

Illinois Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday

August 7–16, 2026

Save on back to school essentials!

The Back to School Sales Tax Holiday offers a chance for shoppers (both physical and online) to save on essential clothing and school supplies. Running August 7–16, 2026, this 10 day event reduces the State sales tax rate from **6.25% to 1.25%** on qualifying items.

Qualifying Clothing & Footwear Qualifying School Supplies

Retail price must be under \$125 per item.

- Coats, jackets
- Shirts, blouses
- Pants, shorts
- Skirts, dresses
- School uniforms
- Underwear, socks, hosiery
- Gloves, hats, scarves
- Household/shop aprons
- Bathing suits and caps
- Belts, suspenders
- Lab coats
- Rainwear
- Rubber pants (cloth diaper covers)
- Neckties
- Athletic supporters

No price limit; must be used by students during study.

- Binders, folders
- Notebooks, notebook paper
- Pens, pencils, markers, crayons
- Calculators
- Chalk
- Glue, paste, tape
- Highlighters
- Index cards
- Legal pads
- Bookbags
- Rulers, compasses, protractors
- Scissors
- Pencil boxes and sharpeners
- Lunch boxes

Footwear under \$125

- Shoes, sneakers, sandals
- Slippers
- Boots
- Socks, stockings, footlets
- Insoles
- Steel toed shoes



Non Qualifying Items

Not eligible for reduced tax rate.

Any clothing item with a retail selling price of \$125 or more

Clothing accessories: jewelry, watches, handbags, cosmetics, hair accessories, sunglasses

Sports equipment: cleated or spiked shoes, skates, ski boots, sports gloves, wetsuits

Protective gear: helmets, respirators, protective gloves, safety goggles

School materials: art supplies, textbooks, reference maps/books

Computers & electronics: computers, printers, printer ink/toner, cameras, cell phones



LEARN MORE

For full details and complete item lists, visit: tax.illinois.gov

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