



SPECIAL NOTICE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
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TTY
711

Revisions to the Distilled Spirits Tax Return *and* Launch of New Online Filing Effective August 12, 2019

Your *Distilled Spirits Tax Return* will be revised and your distilled spirits account will be included in our online services system on August 12, 2019. To help you prepare, here are some important details about reporting changes and filing online with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA).

What to expect

CDTFA-501-DS, *Distilled Spirits Tax Return*:

- You will report distilled spirits to the nearest whole “wine” gallon. The quantity in liters shall be multiplied by 0.264172, as required by [Alcoholic Beverage Tax Regulation 2544](#).
- Statements I and II will be reversed:
 - Statement I will be *Distilled Spirits Inventory Reconciliation*
 - Statement II will be *Distilled Spirits Transactions*
- Sales to armed forces will be listed on the same line as *Exports or sales to common carriers*.
- Physical inventory will be reported on a semi-annual basis.
- You are required to complete the following report(s) when you receive, sell, purchase, import and/or export distilled spirits.
 - CDTFA-240-A, *Distilled Spirits Received From Own Bottling Department*
 - CDTFA-241-A, *Distilled Spirits Purchased or Received from Other Licensees in California*
 - CDTFA-242-A, *Distilled Spirits Imported into California*
 - CDTFA-243-B, *Claim for Distilled Spirits Excise Tax Exemption on Sale or Delivery to Other Licensees in California*
 - CDTFA-244-B, *Claim for Excise Tax Exemption on Distilled Spirits Exported or Sold to Common Carriers and/or Armed Forces Instrumentalities*
- New columns for some reports:
 - *Distilled Spirits CDTFA Account Number for licensed importers and wholesalers*
 - Common Carrier’s CDTFA Account Number
 - *Mode Code* (R = Railcar, S = Ship, and J = Truck) to report how the shipment entered California
 - *Date Shipped*

Please Note: You may locate the CDTFA account numbers of licensed importers or common carriers on our [Alcoholic Beverage Tax Page](https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/alcoholic-beverage-tax.htm) located at <https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/alcoholic-beverage-tax.htm>.

File online

Go Paperless! You may file your return in our online services system, CDTFA's preferred filing method.

- You will be able to upload your report(s) or add records individually online with your return.
- We will email you a courtesy reminder prior to each filing due date to the email address we have on file.
- Your CDTFA Account Number, Reporting Period, and Business Address will automatically populate when filing online. When filing by paper, you will need to complete this portion of the report manually.
- You will be able to file an amended return online for reporting periods after August 2019.

How to login:

- The current *User ID*, *Password*, and *Express Login* for this account will not be moved to the new online services system.
- You will need to sign up for a new *Username* and *Password*. We will mail a security code to the address we have on file so you can complete the login process. Watch for our letter with information about how to sign up.

What should you do to prepare?

Please confirm or update your email and mailing address with us at STFRegUpdates@cdtfa.ca.gov or call our Customer Service Center at 1-800-400-7115 (TTY:711), then select the *Special Taxes and Fees* option and follow the prompts for *Alcoholic Beverage Taxes*. Customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Pacific time), except state holidays.

What if you have questions?

For more information on the upcoming changes to our online services, please see our FAQ page at www.cdtfa.ca.gov/services/cros.htm.