

FAQs – PST Online Filing and Payment

While we are always happy to address your filing and payment questions, online filing is a service provided by your financial institution. If you have any technical support issues or inquiries specific to tax transactions, please contact your financial institution directly.

1. **What is the difference between an EDI and an EFT?**
 2. **Is electronic filing available for hotel or other consumption taxes?**
 3. **I bank with a credit union. Can I still send my PST return and payment by EDI?**
 4. **My bank's form will not let me select the correct filing period for my EDI payment. What should I do?**
 5. **My bank's form will not let me input an amount for commission. What should I do?**
 6. **The web page will not let me make my EDI payment for today's date. Why?**
 7. **If I cannot make this payment method work for today's date, how can I get my payment in on time so that I do not have to pay a penalty or lose my commission?**
 8. **I sent my PST payment using my bank's internet payments option, but the money has not come out of my account yet. What should I do?**
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1. **What is the difference between an EDI and an EFT?**

EDI is an acronym for *Electronic Data Interchange*. It is the process of transmitting business documents over a network, which can also include payment information. When doing your provincial sales tax (PST) EDI payment using your financial institution's online payments option, you are able to input all of your taxable sales information the same as you would on your PST return. All of this information is transmitted with your payment.

EFT is an acronym for *Electronic Funds Transfer*. It is the process of transmitting payments over a network. An EFT includes only payment information. You need to submit your return to the ministry by fax on, or before, the date you make your EFT payment so your return can be matched with your payment amount. You can find our fax number at the bottom of this page.

2. **Is electronic filing available for hotel or other consumption taxes?**

No. However, you can still send your payment for motor fuel tax, carbon tax, tobacco tax or rural property tax by EFT. If you are interested in this payment method, please contact the ministry. You can find our contact information at the bottom of this page.

3. **I bank with a credit union. Can I still send my PST return and payment by EDI?**

If you are a member of Island Savings Credit Union, you can send your PST return and payment by EDI. If you are a member of another credit union, please contact your credit union directly to ask when this service will be available.

4. My bank's form will not let me select the correct filing period for my EDI payment. What should I do?

You need to contact your financial institution to find out how you can change the filing frequency on their internet form. If your financial institution needs to verify your filing frequency, they can contact the ministry using the information at the bottom of this page.

5. My bank's form will not let me input an amount for commission. What should I do?

First, ensure you have selected the correct filing period for this payment, and that the payment is on time. If you are still unable to input your commission, please contact your financial institution and ask them how you can enable the commission field. If your financial institution needs to verify that you are entitled to receive a commission, they can contact the ministry using the information at the bottom of this page.

6. The web page will not let me make my EDI payment for today's date. Why?

You have exceeded your financial institution's time lines for same day processing. Please ensure that you are aware of your financial institution's cut-off time or date to ensure your tax return and payment are received on time. In some cases, the payment needs to be prepared the day before it is due to be paid.

7. If I cannot make this payment method work for today's date, how can I get my payment in on time so that I do not have to pay a penalty or lose my commission?

You can make your payment on, or before, the due date in person at a financial institution, ministry office or Service BC Centre. You need to ensure that the return and payment are dated on, or before, the due date to be considered on time.

Effective April 1, 2007, your return and payment is considered on time if it is **received** by the ministry by the due date. Therefore, if you send in your return by mail, courier or electronic means, you must allow sufficient time for the return and payment to be received by the ministry by the due date.

8. I sent my PST payment using my bank's internet payments option, but the money has not come out of my account yet. What should I do?

It is your financial institution's responsibility to forward your payment to the province. As your financial institution provides this service, you need to contact them regarding any technical support issues or inquiries specific to tax transactions.

If you have any other questions about online filing, please contact:

Revenue Services of British Columbia
Electronic Payments
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