

**Submission of Exemption Request****Exemption Based on Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3) Federal Determination Letter****3500A**

Enclose a copy of the Federal Determination Letter.

Corporation number/Secretary of State file number

FEIN

Name of organization as shown in the creating document

Address (suite, room, or PMB no.)

Daytime telephone number

City

State

ZIP Code

Name of representative to contact regarding additional requirements or information

Daytime telephone number

Representative's mailing address (suite, room, or PMB no.)

City

State

ZIP Code

**Part I — Purpose and Activity****1** Check the organization's primary purpose and activity as allowed in the federal determination letter:

- ☐ Charitable      ☐ Educational      ☐ Religious      ☐ Testing for public safety      ☐ School  
☐ Literary      ☐ Hospital      ☐ Medical center      ☐ Qualified sports organization  
☐ Health care center      ☐ Scientific      ☐ Church      ☐ Prevent cruelty to children or animals

**Part II — Entity Information****2** Entity type (check applicable box): ☐ Corporation ☐ Association ☐ Trust ☐ Foreign corporation (State of incorporation) \_\_\_\_\_**3** Does the IRS consider the organization a private foundation? ..... **3** ☐ Yes ☐ No**4** When did the organization establish, incorporate, organize, or conduct business in California? ..... **4** mm / dd / yyyy

**5** Provide gross receipts for the current year and the three immediately preceding taxable years in existence. Gross receipts are defined as the total amounts the organization received from all sources during its annual account period without subtracting any costs or expenses. If the organization has been in existence for less than one year, provide the projected amount of gross receipts for the entire year.

Current Year or Projected Gross Receipts	Gross Receipts for the three immediately preceding taxable years:		
From:	From:	From:	From:
To:	To:	To:	To:

**6** Has the IRS ever suspended, revoked, or audited the organization? ..... **6** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," explain \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III — Group Exemption. See instructions.****7** Is the organization applying for a group exemption? ..... **7** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes," attach the federal group determination letter and a list of all California subordinates. Include each subordinate's name, corporation number, FEIN, and address.

Mail form FTB 3500A and a copy of the federal determination letter to:

EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS UNIT, MS F120, FRANCHISE TAX BOARD, PO BOX 1286, RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-1286.

**Under penalties of perjury, I declare I have examined this submission for exemption based on the IRC Section 501(c)(3) federal determination letter, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.**

DATE

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER OR REPRESENTATIVE

TITLE

# Instructions for Form FTB 3500A

## Submission of Exemption Request

Exemption Based on IRC Section 501(c)(3) Federal Determination Letter

References in these instructions are to the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) as of **January 1, 2009**, and to the California Revenue and Taxation Code (R&TC).

### General Information

All corporations and unincorporated organizations, even if organized on a nonprofit basis, are subject to California corporation franchise or income tax until the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) gives exempt status to the organization. Until the exemption is given, the organization remains taxable and the requirement to file a state income tax return continues.

California acknowledges federally tax exempt Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3) organizations as tax-exempt from state income tax if the organization submits form FTB 3500A, Submission of Exemption Request, and a copy of its federal determination letter to the FTB.

#### Disclosure of Application Materials

Until the FTB acknowledges tax-exempt status, the application and all associated documentation is confidential. The FTB may not discuss the application with any unauthorized person. However, once exemption is acknowledged, the application, and supporting documents, shall be open to public inspection.

Upon the organization's request, public disclosure of documents relating to any trade secrets, patents, process, style of work, or apparatus may be withheld if the FTB determines that disclosure would adversely affect the organization. Additionally, public disclosure of documents may also be withheld if the disclosure would adversely affect national defense.

### A Purpose

Use form FTB 3500A, to obtain California tax-exempt status, if the organization has a federal determination letter granting exemption under IRC Section 501(c)(3).

An organization without a federal determination letter under IRC Section 501(c)(3) may **not** use form FTB 3500A. Those organizations must use form FTB 3500, Exemption Application. For more information, go to [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov) and search for **3500**.

### B What and Where to File

Send form FTB 3500A, with an original signature of:

- An elected officer
- A director
- An authorized representative
- A trustee (if the organization is a trust)

Mail form FTB 3500A, with a copy of the organization's IRC Section 501(c)(3) federal determination letter to:

EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS UNIT MS F120  
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
PO BOX 1286  
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-1286

If additional information is required, we will contact the officer or representative designated on form FTB 3500A.

If you have questions about form FTB 3500A, call 916.845.4171.

### C What Happens Next

Upon receipt of the completed documents, the FTB will send the organization a letter acknowledging the federal tax exemption under IRC 501(c)(3) and specify the effective date of the organization's exemption under California law.

The organization must notify the FTB when the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) revokes the IRC Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. The FTB will revoke the organization's tax-exempt status if the organization fails to meet certain Revenue and Taxation Code (R&TC) provisions governing exempt organizations. If an organization's tax-exempt status is revoked or denied, the organization will need to file form FTB 3500 to reinstate its tax-exemption.

### D Incorporating in California

If the organization is not incorporated in California and wishes to do so, the organization should first incorporate with the California Secretary of State (SOS), then file form FTB 3500A with the FTB to obtain tax-exempt status. For more information on incorporating, go to the SOS's website [sos.ca.gov](http://sos.ca.gov).

An unincorporated organization that has tax-exempt status, and then incorporates, must reapply for California tax-exempt status.

#### Foreign Corporations

If the organization is incorporated in another state or country, it is considered a "foreign corporation." The organization may qualify to do business in California if it complies with the California Corporations Code requirements. For more information on qualifying, go to the SOS's website [sos.ca.gov](http://sos.ca.gov).

### E Trusts

Trusts organized and operated for purposes described in R&TC Section 23701d are treated as nonprofit corporations for tax-exempt purposes.

### F Retroactive Exempt Status

For California franchise and income tax purposes, organizations seeking exemption based on their determination under IRC Section 501(c)(3) will be tax-exempt for state purposes on the same day of the federal determination. If the entity's incorporation date is prior to the federal determination date, consider filing form FTB 3500.

We may consider this form as a claim for refund if the organization is subsequently found to be tax-exempt during the same period it previously paid tax. Under Cal. Regs., tit.18, section 23701, in no event shall a claim for refund be allowed unless timely filed under R&TC Section 19306.

### G Group Exemption

Parent organizations requesting group exemption for their subordinates complete PART III of this form.

If the parent organization does not want to obtain group exemption, but wants tax-exempt status for specific subordinates, have each subordinate send the following:

- Form FTB 3500A, Submission of Exemption Request, with subordinate's name on the form.
- A copy of parent organization's group ruling letter from the IRS, or a letter from the IRS to the subordinate that indicates the subordinate is covered under the parent organization's IRS group exemption.
- A letter from the parent organization on their letterhead indicating the entity is a subordinate of their organization.

### H Suspended/Forfeited Status

An organization must be active and in good standing to obtain tax-exempt status. If the organization is not currently in good standing and all filing requirements have been satisfied and/or amounts due have been paid, this form may be considered a request to bring the organization relief from suspension or forfeiture under R&TC Section 23776.

If the corporation is suspended/forfeited with the SOS, send form FTB 3557E, Application for Certificate of Revivor. The FTB will send the requirements stating which documents to file or balance due the corporation must pay to revive to good standing. If the entity does not revive, the FTB may revoke the tax-exempt status.

## I Filing Requirements

California tax-exempt organizations may have to file one or more of the following returns:

- Form 199, California Exempt Organization Annual Information Return.
- FTB 199N, Annual Electronic Filing Requirement for Small Exempt Organizations, (California e-Postcard).
- Form 109, California Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return.

### Form 199, California Exempt Organization Annual Information Return

The requirement to file Form 199 is generally based on the normal amount of total gross receipts and pledges. Organizations with gross receipts/pledges that are normally \$25,000 or less are required to electronically file FTB 199N, California e-Postcard. Go to [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov) and search for **199N**.

The organization's filing requirement depends on normal gross receipts:

Normal gross receipts	File
Gross receipts normally \$25,000 or less*	FTB 199N
Gross receipts more than \$25,000	Form 199
Private foundation (regardless of gross receipts)	Form 199
Nonexempt charitable trusts described in IRC Section 4947(a)(1) (regardless of gross receipts)	Form 199

\*Organizations eligible to file the FTB 199N may choose to file Form 199.

"Normally \$25,000 or less" means if the organization has been:

In existence for	And received Gross Receipts/ Pledges of
1 year or less	\$37,500 or less
More than 1 year but less than 3 years	\$30,000 or less (average for current year and immediately preceding year)
3 years or more	\$25,000 or less (average for current year and 2 immediately preceding years)

### Form 109, California Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return

Generally, a tax-exempt organization files Form 109 when its income exceeds \$1,000 from a trade or business unrelated to its exempt purposes, even if the profits are used for exempt purposes. For more information, go to [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov) and search for **109**.

### Other requirements

For detailed information about state filing requirements, fees, and penalties, get FTB Pub. 1068, Exempt Organizations – Filing Requirements and Filing Fees. Go to [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov) and search for **1068**.

## Specific Line Instructions

Provide the following:

- California Corporation number (seven digits) or California SOS file number (12 digits)
- Federal Employer identification number (FEIN)
- Organization name as shown in the organization's creating document
- Address

**Private Mail Box (PMB)** – Include PMB number in the address field. Write "PMB" first, then the box number. Example: 111 Main Street PMB 123.

## PART II — Entity Information

### Line 2 – Entity type

Check the box for the exempt organization's entity type.

**Corporation:** The entity has endorsed articles of incorporation from the SOS, or is a foreign entity that has articles of incorporation on file in another state or country.

**Association:** The entity is not incorporated in California, another state, or country.

**Trust:** A trust may be created by language in a will or in a written trust instrument. The trust creates legal obligations for the person (trustee) who manages the assets of the trust.

**Foreign Corporation:** Incorporated in another state or country. Give the name of the state or foreign country in which the entity is incorporated.

### Line 6 – IRS information

If the entity was suspended, revoked, or audited by the IRS, check the "Yes" box and explain the reason for the suspension, revocation, or audit by the IRS.

## PART III — Group Exemption

The parent organization must have California tax-exempt status before it can apply for group exemption.

### List of subordinates

Include a list of subordinates to be covered under the group exemption. The list must include:

- Name of subordinate
- California corporation number
- Federal employer identification number
- Address

# How to Get California Tax Information

(Keep this page for future use.)

## Automated Phone Service

Use our Automated Phone Service to get recorded answers to many of your questions about California taxes and to order California Business Entity tax forms and publications. This service is available in English and Spanish to callers with touch-tone telephones. Have paper and pencil ready to take notes.

Call from within the United States 800.338.0505  
Call from outside the United States 916.845.6500

## Where to Get General Tax Information

**By Internet** – You can get answers to Frequently Asked Questions at [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov).

**By Phone** – You can hear recorded answers to Frequently Asked Questions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call our automated phone service at the number listed above. Select “Business Entity Information,” then select “Frequently Asked Questions.” Enter the 3-digit code, listed below, when prompted.

### Code – Prefiling Assistance

715 – If my actual tax is less than the minimum franchise tax, what figure do I put on line 23 of Form 100 or Form 100W?

717 – What are the current tax rates for corporations?

718 – How do I get an extension of time to file?

722 – When does my corporation file a short period return?

734 – Is my corporation subject to a franchise tax or income tax?

### S Corporations

704 – Is an S corporation subject to the minimum franchise tax?

705 – Are S corporations required to file estimated payments?

706 – What forms do S corporations file?

707 – The tax for my S corporation is less than the minimum franchise tax. What figure do I put on line 22 of Form 100S?

### Exempt Organizations

709 – How do I get tax-exempt status?

710 – Does an exempt organization have to file Form 199?

735 – Does an exempt organization have to file FTB 199N, California e-Postcard?

736 – I have exempt status. Do I need to file Form 100 or Form 109 in addition to Form 199?

### Minimum Tax and Estimate Tax

712 – What is the minimum franchise tax?

714 – My corporation is not doing business; does it have to pay the minimum franchise tax?

### Billings and Miscellaneous Notices

723 – I received a bill for \$250. What is this for?

### Miscellaneous

701 – I need a state Employer ID number for my business. Who do I contact?

703 – How do I incorporate?

737 – Where do I send my payment?

## Letters

If you write to us, be sure your letter includes the California corporation number, or FEIN, your daytime and evening telephone numbers, and a copy of the notice. Send your letter to:

EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS UNIT MS F-120  
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
PO BOX 1286  
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-1286

We will respond to your letter within ten weeks. In some cases we may need to call you for additional information. **Do not** attach correspondence to your tax return unless it relates to an item on the return.

## Your Rights As A Taxpayer

Our goal includes making certain that your rights are protected so that you have the highest confidence in the integrity, efficiency, and fairness of our state tax system. FTB Pub. 4058, California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights, includes information on your rights as a California taxpayer, the Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Program, and how you request written advice from the FTB on whether a particular transaction is taxable.

## Where to Get Tax Forms and Publications

**By Internet** – You can download, view, and print California tax forms and publications at [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov).

**By Phone** – You can order California tax forms from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, except holidays. Call our automated phone service at the number listed above. Select “Business Entity Information,” then select “Forms and Publications.” Follow the recorded instructions and enter the 3-digit code, listed below, when prompted. To order prior year forms, call the number listed under “Assistance.”

Allow two weeks to receive your order. If your corporation's mailing address is outside California, allow three weeks.

### Code

817 – California Corporation Tax Forms and Instructions. This booklet includes: Form 100, California Corporation Franchise or Income Tax Return

814 – Form 109, California Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return

815 – Form 199, California Exempt Organization Annual Information Return

818 – Form 100-ES, Corporation Estimated Tax

802 – FTB 3500, Exemption Application

831 – FTB 3500A, Submission of Exemption Request

943 – FTB Pub. 4058, California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights

**By Mail** – Write to:

TAX FORMS REQUEST UNIT  
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
PO BOX 307  
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-0307

### Internet and Telephone Assistance

Telephone assistance is available year-round from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays. Hours are subject to change.

Website: [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov)

Telephone: 800.852.5711 from within the United States  
916.845.6500 from outside the United States

TTY/TDD: 800.822.6268 for persons with hearing or speech impairments

IRS: 800.829.1040 call the IRS for federal tax questions

### Asistencia Por Internet y Teléfono

Asistencia telefónica está disponible todo el año durante las 7 a.m. y las 5 p.m. lunes a viernes, excepto días festivos. Las horas están sujetas a cambios.

Sitio web: [ftb.ca.gov](http://ftb.ca.gov)

Teléfono: 800.852.5711 dentro de los Estados Unidos  
916.845.6500 fuera de los Estados Unidos

TTY/TDD: 800.822.6268 personas con discapacidades auditivas y del habla

IRS: 800.829.1040 llame al IRS para preguntas sobre impuestos federales