



Office of the Tax Director

Pennsylvania Sales Tax Information

Drexel University and Philadelphia Health & Education Corporation, d/b/a Drexel University College of Medicine, are non-profit educational institutions 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 and the College of Medicine 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	speakers
Horns	motion detectors
Dampers	actuators
Grills	registers
Traffic signals	sensors
Card access devices	guard-rails
Medial devices	floor troughs and grates
Laundry equipment	

C.) Utility services

Fuel oil	petroleum products used in connection with exempt activities
Steam	gas
Electricity	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	studs
Furnace	bricks or building blocks
Light fixtures	wall to wall carpeting
Windows	conduit
Wire	cable
Pipes	fittings
pipe supports and hangars	
Guardrail posts	valves
Underground tanks	receptacle boxes
Junction boxes	insulation
Ductwork and coverings	

B.) Tools and equipment used for routine maintenance:

Hammers	saws
Lawn mowers	snow blowers
Floor polishers	small tools (screwdrivers, wrenches, pliers, etc)
Corded or cordless Drills	shovels, spades
Off road vehicles (golf carts & ATVs)	

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