



Office of the Tax Director

Pennsylvania Sales Tax Information

Drexel University is a non-profit educational institution exempt from Pennsylvania sales tax. However, the exemption to which we are entitled, only applies to the purchase of tangible personal property or services that are either used in an activity which bears a reasonable relationship to the purpose for which we exist (i.e. instruction, research or healthcare) **or** which is a material or supply used in the routine maintenance or repair of real estate used in an activity which bears a reasonable relationship to the purpose for which we exist. All other purchases made by Drexel University are considered taxable.

Examples of Purchases exempt from PA sales tax

A.) Material or supplies used in routine maintenance or repair of real estate:

Paint	floor wax
Paint brushes	carpet shampoos
Light bulbs	replacement window panes
Cement for repointing	roofing tar
Expendable mops or brushes	patch asphalt

B.) Building Machinery and equipment:

Air conditioning equipment	electrical equipment
Plumbing equipment	Communications equipment (voice, video, data, sound, master clock and noise abatement)

Fire equipment	Security and detection alarms
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Control systems (including energy management, traffic, parking lot and building access)

Medical systems (including diagnosis, treatment equipment, medical gas, nurse call and doctor paging systems)

Laboratory systems	cathodic protection systems
Furniture	Cabinetry
Kitchen equipment	boilers
Chillers	Air cleaners
Humidifiers	fans
Switchgear	pumps

Telephones
Horns
Dampers
Grills
Traffic signals
Card access devices
Medial devices
Laundry equipment

speakers
motion detectors
actuators
registers
sensors
guard-rails
floor troughs and grates

C.) Utility services

Fuel oil

Steam
Electricity

petroleum products used in connection with
exempt activities
gas
telephone service

Examples of taxable Purchases

A.) Materials, supplies and equipment used and installed in the construction, reconstruction, remodeling, repair or maintenance of real estate which become a permanent part of the structure:

Drywall
Furnace
Light fixtures
Windows
Wire
Pipes
pipe supports and hangars
Guardrail posts
Underground tanks
Junction boxes
Ductwork and coverings

studs
bricks or building blocks
wall to wall carpeting
conduit
cable
fittings

valves
receptacle boxes
insulation

B.) Tools and equipment used for routine maintenance:

Hammers
Lawn mowers
Floor polishers
Corded or cordless Drills
Off road vehicles (golf carts & ATVs)

saws
snow blowers
small tools (screwdrivers, wrenches, pliers, etc)
shovels, spades

We are also **not exempt** from the **hotel occupancy tax** on charges for occupancy of hotels, motels and similar establishments.