Department of Revenue

STATE OF TENNESSEE

TN Tax Resources for Your Businesses

08/25/2026

Overview

This webinar will cover the basics of sales tax, business tax, and franchise and excise tax in short, easy-to-follow segments. It will provide return previews, share tax-specific resources, offer an overview of TNTAP and revisit past webinars. This session is designed to help you easily find reliable information and understand how to reach us when you need assistance.

Topics covered this session include:

- **Tax Basics**
- **Tax Return Previews**
- **TNTAP Overview**
- **Revenue Resources**
- **Beneficial Webinars & Tax Manuals**
- **Contact Information**

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What is Business Tax?

Business tax is a tax on the privilege of doing business in Tennessee by making sales of tangible personal property and services within Tennessee and its local jurisdictions

- Applies to a taxpayer's gross receipts.
- Derived from taxable sales per location by the appropriate state and local tax rates to calculate the amount of tax owed per location.
  - There are several different business tax rates, depending on whether the taxpayer is a wholesaler or a retailer as well as the different municipal-level tax rates.
  - The rates are determined based on the taxpayer's "dominant business activity."
- Comprised of two separate but complementary taxes: a state-level tax and a municipal-level tax.
  - Generally, every entity making sales of tangible personal property and/or services in Tennessee is subject to the state-level tax.
  - Entities may be subject to the municipal-level tax if they have a business location in a municipality that has enacted the tax.

**For a listing of exempt services/industries, please see our Business Tax Manual.*

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Minimal & Standard Business License

The gross receipts threshold of your business determines the license you need.

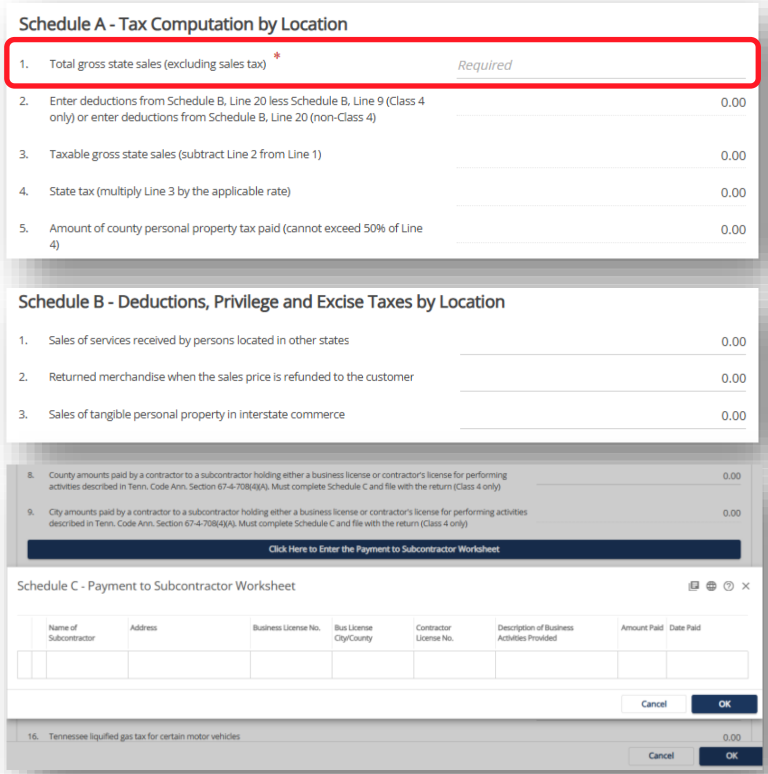
Minimal Activity Business License

- Required if your business has gross receipts between $3,000 and $100,000.
- Issued by the county or city where the business is located.
- Must be renewed annually.
- Does not require filing a business tax return.

Standard Business License

- Required if your business has gross receipts of $100,000 or more.
- Requires filing a business tax return with the Tennessee Department of Revenue.
- Once filed and paid then renewed through your local county or city clerk.

Business Tax Return Preview



- Business tax returns reflect the total gross receipts from the services you provide or the products you sell.
- You must report activity that occurs at your business location in Tennessee. If your business is located out of state, you only report the business activity directed into Tennessee.
- Filing and paying your business tax return is required for renewing your business license for the upcoming tax period. Local clerks cannot renew your license unless the return is filed and paid.
- Only Classification 4 taxpayers will have access to contractor worksheets, which open Schedule C for them to complete.

Business Tax Resources

The following sections of our website have additional information for you on this topic

- [ ] ***Business Tax Overview***
- [ ] ***Tennessee Business Tax Manual***
- [ ] ***Business Tax Rules and Regulations***
- [ ] ***Revenue Help – Business Tax Articles***
- [ ] ***Revenue "How Do I" – For Business Section***

What is Sales and Use Tax?

Sales and Use Tax is a tax on the sale, use and consumption of tangible personal property and certain services in Tennessee

Sales Tax

- Applies to retail sales of tangible personal property and certain taxable services. ***(See Chapter 5 of Sales Tax Manual for more info on Taxable Services)***
- Collected by businesses on sales made in Tennessee.
- Includes both state and local tax rates.
- Based on the sales price of the taxable item or service.

Use Tax

- • Applies when tangible personal property is purchased outside Tennessee and brought into the state for use, storage, or consumption.
  - Ensures tax is paid when sales tax was not collected at the time of purchase.

**For a listing of exempt items and services, please see Chapter 19 of our Sales and Use Tax Manual*

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Sales and Use Tax Return Preview

Sales

Do you have any sales to report for this period? Yes | No

1.	Gross Sales	0.00
2.	Cost of Personal Property	0.00
3.	Cost of Out-Of-State Purchases and Property	0.00
4.	Tangible Personal Property	0.00
5.	Total Sales	0.00

Schedule A - Exempt Transactions

Do you have any exempt transactions to report? * Yes | No

Schedule B - Computation of Local Sales and Use Tax

Schedule C - State Single Article Tax and Special Rate on Food, Energy, Water, & Specified Digital Products

Do you have any single article sales, aviation fuel sales, or special rates on food, energy, water, vending, or specified digital products to report? * Yes | No

- Sales and Use Tax returns report the total gross sales of taxable services and tangible personal property.
- You must report the sales that occur at your business location in Tennessee. If your business is located out of state, only sales made into Tennessee should be reported.
- Exempt transactions include sales supported by valid exemption certificates, such as resale certificates, agricultural exemptions, and interstate commerce transactions.
- Schedule B is used to calculate the amount of sales tax due based on your local tax rate.
- Schedule C is not commonly used by most businesses; however, it applies to those selling items subject to the single article tax such as vehicles, jewelry, or furniture.

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Sales and Use Tax Resources

- [Sales and Use Tax Overview]
- [Sales and Use Tax Manual]
- [Sales and Use Tax Rules and Regulations]
- [Revenue Help – Sales and Use Tax Articles]
- [Revenue “How Do I” – For Business Section]

What is Franchise and Excise Tax?

Franchise and Excise Tax is a tax on a business entity's net worth and net earnings for doing business in Tennessee

Franchise Tax

- Levied on corporations, LLCs, LPs, and business trust registered or operating in Tennessee
- Calculated at 0.25% of the entity's net worth or Tennessee tangible property value (whichever is higher), with a $100 minimum tax regardless of income.

Excise Tax

- Applies to the net earnings of the business derived from Tennessee operations
- Assessed at 6.5% of net income for corporations; certain pass-through entities use a 5.5% rate
- Begins with federal taxable income, then the state rate is applied (plus adjustments or apportionments)

Combined Filing

- Both taxes are reported on a single combined return (Form FAE-170)
- Most formed or registered entities in Tennessee are subject, even if they have no income or are operating at a loss

Franchise and Excise Tax Resources

- *Franchise and Excise Tax Overview*
- *Franchise and Excise Tax Manual*
- *Franchise and Excise Tax Rules and Regulations*
- *Revenue Help – Franchise and Excise Tax General Information Articles*
  - *Revenue Help - Franchise Tax Articles*
  - *Revenue Help - Excise Tax Articles*
- *Revenue “How Do I” – For Business Section*

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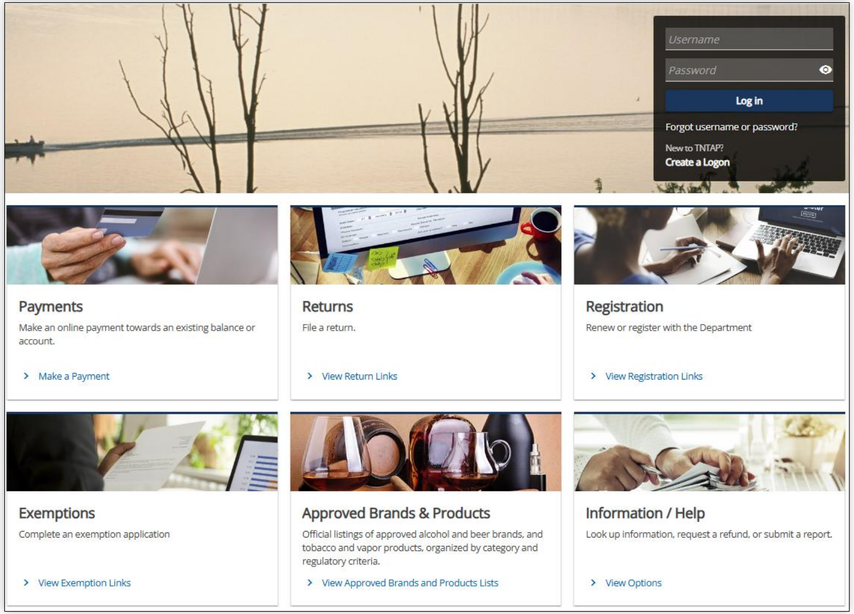
TNTAP Login Page Resources

Helping provide multiple utilities that will assist you with your business



TNTAP Login Assistance

- Password and Username Assistance
- Create a logon

Payments

- Ability to make payments to accounts without logging in.

Exemptions

- Apply for multiple types of exemptions (Sales and Use Tax or Franchise Tax, Verify Exemption Certificates

Returns

- For those needing to pay professional privilege tax, file minimum F&E Tax return

Approved Brands & Products

- Search for registered brands for Alcohol, Beer, Hemp and Vapor

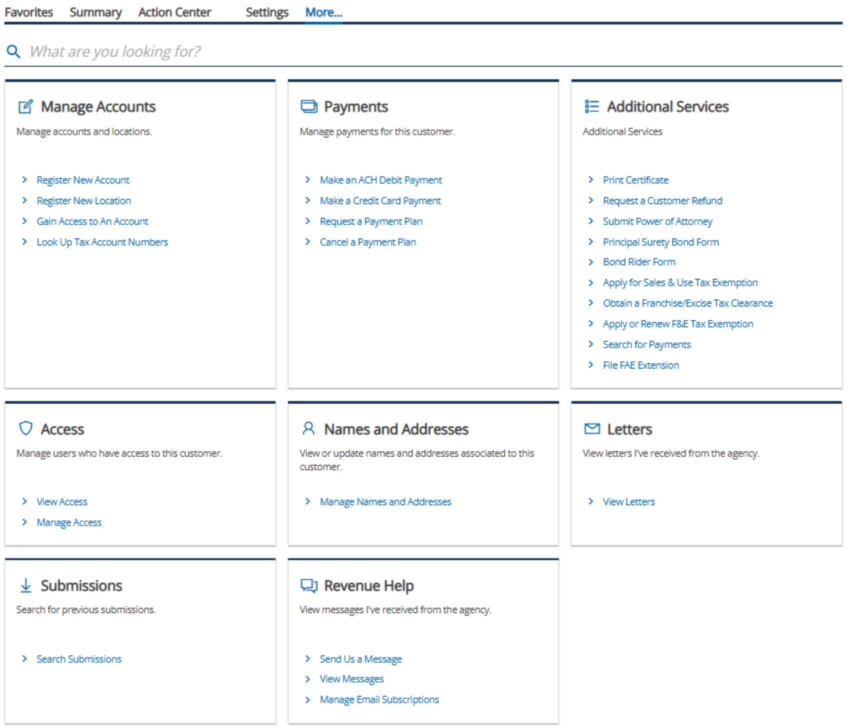
Registration

- Register a new business

Information / Help

- How To Videos, FAQ's, Tax Clearance Letters, Account Lookup, Customer Refunds

TNTAP Logged In Resources



Manage Accounts
- Register new accounts and locations, gain access to accounts

Payments
- Payment plans

Additional Services
- Tax clearance, POA, Exemption Application, Extension

Access
- Control access to user id's created by this TNTAP logon

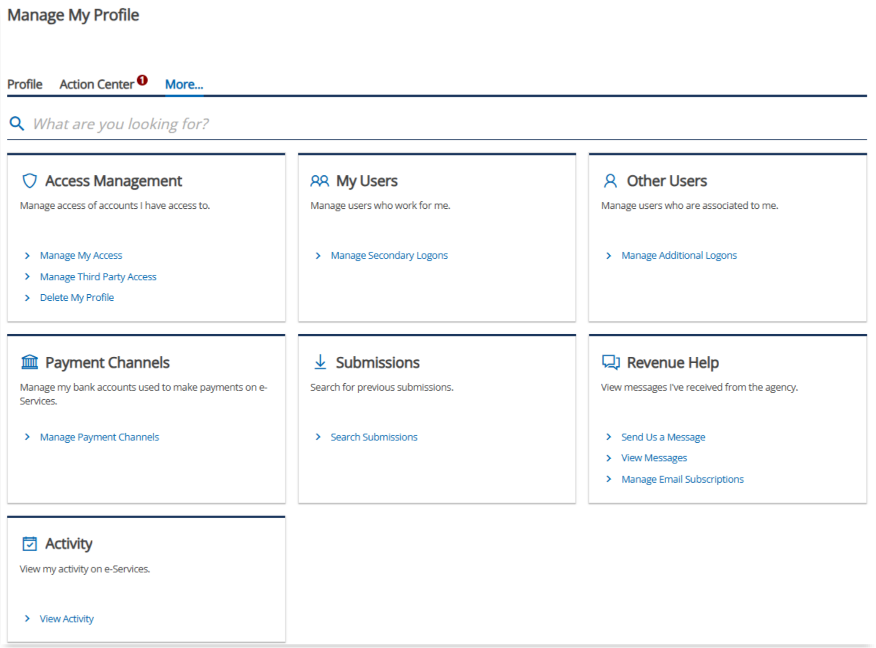
Names and Addresses
- Update location address, DBA, Legal Name, Mailing Address

Letters
- Locate important documents we send you

Submissions
- Locate actions done within TNTAP such as payments, returns, submissions

Revenue Help
- Contact us

TNTAP Logged In Resources continued…



Access Management

- Adjust the access you have to accounts or access those who are third party have to your accounts, and delete your TNTAP profile

My Users

- Allows you to see your secondary logons created

Other Users

- Ability to allow if additional logons can be created for this entity, and see who those logons belong to

Payment Channels

- Set up your payment methods

Submissions

- Locate actions done within TNTAP such as payments, returns, submissions

Revenue Help

- Contact us

Activity

- Ability to see the activity performed by specific logons for your business

Beneficial Webinars & Tax Manuals

- **Webinars**

- **Business Tax:**
- *Business Tax for Contractors / PDF*

- **Franchise and Excise Tax:**
- *Filing the F&E Tax Return / PDF*

- **Sales and Use Tax:**
- *Sales and Use Tax Exemptions / PDF*
- *Obtaining and Using Tennessee Resale Certificates / PDF*

- **Industry Specific Tax Manuals**

- Tax Manual for Bars & Restaurants
- Tennessee Automobile Dealership Manual
- Tennessee Taxation of Nonprofit Organizations
- Taxation of Short-Term Rental Units
- Tax Manual – Auctioneers and Consignees
- Tax Manual - Contractors

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How to get Help!

- **Email:** Revenue.support@tn.gov
- **Link:** Request for Help - Submit A Ticket
- **Call us:**
  - **General Tax Line: 615.253.0600**
  - **Registration Line: 615.253.0601**
  - **Franchise and Excise Tax Hotline: 615.253.0700**

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Questions

FOLLOW AND CONTACT US!

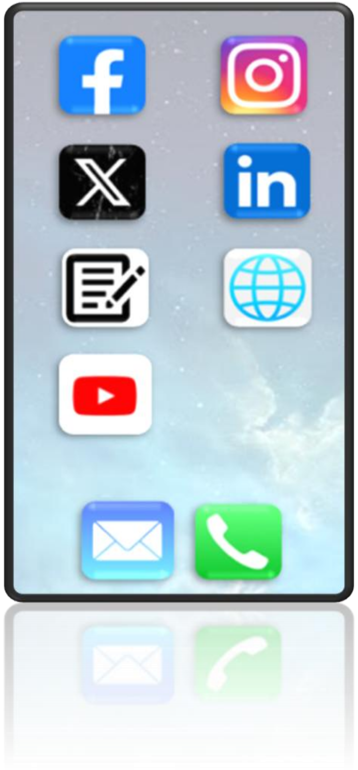
Facebook:
@TNDepartmentofRevenue

Twitter/X:
@TNDeptofRevenue

Sign Up for Email Updates:
Revenue News

YouTube:
@TDOR2013

Email Us:
Revenue.Support@tn.gov



Instagram:
@TNRevenue

LinkedIn:
@TNDepartmentofRevenue

On the Web:
www.tn.gov/revenue

Call for Help:
General Tax Line
615.253.0600

Registration
615.253.0601

SUPPORT STAFF AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU M-F 8am – 4:30pm

All Dept. of Revenue Contact Numbers and Office Locations

Up Next!

- Upcoming Webinars
  - 9/29/2026 – TN State Single Article Tax
  - 10/27/2026 – F&E FONCE Exemption
- New Business Workshop: 10/7/2026

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Taxpayer Education & Outreach

TN Department of Revenue

THANK YOU