

The tax on beverages of low alcoholic content (beer) is an excise tax and is collected from the wholesale dealer who first handles and distributes such beverages within Louisiana. Before commencing business as a Louisiana wholesale alcoholic beverage dealer, a company must (1) file a surety bond or certificate of deposit with the Louisiana Department of Revenue, and (2) obtain a permit from the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control. The minimum amount of the surety bond or certificate of deposit is \$10,000. The maximum amount is at the discretion of the Secretary.

In addition to meeting the requirements of the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control, a dealer is required to file a return each month with the Department of Revenue disclosing all movements of beer for the month.

Louisiana Revised Statute 26:342 provides that the state beer tax is to be computed at the rate of \$12.50 for each barrel containing not more than thirty-one gallons. The tax is computed on a proportional rate for fractional parts of a barrel.

In addition to the state beer tax, Louisiana R.S.26:493 provides that the state must collect a Parish & Municipal (P & M) beer tax in the amount of \$1.50 per standard barrel of thirty-one gallons.

The wholesale dealer is allowed a 1.5% discount for State beer tax and 2% discount for P & M beer tax on the gross amount of tax due for accurately reporting and timely remitting all taxes due, and as an offset for taxes paid on unsaleable products.

The monthly return, Louisiana State and Parish and Municipality Beer Tax Return, (Form R-5621) is furnished by the Louisiana Department of Revenue and is the means whereby a dealer reports and pays the State beer tax and the P & M beer tax each month. **Calculate entries on Lines 1 through 16 to four decimal places.** Detailed instructions for completing the monthly return (Form R-5621) are as follows:

Line 1 - Enter the beginning inventory on the first day of the month. The figure must agree with the ending inventory reported for the previous month.

Line 2 - Enter the total non tax-paid beer purchased within the state plus beer produced within the state for the month. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A). Column B, Line 2 must equal the sum of Column A, Lines 2 and 3.

Line 3 - Enter the amount of all tax-paid beer purchased from

other wholesale dealers within the state in Column A. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A).

Line 4 - Add lines 1 through 3. Column A and Column B must be identical.

Line 5 - Enter the total shipments to out-of-state breweries or customers. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A). Attach bills of lading for shipments to out-of-state breweries.

Line 6 - Enter total beer sales to federal agencies, such as military installations. Attach Tax Exemption Certificate (Form R-5606).

Line 7 - Enter total beer sales to ships and consulates. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A) and Tax Exemption Certificate (Form R-5607).

Line 8 - Enter total claims against carriers for merchandise broken, lost, or stolen in transit. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A).

Line 9 - Enter total beer returned to the brewery. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A).

Line 10 - Enter in Column B all P & M beer sales in parishes/municipalities that do not impose a P & M beer tax. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A).

Line 11 - Enter in Column B all P & M beer sold to other Louisiana bonded dealers. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A).

Line 12 - Enter in Column B total P & M beer claims for warehouse breakage. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A).

Line 13 - Enter total State and P & M beer destroyed. Attach Supplemental Schedule (Form R-5621A) and Certificate of Destruction (Form R-5605, "ABT-100").

Line 14 - Enter the ending inventory on the last day of the month. Line 14 must reflect a physical inventory count at the end of the month.

Line 15 - Add Lines 5 through 14.

Line 16 - Subtract Line 15 from Line 4. Line 16 represents taxable disposals for the month.

Line 17 - Multiply Column A, Line 16 by \$12.50 and Column B, Line 16 by \$1.50.

Line 18 - Multiply Column A, Line 3 by \$12.50.

Line 19 - Subtract Column A, Line 18 from Column A, Line 17 and enter in Column A. Enter the amount from Column B, Line 17 in Column B, Line 19.

Line 20b - Compute the discount amount allowed if the return is filed and payment is made timely. For each column, multiply the amount on Line 19 by the discount rate shown on Line 20a and enter the result in the respective column. Round to the nearest dollar. Enter zero if the return or payment is delinquent.

Line 21 - Subtract Line 20b from Line 19.

Line 22 - If the return is delinquent not more than 10 days multiply Line 21 by 5 percent. If the return is delinquent more than 10 days, multiply Line 21 by 20 percent. If the return is filed timely, enter zero.

Line 23 - Interest is due if the payment of the tax is late. Refer to the Tax Interest Rate Schedule (R-1111) for monthly interest rates that apply. Form R-1111 is available on the Department's website at www.revenue.louisiana.gov.

Line 24 - Add Line 21 through Line 23.

Line 24a - Enter the amount from Column A, Line 24.

Line 24b - Enter the amount from Column B, Line 24.

Line 25 - Add Line 24a and Line 24b. Make payment to the Louisiana Department of Revenue. **Do not send cash.**

The reverse side of the monthly tax return (Form R-5621) is for the distribution of taxable P & M beer sales. When beer is sold into a parish or municipality that has an ordinance in effect authorizing the Department of Revenue to collect the P & M beer tax, the wholesale dealer must list the location and the monthly total sold on the schedule on the reverse side of Form R-5621. **The total amount of tax must agree with Line 19 on the face of the tax return for P & M beer.** If a current P & M code list is needed, please contact the Baton Rouge main office of the Department of Revenue. If additional P & M distribution schedules are needed, please make photocopies or call the Baton Rouge main office to request extra forms. **Please use the P & M distribution schedule provided; printouts may not be substituted, but they may be sent to provide backup information.**