310.2 Events and Memberships

Nonprofit organizations’ membership dues and fees are not taxable. Therefore, membership dues to organizations such as an alumni association or athletic association are not subject to sales tax. However, membership to an amusement-providing organization, such as a country club, is taxable.

Conferences for educational purposes are sales tax exempt. Tax is not collected on books, pamphlets, clothing, meals, etc. if these items are included in the cost of the registration. Attendees are paying for the conference and not the items. The items included in the conference registration fee should be an insubstantial part of the fee.

Examples:

Department A conducts a lunch-hour seminar with a speaker. Attendees pay a $10 registration fee to attend. The cost of providing a meal to attendees is $8. This is a taxable sale.

Department B conducts a lunch-hour seminar with a speaker. Attendees pay a $10 registration fee to attend and receive a pamphlet with their registration fee. The pamphlet costs $2 to produce. Attendees separately pay $10 for a meal, if they desire. Registration is a non-taxable sale. The meal is a taxable sale.