

MEMORANDUM

To: All Connecticut Assessors

From: Shirley H. Corona, Local Government Program Supervisor
Intergovernmental Policy Division

Re: Commercial Motor Vehicle Exemption
Connecticut General Statutes § 12-81 (74)

Date: August 26, 2009

Connecticut General Statutes §12-81(74) provides for property tax exemption for certain commercial motor vehicles. The OPM-prescribed exemption application (Form M-65MV) is enclosed. This form should be copied and distributed as necessary.

Please enter the appropriate year in the upper right corner and indicate whether the application is for the regular or supplemental list in the space provided at the bottom of the front page in the area designated "for Assessor's use only."

Updated "**Guidelines...**" relating to the exemption are also enclosed.

An exemption application is required for the first year in which the exemption is requested. If there is no change with respect to the town in which an exempt vehicle is registered and no modification to the vehicle, there is no requirement to file for the balance of the five-year exemption term. If there is a change in tax town or any modification to the vehicle, a new M-65MV Claim must be timely filed.

The exemption is available to two different classes of vehicles, depending on their date of registration, gross vehicle weight (GVW) rating and use. Eligibility for exemption is dependent upon meeting all qualifying criteria for the class.

In order to qualify for exemption as a vehicle used to transport freight for hire under CGS §12-81(74)(A)(i), the vehicle must:

- be new, meaning the vehicle's equitable or legal title has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor or dealer to anyone other than the owner making application for this exemption;
- be used exclusively for the interstate or intrastate transportation of freight for hire; and
- have a GVW rating in excess of twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds.

In order to qualify for exemption for vehicles with a GVW in excess of 55,000 lbs. under CGS §12-81(74)(A) (ii), the vehicle must:

- be new, meaning the vehicle's equitable or legal title has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor or dealer to anyone other than the owner making application for this exemption;
- have a gross vehicle weight (GVW) rating in excess of fifty-five thousand (55,000) pounds, and
- be ineligible for exemption under of CGS §12-81(74)(A)(i) as delineated above.

To apply for exemption, the vehicle owner or registrant or his authorized agent must complete Form M-65MV and submit it to the Assessor(s) of the town in which the vehicle is subject to taxation. The application must be accompanied by all required documentation and must be submitted by November 1. For each vehicle (motorized and/or towed component), the required documentation consists of:

- 1) a copy of a validated Form H-13 – Application for Registration of a Motor Vehicle and Certificate of Title, as issued by the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), which has a seal affixed to it and has been date stamped by the DMV in the upper right hand corner;
- 2) a copy of the vehicle's bill of sale or the vehicle's invoice(s); and
- 3) proof of the price(s) paid for any modification(s) made to the vehicle between the date it was purchased and the October 1 List date (sales contract, itemized bill of sale, invoices, etc.).

Applicants who fail to file an application by November 1 waive the right to the exemption for the assessment year unless they receive an extension of the time to file from the Assessor pursuant to CGS Section 12-81k. Such an extension must be requested from the Assessor who *may* grant an extension until December 15. There is a late filing fee, which *may* be waived by the Assessor. Any person who receives an extension to file the Personal Property Declaration, shall automatically receive an extension to file the M-65MV and shall not be required to request an extension of the filing date for the M-65MV.

Vehicles registered after October 1, 2008 and before August 1, 2009 will appear on the municipality's 2008 Supplemental Motor Vehicle List. The filing deadline for vehicles registered after October 1, 2008 and appearing on the Supplemental List is November 1, 2009. Assessors may accept Form M-65MV for vehicles appearing on the Supplemental List anytime after registration and until November 1, 2009 without requiring an extension of time to file.

For assistance with any questions or concerns that have not been addressed in this letter or on Form M-65MV, please contact Frank Intino at (860) 418-6382 or via e-mail at frank.intino@ct.gov. Instructions, Guidelines and Forms are available on the OPM website at: www.ct.gov/opm/igp under Assessment, Data Collection and Grants Management Unit, then under the heading of "Commercial Motor Vehicles".

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this property tax exemption program.

Enclosures

Fact Sheet

COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE EXEMPTION CGS 12-81(74)

Effective for the 2009 List

In order to qualify for exemption as a vehicle used to transport freight for hire under CGS §12-81(74)(A)(i), the vehicle must:

- 1) be new, meaning the vehicle's equitable or legal title has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor or dealer to anyone other than the owner making application for this exemption;
- 2) be used exclusively for the interstate or intrastate transportation of freight for hire; and
- 3) have a gross vehicle weight (GVW) rating in excess of twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds.

In order to qualify for exemption for vehicles with a GVW in excess of 55,000 lbs. under CGS §12-81(74)(A)(ii), the vehicle must:

- 1) be new, meaning the vehicle's equitable or legal title has never been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor or dealer to anyone other than the owner making application for this exemption;
- 2) have a gross vehicle weight (GVW) rating in excess of fifty-five thousand (55,000) pounds, and
- 3) be ineligible for exemption under CGS §12-81(74)(A)(i) as delineated above.

To apply for exemption, the vehicle owner or registrant or his authorized agent must complete Form M-65MV and submit it to the Assessor(s) of the town in which the vehicle is subject to taxation. The application must be accompanied by all required documentation and must be submitted by November 1. For each vehicle (motorized and/or towed component), the required documentation consists of:

- 4) a copy of a validated Form H-13 – Application for Registration of a Motor Vehicle and Certificate of Title, as issued by the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), which has a seal affixed to it and has been date stamped by the DMV in the upper right hand corner;
- 5) a copy of the vehicle's bill of sale or the vehicle's invoice(s); and
- 6) proof of the price(s) paid for any modification(s) made to the vehicle between the date it was purchased and the October 1 List date (sales contract, itemized bill of sale, invoices, etc.).

Applicants who fail to file an application by November 1 waive the right to the exemption for the assessment year unless they receive an extension of the time to file from the Assessor pursuant to CGS Section 12-81k. Such an extension must be requested from the Assessor who *may* grant an extension until December 15. There is a late filing fee, which *may* be waived by the Assessor. Any person who receives an extension to file the Personal Property Declaration, shall automatically receive an extension to file the M-65MV and shall not be required to request an extension of the filing date for the M-65MV.

Vehicles registered after October 1, 2008 and before August 1, 2009 will appear on the municipality's Supplemental Motor Vehicle List. The filing deadline for vehicles registered after October 1, 2008 and appearing on the Supplemental List is November 1, 2009. Assessors may accept Form M-65MV for vehicles appearing on the Supplemental List anytime after registration and until November 1, 2009 without requiring an extension of time to file.

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