

Tax Information

Guide 2008

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Subject Nova Scotia Sales Tax (NSST) on to Private Transfers/Purchases of Aircraft

This guide outlines the application of Nova Scotia Sales Tax (NSST) on the private purchase of aircraft. For purposes of this Guide, the term aircraft means any type of aircraft, including those propelled by engines or other means, and also those with no means of self-propulsion.

The Nova Scotia Sales Tax (NSST) is a provincial tax on the private purchase of an aircraft in Nova Scotia or within Canada for use in Nova Scotia from an individual or a business that is not required to collect the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST). If the seller is an individual or a business registered to collect the HST, NSST will not apply

NSST does not apply to imports from outside of Canada as these transactions are subject to the HST collected by the Canada Border Services Agency at the time of importation. The Canada Revenue Agency is responsible for the administration and collection of the HST in Nova Scotia and within Canada.

The NSST is a provincial tax under the authority of the provincial *Revenue Act* while the HST is a federal tax under the authority of the federal *Excise Tax Act* of Canada.

Exemptions:

1. Aircraft normally engaged in foreign or interprovincial public carriage of passengers or freight for gain.
2. Aircraft purchased by a person\individual who has status under the Indian Act or a Band that has status under the Indian Act provided that the transfer of possession takes place on a reserve.
3. Aircraft acquired through an inheritance, regardless of the deceased owner's former place of residence.
4. Aircraft purchased by municipal, provincial and federal governments.
5. Gift from a family member (Spouse/common law spouse/same sex partners, mother/father/step-mother/step-father, mother-in-law/father-in-law, son-in-law/daughter-in-law, son/daughter/step-son/step-daughter, brother/sister or grandparent/grandchild).

Trade-Ins on Purchase of Aircraft

Where tangible personal property is accepted by a seller of an aircraft at the time of sale and the seller is not an GST/HST registrant, the purchaser must pay NSST to the Province on the difference between the selling price and the amount of credit allowed for the tangible personal property (for example: motor vehicles, planes, boats and trailers) used as a trade-in.

The following conditions must be met for transactions involving a trade-in that is accepted against a future delivery of an aircraft resulting from a sale:

1. There must be a firm commitment between the purchaser and seller/broker to purchase an aircraft.
2. This commitment must be supported by documentation at the time of the trade. These documents must be in the form of a contract, purchase order or credit note signed and retained by the purchaser and seller.
3. The time lapse between acceptance of the traded unit and delivery of the aircraft must be reasonable in the circumstances.
4. The amount of credit allowed for the trade-in unit must be reasonable in the circumstances.

How To Pay the NSST

The purchaser of an aircraft on a private sale basis is required to pay the applicable tax directly to Service Nova Scotia with payment made out to the NS Minister of Finance. A copy of the Bill of Sale must accompany the payment. For further information in respect to your payment, phone 1-800-429-0621 ext 8350. Payments may be made by mail or in person to:

Service Nova Scotia
1505 Barrington Street, 6th Floor (South)
PO Box 755
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2V4.

Rebates

GST/HST Registrants

A rebate of the NSST is available to qualified applicants who are GST/HST registrants. A person may apply for a rebate of the NSST if that person is a GST/HST registrant and uses the airplane in the course of the registrant's commercial activity. Rebates will apply in proportion to the use in the registrant's commercial activity.

Rebate forms can be obtained from your nearest Access Nova Scotia office or by calling Service Nova Scotia or on our website (See [Application for Rebate form](#)).

Removal From The Province

Persons may apply for a rebate of 100% of the NSST paid if the airplane is permanently removed from Nova Scotia within 30 days from the date of purchase.

Rebate forms can be obtained from your nearest Access Nova Scotia office or by calling Service Nova Scotia or on our website (See [Application for Rebate form](#)).