



# RUT-75 Instructions for Aircraft/Watercraft Use Tax Transaction Return

## General Information

### Who must file Form RUT-75?

If you acquire an aircraft or watercraft by gift, donation, transfer, or non-retail purchase, you must file Form RUT-75, Aircraft/Watercraft Use Tax Transaction Return.

**“Aircraft”** means any device used or designed to carry humans in flight as specified by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) by rule. All devices required to be licensed as “aircraft” by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) are “aircraft”. 620 ILCS 5/3. Examples include airplanes, helicopters, hot-air balloons, ultra lights, gliders, blimps, dirigibles, seaplanes, *etc.*

**“Watercraft”** includes

- Class 2, Class 3, and Class 4 watercraft as defined in Section 3-2 of the Boat Registration and Safety Act; and
- personal watercraft as defined in Section 1-2 of the Boat Registration and Safety Act (jet skis, wave runners, *etc.*).

**“Watercraft” does not** include canoes or kayaks. 86 Ill. Adm. Code 152.101.

### What is a “non-retail purchase”?

A purchase from a person or business not in the business of selling aircraft or watercraft at retail is considered a **“non-retail purchase.”** **Note:** For these instructions, “item” refers to both aircraft and watercraft as defined above.

### What if I purchase from a dealer or leasing company?

**Do not** use Form RUT-75 if you acquired the item from an Illinois retailer (*e.g.*, dealers, leasing companies). If you acquired the item from an Illinois retailer, the Illinois retailer must file Form ST-556, Sales Tax Transaction Return. If you acquired the item from an unregistered, **out-of-State** retailer (*e.g.*, dealer, lending institution, or leasing company selling at retail), you must file Form RUT-25, Vehicle Use Tax Transaction Return.

### When is Form RUT-75 due?

Form RUT-75 is due within 30 days after the date of acquiring the item if acquired in Illinois, or within 30 days after bringing the item into Illinois if acquired outside Illinois, whichever is later. 35 ILCS 158/15-20(b); 35 ILCS 157/10-20. You must pay the tax or submit proof of tax payment or exemption before your registration will be issued by the

- Illinois Department of Transportation - Division of Aeronautics (aircraft).
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources (watercraft).

### Can I file this return and pay the tax due electronically?

Yes, you can use MyTax Illinois at [mytax.illinois.gov](http://mytax.illinois.gov) to file your Form RUT-75 and required attachments. Payments must be made electronically when you submit your form.

### What if I need help?

If you have questions, visit our website at [tax.illinois.gov](http://tax.illinois.gov) or scan the QR code provided.

You may also call us weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at **1 800 732-8866, 217 782-3336,** or **1 800 544-5304** (TTY).

Language assistance services are available upon request and are free of charge.



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## Specific Instructions

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### Step 1 — Purchaser or new owner information

Enter the Social Security number (SSN) or federal employer identification number (FEIN), first and last name or company name, and phone number. Enter the address as it will appear on the Illinois registration.

For electronic filers, the SSN or FEIN and taxpayer name must match the information in our system. Taxpayers filing using their SSN will also be required to provide their Prior Year Adjusted Gross Income.

**Watercraft only** - Check if reporting a transfer between immediate family members. If our review indicates that the primary reason for transfer was to avoid payment of tax, we will bill you for applicable tax, penalties, and interest.

### Step 2 — Seller's information

Enter the seller's name, address, and phone number.

### Step 3 — Item information

Enter the year, make, model, date that the **purchaser** (not the seller) acquired the item, and date that the **purchaser** (not the seller) brought the item into Illinois. This date should **always** be on or after the purchase date.

For **watercrafts** enter Hull ID number, type (e.g., open, cabin, houseboat, sailboat, pontoon, PWC/jetski, paddleboat or other) and length.

For **aircrafts** enter serial number, "N" number, and aircraft/airframe hours.

### Step 4 — Exempt Transaction - Mark the applicable box. If the transaction is taxable, skip to next step.

- a** Item is bought and used by a charitable, religious, educational, or governmental organization with an active Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) exemption number. 35 ILCS 158/15-10(ii); 35 ILCS 157/10-15(ii).
- b** Item is used as rolling stock for hire to haul persons or commodities in interstate commerce. Aircraft - provide FAA certificate of authority number. 35 ILCS 158/15-10(iii); 35 ILCS 157/10-15(iii).
- c** Item was a gift from an estate to a surviving spouse. 35 ILCS 158/15-10(iv); 35 ILCS 157/10-15(iv).
- d** Item was acquired outside of Illinois and brought into and stored temporarily in Illinois. It will be removed and will be used solely outside of Illinois. 35 ILCS 158/15-10(iii); 35 ILCS 157/10-15(iii).
- e** Item is used primarily in production agriculture and qualifies for the farm machinery and equipment exemption. 35 ILCS 5/3-5(11).
- f Watercraft only** - not required to be numbered under the Boat Registration and Safety Act **and**
  - will not be used upon Illinois waters for more than 30 days in any calendar year, 35 ILCS 158/15-10(v); **or**
  - regardless of time used upon Illinois waters, is either:
    - owned by the United States, a State, or subdivision thereof; and used solely for official purposes and clearly identifiable; or
    - used exclusively as a ship's lifeboat. 625 ILCS 45/3-12(D), (E).

### Step 5 — Figure your tax

Tax is based on the purchase price/selling price or fair market value amount. Enter the higher of the purchase price/selling price or fair market value. 86 Ill. Adm. Code 153.105(a)-(b); 35 ILCS 157/10-15. If you purchase or acquire a share of an aircraft or watercraft, enter the share's purchase/selling price or fair market value. 35 ILCS 158/15-15; 86 Ill. Adm. Code 152.101.

**Round to the nearest dollar:** Drop amounts of less than 50 cents, and increase amounts of 50 cents or more to the next highest dollar. IDOR may utilize contracted vendors to determine the validity of the purchase/selling price stated on your return. 35 ILCS 157/10-30; 35 ILCS 158/15-30. We will bill you if additional tax is owed, including penalties and interest.

For **aircraft**, selling price is defined as the reasonable consideration received for the aircraft valued in money, cash, credits, property, services, *etc.* 86 Ill. Adm. Code 152.105(d). You must attach a copy of the FAA bill of sale and a copy of the purchase agreement/invoice which must have the selling price and any tax previously paid clearly and separately stated. 86 Ill. Adm. Code 152.110(a). In the case of gifts or transfers without a stated selling price, tax will be imposed on the fair market value of the aircraft on the date the aircraft is acquired or the date the aircraft is brought into the State, whichever is later. 86 Ill. Adm. Code 152.105(c)(d).

For **watercraft**, purchase price is defined as the reasonable consideration paid for the watercraft received in money, cash, credits, property, services, *etc.*, and including the value of any motor sold with, or in conjunction with, the watercraft. 35 ILCS 158/15-5. Attach a copy of the purchase agreement/invoice which must have the purchase price and any tax previously paid clearly and separately stated. When there is no stated purchase price, such as a gift or trade, tax is imposed on the fair market value on the date the watercraft or the share of the watercraft was acquired or the date the watercraft was brought into Illinois, whichever is later. In the case of a watercraft transfer between immediate family members (*i.e.*, a spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child), reasonable consideration ordinarily means the consideration paid, unless it appears from the facts and circumstances that the primary motivation of the transfer was the avoidance of tax. 35 ILCS 158/15-5; 86 Ill. Adm. Code 153.110(a). In the case of gifts between immediate family members, no tax is due unless it appears that the primary motivation of the transfer was the avoidance of tax. 86 Ill. Adm. Code 153.110(b).

Provide the name of the state and the amount of sales or use tax you previously paid to that state. Credit is allowed only if the tax previously paid was properly due and separately stated on the proof of tax payment that must be attached to Form RUT-75. 86 Ill. Adm. Code 153.110(d).

For paper filers, **subtract Line 3 from Line 2**. This is the amount of tax that you owe. Make your remittance payable to “**Illinois Department of Revenue**” and attach it to Form RUT-75. For electronic filers, MyTax Illinois will calculate the tax due for you. Payments must be made electronically when you submit your form.

You owe a **late filing penalty** if you do not file a processable return by the due date, a **late payment penalty** if you do not pay the amount you owe by the original due date of the return, a **bad check penalty** if your remittance is not honored by your financial institution, and a **cost of collection fee** if you do not pay the amount you owe within 30 days of the date printed on a bill that we send you. For more information, see Publication 103, Penalties and Interest for Illinois Taxes, available on our website at [tax.illinois.gov](http://tax.illinois.gov).

### **Attachments**

Attach a copy of the purchase agreement or invoice, FAA bill of sale (aircraft), bill of sale (watercraft), and proof of tax paid, if applicable. IDNR and IDOT may also require copies of this documentation as part of their registration paperwork. See their websites at [dnr.illinois.gov](http://dnr.illinois.gov) or [idot.illinois.gov](http://idot.illinois.gov) for additional guidance.

### **Step 6 — Sign here**

For paper filers, the purchaser and co-owner (if applicable) must sign Form RUT-75. Send your return and required attachments with your application and fees for registration to the appropriate address below.

Aircraft:

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN CAPITAL AIRPORT  
1 LANGHORNE BOND DRIVE  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62707-8415**

Watercraft:

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 19226  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62794-9226**

For electronic filers, enter your email address and confirm it to verify the request. Your email address will act as your signature.

**Do not** mail the printable confirmation page or a paper copy of the form. This could cause processing delays.

After filing Form RUT-75 electronically, allow one business day for processing before applying for your aircraft or watercraft registration. Payment requests submitted in MyTax Illinois can take three to five business days to process.