Information Bulletin

PST-75 Issued: March 2020 Revised: March 2024

THE PROVINCIAL SALES TAX ACT

PST REBATE FOR NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION

This bulletin has been prepared to assist you in understanding the PST Rebate for New Home Construction Program administered under *The Provincial Sales Tax Act and The New Home Construction Rebate (Provincial Sales Tax) Remission Regulations*. It is a general guide and not a substitute for the legislation.

Changes to this bulletin are indicated by a bar (|) in the left margin.

The contents of this bulletin are presented under the following sections:

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- **B.** Definitions
- C. How the Rebate is Calculated
- D. Applying for the Rebate
- E. Appliances, Furniture and Furnishings
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A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Eligibility – April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026

Effective retroactively to April 1, 2023, the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) Rebate for New Home Construction is expanded to provide a rebate of up to 42% of the PST paid on the purchase of a new, previously unoccupied home (newly-constructed home), where the purchaser:

- signs a contract for purchase of a newly-constructed home on or after April 1, 2023, and,
- takes possession before April 1, 2026; or,
- signs a contract **before** April 1, 2023, for the purchase of a newly-constructed home for which the new housing start is completed **on or after** April 1, 2023; and,
- takes possession of the newly-constructed home before April 1, 2026.

Rebate applications for the expanded program must be received on or before March 31, 2027. Please see Section D for additional information regarding the application requirements.



Under the expanded program, the rebate is available on newly-constructed homes with a total price of less than \$550,000, before taxes and excluding the value of the land and the price of any furniture, furnishings, and appliances, other than as outlined in Section E below. The amount of the rebate is 42% of the PST paid for a home with a total price less than \$450,000. Homes with a total price between \$450,000 and \$550,000 are eligible for a reduced rebate amount. Homes with a total price of \$550,000 or more are not eligible for a rebate. See Section C for details on how the rebate is calculated.

You may be eligible for the rebate if you:

- purchased a newly-constructed home from a builder for use as your primary place of residence;
- constructed or hired someone else to construct your home for use as your primary place of residence; or,
- purchased shares in a cooperative housing (co-op) complex for the purpose of using a unit in the co-op for use as your primary place of residence; and,
- sign a contract for purchase of the home (for homes purchased from a builder) on or after April 1, 2023, and take possession before April 1, 2026; or,
- sign a contract before April 1, 2023, for purchase of the home (for homes purchased from a builder) for which the new housing start is completed on or after April 1, 2023, and you take possession of the home before April 1, 2026; or,
- occupy the home (for owner-built homes) before April 1, 2026, for which a new housing start is completed on or after April 1, 2023.

Program Eligibility – April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023

Effective April 1, 2020, the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) Rebate for New Home Construction provides a rebate of up to 42% of the PST paid on the purchase of a new, previously unoccupied home (newly-constructed home), where the purchaser:

- takes possession of the home after March 31, 2020, and before April 1, 2023, or,
- meets all of the following criteria:
 - o signs a contract for purchase of the home before April 1, 2023, for which the new housing start is complete **before** April 1, 2023; and,
 - o takes possession of the home after March 31, 2023, and before April 1, 2024.

Original program rebate applications must be received on or before March 31, 2024. Please see Section D for additional information regarding the application requirements.

The rebate is available on newly-constructed homes with a total price of less than \$450,000, before taxes and excluding the value of the land and the price of any furniture, furnishings, and appliances, other than as outlined in Section E below. The amount of the rebate is 42% of the PST paid for a home with a total price less than \$350,000. Homes with a total price between \$350,000 and \$450,000 are eligible for a reduced rebate amount. Homes with a total price of \$450,000 or more are not eligible for a rebate. See Section C for details on how the rebate is calculated.



You may be eligible for the rebate if you:

- purchased a newly-constructed home from a builder for use as your primary place of residence;
- constructed or hired someone else to construct your home for use as your primary place of residence; or,
- purchased shares in a cooperative housing (co-op) complex for the purpose of using a unit in the co-op for use as your primary place of residence; and,
- take possession of the home (for homes purchased from a builder) after March 31, 2020, and before April 1, 2023; **or**,
- sign a contract before April 1, 2023, for the home (for homes purchased from a builder) for which the new housing start is complete **before** April 1, 2023, and you take possession of the home after March 31, 2023, and before April 1, 2024; or,
- you occupy the home (for owner-built homes) after March 31, 2020, and before April 1, 2023; or,
- you occupy the home (for owner-built homes) after March 31, 2023, and before April 1, 2024, for a home with a new housing start complete **before** April 1, 2023.

B. DEFINITIONS

Builder

Means a contractor who is a builder of a residential building intended for resale but not rental purposes.

Co-operative Housing Corporation (Co-op)

Means a corporation established to provide a residential unit to its members by way of lease, licence, or similar arrangement for occupancy as a place of residence. A co-op operates at or near cost and at least 90% of its members are individuals or other co-ops that have only one vote in the affairs of the co-op.

Condominium Unit

Means a housing unit that is for use as a place of residence and that is, or is intended to be, a bounded space in a building designated or described as a separate unit on a registered condominium or strata lot plan or description (or similar plan or description registered under provincial law). A condominium unit includes any interest in the common areas as well as any interest in land pertaining to ownership of the unit. For example, an apartment unit or a townhouse would generally be a condominium unit for new home rebate purposes if the unit:

- is a housing unit that is for use as a place of residence;
- is registered as a condominium unit under provincial law;
- is owned under a deeded title separate from any other unit(s) in a condominium building; and,
- can be sold separately from the other units in a condominium building.



Duplex

Means a building that contains two residential units under one legal title (separate legal title does not exist for the individual units). This includes a single-family house that has a separate apartment for rent.

Mobile Home

Means a structure, whether ordinarily equipped with wheels or not, that is:

- designed, constructed, or manufactured to be moved from one place to another by being towed or carried; and,
- used or designed to be used as a permanent residence.

A mobile home may include a modular home, but it does not include travel trailers, motor homes, camping trailers, or other vehicles or trailers designed and used for recreational purposes.

Modular Home

Means a home that is constructed from a number of pre-assembled units that are intended for delivery to and assembly at a residential site.

New Housing Start

Means the beginning of construction work on a residential building, usually when the concrete has been poured for the whole of the footing around the structure or, in the case where a basement is not part of the structure, an equivalent stage.

Newly-Constructed Home

For purposes of the PST Rebate for New Home Construction, a newly-constructed home includes any of the following that results from a new housing start:

- a detached or semi-detached single-unit house;
- a duplex, condominium unit, or a townhouse;
- a unit in a co-operative housing corporation; and,
- a mobile home (including a modular home).

A newly-constructed home does not include any of the following:

- a personal care home as defined in The Personal Care Home Act;
- a special-care home designated pursuant to The Provincial Health Authority Act; or,
- a home included in the definition of "newly-constructed home" above that is intended to be a rental unit.



Owner-Built Home

Means a newly-constructed home for which the purchaser has acted as their own general contractor rather than purchasing the newly-constructed home from a builder.

Possession

You are considered to have taken possession of a newly-constructed home if you:

- hold, control or occupy the newly-constructed home (in the case of an owner-built home you must occupy the newly-constructed home);
- are responsible for paying the property taxes with respect to the newly-constructed home; and,
- have the right to alter the land, to control entry or access to the newly-constructed home and to pay insurance premiums with respect to the newly-constructed home.

Primary Place of Residence

In order to be eligible for the rebate, the newly-constructed home must be your primary place of residence. Your primary place of residence is generally a home that you own, jointly or otherwise, and that you intend to live in on a permanent basis. You may have more than one place of residence, but you are considered to have only one **primary** place of residence.

The following are examples of some of the factors we may consider to determine whether a home is your or your relation's primary place of residence for purposes of the PST Rebate for New Home Construction:

- whether you consider the home as your main residence;
- the length of time you inhabit the premises; and,
- the designation of that address on personal and public records.

To be eligible for the PST Rebate for New Home Construction, your intent to use the home as your or your relation's primary place of residence must be evident at the outset of buying, or constructing the home. For rebate purposes, a home is not your primary place of residence if, for example, your intention is to use the home as your primary place of residence in the future, such as upon retirement. Further, a recreational cottage or an investment property is not your primary place of residence for rebate purposes. A PST Rebate for New Home Construction is not available in these cases.

<u>Purchaser</u>

Means a person who purchases from a builder a newly-constructed home that:

- is the result of a new housing start; and,
- has not been previously occupied.

In the case of an owner-built home, the individual who has acted as their own general contractor with respect to the newly-constructed home.



Relation

Relation of an individual means another individual related to the first individual by blood, marriage, common-law partnership, or adoption within the meaning of the *Income Tax Act*.

Blood relations are limited to parents, children, or other descendants or siblings. Marriage relations includes a spouse or person who is connected to the spouse by blood or adoption. For purposes of the PST Rebate for New Home Construction, a relation can also be your former spouse, or a former common-law partner.

C. HOW THE REBATE IS CALCULATED

In this section, R = Rebate amount, and P = Total price.

Total price means the total purchase price before taxes, and excluding the value of the land and the price of any furniture, furnishings, and appliances, other than as outlined in <u>Section E</u> below.

Note: The PST paid by the purchaser on the total price (P) does not include any PST paid with respect to the land on which the newly-constructed home is situated (e.g., landscaping or other land development costs).

April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026 Program (see guidelines in Section A)

Calculation of rebate for newly-constructed homes with a total price less than \$450,000:

R = 42% of the PST paid by the purchaser on the total price (P).

Example:

Contract price for newly-constructed home, before taxes	\$500,000
Less the value of the land	\$100,000
Total price (P) for PST rebate purposes	\$400,000
PST @ 6% payable on P	\$ 24,000

 $R = $24,000 \times 42\% = $10,080$

<u>Calculation of rebate for newly-constructed homes with a total price between \$450,000 and \$550,000:</u>

$$R = \left[\frac{(\$550,000 - P)}{\$100,000} \right] \times \$11,340$$

Example:

Contract price for newly-constructed home, before taxes	\$600,000
Less the value of the land	\$100,000
Total price (P) for PST rebate purposes	\$500,000

 $R = (\$550,000 - \$500,000)/\$100,000 \times \$11,340 = \$5,670$



April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023 Program (see guidelines in Section A)

Calculation of rebate for newly-constructed homes with a total price less than \$350,000:

R = 42% of the PST paid by the purchaser on the total price (P).

Example:

Contract price for newly-constructed home, before taxes	\$400,000
Less the value of the land	\$100,000
Total price (P) for PST rebate purposes	\$300,000
PST @ 6% payable on P	\$ 18,000

 $R = $18,000 \times 42\% = $7,560$

Calculation of rebate for newly-constructed homes with a total price between \$350,000 and \$450,000:

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} (\$450,000 - P) \\ \hline \$100,000 \end{bmatrix} \times \$8,820$$

Example:

Contract price for newly-constructed home, before taxes	\$500,000
Less the value of the land	\$100,000
Total price (P) for PST rebate purposes	\$400,000

 $R = (\$450,000 - \$400,000)/\$100,000 \times \$8,820 = \$4,410$

D. APPLYING FOR THE REBATE

Finance's application form, with supporting documentation, must be completed and submitted for all rebate claims under the PST Rebate for New Home Construction, as noted below.

Where there is more than one purchaser (owner), all parties are required to sign the application form. In addition, you must indicate on the form the party to whom any applicable rebate will be paid.

1) Homes Purchased from a Builder

To apply for the rebate on a newly-constructed home purchased from a builder, please complete and submit either the original or expanded program application form, as applicable with a copy of the sales contract:

- PST Rebate for New Home Construction Application Form Apr 2020 to Mar 2023 -Builder-Built
- <u>PST Rebate for New Home Construction Application Form Apr 2023 to Mar 2026 -</u> Builder-Built

The forms are available on the Internet at sets.saskatchewan.ca/taxinfo.



Assignment of Rebate from Purchaser to Builder

The purchaser may assign entitlement to the rebate over to the builder and the builder should either pay the rebate amount to the purchaser, or credit the amount against the PST collected on the total price to the purchaser.

When the purchaser assigns the rebate to the builder, the builder must complete and submit the applicable form and copy of the sales contract to the Ministry of Finance. The purchaser's signature(s) is required in Part D of the application form. Failure to provide the required documentation and obtain the signature(s) will result in denial of the assigned rebate and the builder will be held liable for the tax payable.

Providing these documents have been submitted to Finance, the builder may report and submit to Finance only the net amount of PST collected from the purchaser. This is subject to audit verification.

The purchase agreement, statement of account or other supporting documents must clearly state the agreed upon value of the land, PST charged on the sale of the newly-constructed home (must be separate line item), any upgrades, remodeling, or any charges for alterations from the base model, to determine the rebate amount appropriately.

Typically, the PST is shown as a reduced amount or as an amount credited on the invoice or bill of sale. It is a requirement that PST is shown as a separate line item on the invoice or bill of sale to the customer.

2) Owner-Built Homes

To apply for the rebate on an owner-built home, please complete and submit either the original or expanded program application form, as applicable, along with information to verify land ownership, and a summary of the building costs where PST has been paid.

- <u>PST Rebate for New Home Construction Application Form Apr 2020 to Mar 2023 -</u> Owner-Built
- <u>PST Rebate for New Home Construction Application Form Apr 2023 to Mar 2026 -</u> Owner-Built

The forms are available on the Internet at sets.saskatchewan.ca/taxinfo.

You are required to submit certain invoices with the rebate application as outlined in the application form, but all invoices must be maintained in your records and may be requested.

In order for the owner to be eligible for the PST Rebate for New Home Construction, the owner must have paid the tax, as required, on the construction materials and taxable services related to the construction of the owner-built home.

Filing Deadline

Original program rebate applications must be received in our office on or before March 31, 2024. The filing deadline for the expanded program is March 31, 2027.



Applications and supporting documentation should be submitted using the Saskatchewan E-Tax Services (SETS) portal at Apply for a PST Refund Using SETS or by email to PSTRefunds@gov.sk.ca. We are unable to accept applications and documentation that are uploaded as attachments to the builder's tax returns.

E. APPLIANCES, FURNITURE AND FURNISHINGS

Appliances, furniture, and furnishings are not eligible for a rebate under the PST Rebate for New Home Construction, with the exception of **appliances** when:

- (a) they form part of an all-inclusive single consideration and are not stated separately on the invoice or statement provided by the builder;
- (b) they are of the type of appliances normally provided by the builder for similar newly-constructed homes; and,
- (c) the purchaser did not, according to the agreement with the builder, have the option to take a discount on the total contract price in lieu of the appliances.

For owner-built homes, only appliances that are of the type and value that would normally be provided by a builder for a newly-constructed home of similar value are eligible for the rebate.

Note: Upgrades to furnace, water heater and exhaust system (e.g., air exchangers) are eligible for the rebate as these are not considered to be appliances for the rebate purposes. However, window coverings are not eligible as they are considered furnishings.

F. TAX TIPS LINE

When a business or individual does not comply with provincial tax legislation, businesses face unfair competition and a burden is placed on all taxpayers who do comply. It causes significant loss in the revenue available to fund services such as health, education, and other important government programs.

Tax Tips Line provides an anonymous, fully confidential way for the public to report businesses or individuals who are participating in tax fraud. If you suspect that a business or individual is being dishonest with their provincial taxes or is misrepresenting their activities to reduce their taxes, you can report them using Tax Tips Line.

Please visit our website at <u>saskatchewan.ca/business/taxes-licensing-and-reporting/provincial-taxes-policies-and-bulletins/tax-tips-line</u> to find out more regarding types of tax fraud and the information to report, if possible.

Tax Tips Line is specifically and solely for information related to provincial tax compliance. Any unrelated inquiries or information will not be addressed by the Tax Tips Line and should be directed to the appropriate organization.



How to Report:

1) Toll-free 1-833-334-8477

2) Write: Ministry of Finance

Revenue Division

PO Box 200

REGINA SK S4P 2Z6

3) Online Form Submission

G. SASKATCHEWAN eTAX SERVICES (SETS)

Finance has made it possible to report and remit tax electronically through a secure, fast, easy and convenient online self-service portal. Several services are currently available to businesses through SETS (sets.saskatchewan.ca):

- Register for secure, self-managed access to all your tax accounts.
- Apply for a new tax account.
- File and pay returns and amend previously filed returns.
- Make payments on account, including post-dated payments.
- View account balance and statement information.
- Authorize employees or accountants to file on your behalf.
- Receive notifications by email when a tax return should be filed. This replaces the paper forms usually sent in the mail.
- Submit a service request to update the mailing address or add a new business location.
- Submit a service request to receive tax information, interpretations or rulings related to your specific business activities.
- View and download up-to-date tax information promptly.
- Subscribe to receive email notifications when new and revised tax publications are available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Write: Ministry of Finance Telephone: Toll Free 1-800-667-6102

Revenue Division Regina 306-787-6645

PO Box 200

REGINA SK S4P 2Z6 Email: sasktaxinfo@gov.sk.ca

<u>Internet:</u> Tax bulletins, forms and information are available at <u>saskatchewan.ca/business-taxes</u>.

To receive automatic email notification when this or any other bulletin is revised, go to www.sets.saskatchewan.ca/subscribe.

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Government website: Saskatchewan.ca

