

The Louisville Municipal Code (LMC) provides for certain medical related exemptions.

The following **are exempt** from Louisville sales/use tax:

- Prescription Drugs for Humans
- Prosthetic Devices for Humans
- Certain Medical Supplies
- Therapeutic Devices for Humans

- Prescription Drugs for Animals - please see the “Veterinarians” publication in this Tax Guide
- Prosthetic Devices for Animals – please see the “Veterinarians” publication in this Tax Guide

Definitions of Exempt Items and Qualifying Factors

Prescription Drugs for Humans means:

A drug which, prior to being dispensed or delivered, is required by the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C Sect. 301, et. seq., as amended, to state at a minimum the symbol “Rx Only”, and is dispensed in accordance with any written or electronic order dated and signed by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts, or given orally by a practitioner and immediately reduced to writing by the pharmacist, assistant pharmacist, or pharmacy intern, specifying the name and any required information of the patient for whom the medicine, drug, or poison is offered and directions, if any, to be placed on the label.

Prescription Drugs for Humans excludes medical and retail marijuana which is taxable.

Prescription Drugs for Humans that do not, by law, require a prescription, are taxable.

Prosthetic Devices for Humans means:

Any artificial limb, part, device or appliance for human use which replaces a body part or aids or replaces a bodily function; is designed, manufactured, altered or adjusted to fit a particular patient; and is prescribed by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts. Prosthetic devices include but are not limited to prescribed auditory, ophthalmic or ocular, cardiac, dental, or orthopedic devices or appliances, and oxygen concentrators with related accessories.

Therapeutic Devices for Humans means:

Therapeutic device means devices, appliances, or related accessories that correct or treat a human physical disability or surgically created abnormality. When such device has retail value more than \$100, the appliance or related accessory must be sold in accordance with a written recommendation from a licensed practitioner in order to qualify as exempt.

Medical Supplies means:

- Special beds for patients with neuromuscular or similar debilitating ailments

The information contained in the Tax Guide publications is intended to offer general guidance in layman’s terms, for this topic, industry or business segment, and is not intended for legal purposes to be substituted for the full text of the Louisville Municipal Code rules and regulations. This guide does not constitute a city tax policy.

The above is exempt when sold for the direct personal use of a specific individual in accordance with a prescription or other written directive issued by a licensed practitioner of medicine.

- Corrective eyeglass lenses including eyeglass frames and corrective contact lenses

The above is exempt when sold for the direct personal use of a specific individual in accordance with a prescription or other written directive issued by a licensed practitioner of medicine or optometry.

- Hearing aids, hearing aid batteries
- Human whole blood, plasma, blood products and derivatives
- Insulin, insulin measuring and injecting devices, glucose to be used for treatment of insulin reactions
- Oxygen and hemodialysis products for use by a medical patient
- Wheelchairs and crutches

The above are exempt when sold for the direct personal use of a specific individual.

Taxable Transactions/Use

The above items are taxable (except for Prescription Drugs for Humans) when purchased for use by medical or dental practitioners, or by medical facilities in providing their services, even though some items may be packaged for single use by individual patients after which the item would be discarded.

See “Medical/Dental Service Providers” and “Professional Services” publications in this Tax Guide.

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