



To: ARSSTC Members

From: Clinton Singletary, Statewide Municipal Sales Tax Director

Re: Uniform Code Updates – March 2021

Over the months of December & January, Commission staff met weekly with representatives from member jurisdictions to discuss and work through numerous code updates that Commission staff have been accumulating over the last year. Many of these needed updates are more clerical in nature, but several are more substantive and will have a clear impact on the Commission and/or member jurisdictions.

Following is a breakdown of the more substantive updates that were agreed upon by the Code Update Working Group, including a brief justification / background of why the update is being recommended.

At its February 24, 2021 meeting, the ARSSTC Board of Directors formally approved the proposed updates to the Uniform Code.

Code Section	Description	Justification / Background
Section 040(A)	Threshold calculation updated to include current year, not just previous calendar year.	Not as limiting a timeframe since there are now two time windows to be examined in determining threshold.
Section 050	Was the old Section 230; renamed section to more accurate description; included language for local sale.	No change to the original intent of this section. Section title better describes goal of section and inclusion of “local sale” better describes the type of transaction. “Local Sale” was also added as a new definition.
Section 080 A & B	Remove registration requirement for marketplace sellers who only sell on marketplaces.	Tax would already be collected by the marketplace, the seller would have nothing to report. Versions of this can be found in other states. Added affidavit requirement.
Section 080 (H)	Member jurisdiction business license clarification	Add language explaining that registration as remote seller satisfies jurisdiction business license requirements, but only if seller does not have physical presence in jurisdiction. Common question from sellers.
Section 090 (B)	Allow for annual filing frequency, dependent on member jurisdiction code allowances.	Will be modifying filing frequency change policy to only grant annual if no taxable sales.
Section 110 (A)	Clarifies rounding language	Specifies that only gross sales and exempt sales should be rounded.
Section 120 (C)	Interest on refund requests	Specifies that the Commission will not pay interest on refund requests.



Section 170 (A)	Late Filing fee language	Update late filing fee to max out at 4 months, same as penalty in C.
Section 170 (F)	Penalty Waivers	The code specifies the timeframe in which a waiver can be requested and limits the waiver to one a year. Waiver policy will be developed to fine-tune the number of waivers allowed and the circumstances that will qualify for a waiver.
Section 180	Remote Reseller Certificate	Codifies the existence of the remote reseller certificate
Section 240	Penalty cleanup / clarification	Paragraph A was added to defer to member jurisdiction penalties if the member penalty is different. Removed old paragraph E on late filing fees since that is a duplicate of Section 170.
Section 260	Savings Clause	Provides discrimination protection.
Section 270 – Definitions		
	Local sale	Used in Section 050
	Marketplace	Used in conjunction with definition of marketplace seller, for purposes of Section 080
	Marketplace Seller	For purposes of Section 080
	Point of Delivery	Added paragraph C specific to POD for services
	Remote Seller	Cleaned up definition to focus on a seller making sales into jurisdiction where the seller does not have physical presence. Applies to both in-state & out of state sellers.
	Services	Updated definition to specify any service provided which is delivered into a member jurisdiction.

Other Changes throughout the Uniform Code

- Throughout the code the use of the term jurisdiction was updated to focus on either taxing jurisdiction or member jurisdiction. These definitions were updated such that taxing jurisdiction is just a jurisdiction in Alaska with a sales tax. Member jurisdiction is a taxing jurisdiction that has adopted the Uniform Code.
- Sections 100(C), 130(C), 150(E), and 200 were all standardized for a 3-year timeframe, instead of the varying years.