) Co-owner deceased<sup>10</sup>  
But only if title is issued to surviving owner. Must present death certificate of deceased co-owner.
- 12) Divorce or separation<sup>11</sup>  
But only if new ownership is determined by:
  - a) Divorce or separation decree or other court order; or
  - b) Written agreement signed by both parties incident to divorce or separation.
- 13) Former domestic partnership<sup>11</sup>  
But only if:
  - a) Determined by Court order, or one partner transfers title to other; and
  - b) Applicant submits a “Termination of Domestic Partnership” issued by the Department of Health.
- 14) Insurance company<sup>12</sup>  
But only if titled in connection with insurance claim or pursuant to Title 50, Chapter 13A of the D.C. Code.

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<sup>5</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(E)

<sup>6</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(F)

<sup>7</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(G)

<sup>8</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(H)

<sup>9</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(J)

<sup>10</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(K)

<sup>11</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(L)

<sup>12</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(M)

- 15) Scrap title issued<sup>13</sup>
- 16) Non-repairable vehicle certificate<sup>14</sup>  
Applicable if issued under Title 13A.
- 17) DC-branded salvage title<sup>14</sup>  
Not applicable if transferred from another jurisdiction. Applicable if issued under Title 13A.
- 18) Vehicle repossessed by lienholder or re-issued to the owner after a repossession<sup>15</sup>
- 19) Vehicle being transferred into the name of a trust  
But only if:  
The vehicle owner is also the trustee. Must present trust agreement with name of the trust, trustor, trustee and beneficiary, as well as the signature of the trustor and trustee.

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<sup>13</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(N)

<sup>14</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(Q)

<sup>15</sup> D.C. Code § 50-2201.03 (j)(3)(P)