

**§ 19.225**

(2) No person liable for the tax on transferred spirits retains any interest in the spirits.

(b) *Storage on bonded premises.* Under 26 U.S.C. 5005(c) each person operating bonded premises will be liable for the tax on all spirits while the spirits are stored on the premises, and on all spirits that are in transit to the premises from the time of removal from the transferor's bonded premises, pursuant to an approved application. Liability for the tax continues until the spirits are transferred or withdrawn from bonded premises as authorized by law, or until the liability for tax is relieved under the provisions of 26 U.S.C. 5008(a). Claims for relief from liability for spirits lost are covered in subpart J of this part. Voluntary destruction of spirits in bond is covered in subpart Q of this part.

(c) *Withdrawals without payment of tax.* Under 26 U.S.C. 5005(e), any person who withdraws spirits from the bonded premises of a plant without payment of tax, as provided in 26 U.S.C. 5214, will be liable for the tax on the spirits from the time of withdrawal. The person will be relieved of any liability at the time the spirits are exported, deposited in a foreign trade zone, used in production of wine, deposited in a customs bonded warehouse, laden as supplies upon or used in the maintenance or repair of certain vessels or aircraft, or used for certain research, development or testing, as provided by law.

(d) *Withdrawals free of tax.* Persons liable for tax under paragraph (a) of this section, are relieved of the liability on spirits withdrawn from bonded premises free of tax under this part, at the time the spirits are withdrawn.

(e) *Withdrawn from customs custody without payment of tax.* Under 26 U.S.C. 5232(a) when imported distilled spirits in bulk containers are withdrawn from customs custody and transferred to the bonded premises of a distilled spirits plant without payment of the tax imposed on imported distilled spirits by 26 U.S.C. 5001, the person operating the bonded premises of the distilled spirits plant to which spirits are transferred will become liable for the tax on the spirits upon their release from customs

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custody, and the importer will thereupon be relieved of liability for the tax.

(26 U.S.C. 5005, 5066, 5232)

**REQUIREMENTS FOR GAUGING AND TAX DETERMINATION**

**§ 19.225 Requirement to gauge and tax determine spirits.**

Before withdrawing distilled spirits from bond, the proprietor must gauge the spirits and determine the tax that is due on the spirits. This requirement applies to all spirits on which the tax will be either prepaid or deferred.

(26 U.S.C. 5006, 5204, 5213)

**§ 19.226 Gauges for tax determination.**

There are several acceptable methods that a proprietor may use when gauging spirits for tax determination.

(a) *Cases.* If spirits are withdrawn from the bonded premises in cases, the proprietor must gauge the spirits based on the contents of the cases. The proprietor will determine the number of proof gallons of spirits in cases as provided in part 30 of this chapter. The proprietor must convert metric units of measure to U.S. units according to §19.579.

(b) *Packages.* If spirits are withdrawn from the bonded premises in packages on the basis of an individual package gauge, each package must be gauged unless the tax is to be determined on the production or filling gauge. When gauging the packages, the proprietor must prepare a package gauge record as specified in §19.619 and attach it to the record of tax determination that is required by §19.611.

(c) *Tanks.* The proprietor must use weight, or an accurate mass flow meter and proof as prescribed in §§19.284 and 19.285, to gauge bulk spirits in tanks that are to be withdrawn on determination of tax. The proprietor must record the elements of the gauge on the record of tax determination. As an alternative, the proprietor may record gauge elements on a separate gauge record, and attach the gauge record to the record of tax determination.

(26 U.S.C. 5204, 5213)

**§ 19.227 Determination of the tax.**

After gauging, the proprietor must determine the tax on the spirits to be removed from the bonded premises. The proprietor must use the tax rate prescribed in 26 U.S.C. 5001 to calculate the tax, unless the product is eligible for a reduced effective tax rate as provided in 26 U.S.C. 5010. If the product is eligible for a reduced effective tax rate, the proprietor may use that rate to determine the tax. The proprietor must record the results of each tax determination in a record of tax determination as required by § 19.611.

(26 U.S.C. 5213)

RULES FOR DEFERRED PAYMENT AND  
PREPAYMENT OF TAXES

**§ 19.229 Deferred payment and prepayment of taxes.**

There are two basic methods of paying the tax on distilled spirits withdrawn from bonded premises: Deferred payment and prepayment.

(a) *Deferred payment.* Under the deferred payment system, the proprietor may withdraw spirits from bond after tax determination but before payment of tax. The excise tax paid is based on the amount of spirits removed from bond during each return period. In order to pay taxes under the deferral system, the proprietor must file a withdrawal bond or unit bond. For detailed information regarding return periods and filing requirements under the deferred system, see §§ 19.234, 19.235 and 19.236.

(b) *Prepayment.* Under the prepayment system, the proprietor must pay the distilled spirits tax after tax determination but before withdrawal of the spirits from bonded premises. See § 19.230 for conditions that require prepayment of taxes.

(26 U.S.C. 5061)

**§ 19.230 Conditions requiring prepayment of taxes.**

Under certain conditions, the proprietor must prepay the distilled spirits tax required, using TTB F 5000.24, Excise Tax Return, before removing spirits from the bonded premises. Those conditions are:

(a) When the proprietor has not given TTB a withdrawal bond or a unit bond;

(b) When the proprietor has posted a withdrawal or a unit bond, but has defaulted on any payment of tax under this section, and the tax payment remains in default. The proprietor must continue to prepay the tax until the appropriate TTB officer decides that allowing the proprietor to make deferred tax payments again will not jeopardize the revenue;

(c) When the proprietor receives a notice from the appropriate TTB officer that the tax must be prepaid. Such notice may be issued to the proprietor if—

(1) The proprietor fails to maintain records required by this part to substantiate the correctness of its tax returns; or

(2) The proprietor fails to comply with any other provision of this part; or

(d) When the proprietor's withdrawal bond, or the withdrawal coverage under its unit bond, is for less than the maximum penal sum. The proprietor must prepay the tax to the extent that a withdrawal would cause the outstanding tax liability to exceed the limits of coverage under the bond. See also § 19.231 if the bond is for less than the maximum penal sum.

(26 U.S.C. 5213, 5555)

**§ 19.231 Accounting for bond coverage.**

When a proprietor furnishes a withdrawal bond or a unit bond to cover the tax on spirits withdrawn on determination of tax, and such bond is in less than the maximum penal sum, the proprietor must maintain an account for the bond to ensure that outstanding tax liabilities do not exceed the penal sum of the bond. The account must charge the bond for the amount of liability incurred on each withdrawal on determination of tax and, credit the bond for each payment of tax made with a return and for authorized credits taken on a return. If the balance of the bond account reaches zero, the proprietor may no longer defer tax payments for taxable withdrawals. Where the bond is for less than the maximum penal sum and has been allocated among two or more plants, the proprietor must maintain an account at each