

R865. Tax Commission, Auditing.

R865-19S. Sales and Use Tax.

R865-19S-22. Sales and Use Tax Records Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. Section 59-12-111.

A. Every retailer, lessor, lessee, and person doing business in this state or storing, using, or otherwise consuming in this state tangible personal property purchased from a retailer, shall keep and preserve complete and adequate records as may be necessary to determine the amount of sales and use tax for which such person or entity is liable. Unless the Tax Commission authorizes in writing an alternative method of record keeping, these records shall:

1. show gross receipts from sales, or rental payments from leases, of tangible personal property or services performed in connection with tangible personal property made in this state, irrespective of whether the retailer regards the receipts to be taxable or nontaxable;
2. show all deductions allowed by law and claimed in filing returns;
3. show bills, invoices or similar evidence of all tangible personal property purchased for sale, consumption, or lease in this state; and
4. include the normal books of account maintained by an ordinarily prudent business person engaged in such business, together with supporting documents of original entry such as: bills, receipts, invoices, and cash register tapes. All schedules or working papers used in connection with the preparation of tax returns must also be maintained.

B. Records may be microfilmed or microfiched. However, microfilm reproductions of general books of account--such as cash books, journals, voucher registers, ledgers, and like documents--are not acceptable as original records. Where microfilm or microfiche reproductions of supporting records are maintained--such as sales invoices, purchase invoices, credit memoranda and like documents--the following conditions must be met:

1. appropriate facilities must be provided for preservation of the films or fiche for the periods required and open to examination,
2. microfilm rolls and microfiche must be systematically filed, indexed, cross referenced, and labeled to show beginning and ending numbers and to show beginning and ending alphabetical listing of documents included,
3. upon request of the Tax Commission, the taxpayer shall provide transcriptions of any information contained on microfilm or microfiche which may be required for verification of tax liability,
4. proper facilities must be provided for the ready inspection and location of the particular records, including machines for viewing and copying the records,
5. a posting reference must appear on each invoice. Credit memoranda must carry a reference to the document evidencing the original transaction. Documents necessary to support exemptions from tax liability, such as bills of lading and purchase orders, must be maintained in such order so as to relate to exempt transactions claimed.

C. Any automated data processing (ADP) tax accounting system must be capable of producing visible and legible records for verification of taxpayer's tax liability.

1. ADP records shall provide an opportunity to trace any transaction back to the original source or forward to a final total. If detailed printouts are not made of transactions at the time they are processed, the systems must have the ability to reconstruct these transactions.

2. A general ledger with source references should be prepared to coincide with financial reports for tax reporting periods. In cases where subsidiary ledgers are used to support the general ledger accounts, the subsidiary ledgers should also be prepared periodically.

3. The audit trail should be designed so that the details underlying the summary accounting data may be identified and made available to the Tax Commission upon request. The system should be so designed that supporting documents--such as sales invoices, purchase invoices, credit memoranda, and like documents--are readily available.

4. A description of the ADP portion of the accounting system shall be made available. The statements and illustrations as to the scope of operations shall be sufficiently detailed to indicate:

(a) the application being performed;

(b) the procedures employed in each application (which, for example, might be supported by flow charts, block diagrams or other satisfactory description of the input or output procedures); and

(c) the controls used to insure accurate and reliable processing and important changes, together with their effective dates, in order to preserve an accurate chronological record.

D. All records pertaining to transactions involving sales or use tax liability shall be preserved for a period of not less than three years.

E. All of the foregoing records shall be made available for examination on request by the Tax Commission or its authorized representatives.

F. Upon failure of the taxpayer, without reasonable cause, to substantially comply with the requirements of this rule, the Tax Commission may:

1. Prohibit the taxpayer from introducing in any protest or refund claim proceeding those microfilm, microfiche, ADP, or any records which have not been prepared and maintained in substantial compliance with the requirements of this rule.

2. Dismiss any protest or refund claim proceeding in which the taxpayer bases its claim upon any microfilm, microfiche, ADP, or any records which have not been prepared and maintained in substantial compliance with the requirements of this rule.

3. Enter such other order necessary to obtain compliance with this rule in the future.

4. Revoke taxpayer's license upon evidence of continued failure to comply with the requirements of this rule.

Effective: 1/1/87