



INLAND REVENUE  
AUTHORITY  
OF SINGAPORE

# Do I Need to Register for GST?



## KNOW



### When do I need to register for GST?

Register if your taxable turnover exceeds \$1 million

#### Before 1 Jan 2019

Register for GST if your taxable turnover for a 12-month period at the end of each **calendar quarter** exceeds \$1 million.

#### Example

1 Jul 17 – 30 Jun 18  
Turnover: \$950,000  
Do not need to register

1 Oct 17 – 30 Sep 18  
Turnover: \$1,050,000  
Registration required



GST registration is not required after the quarter ending 30 Jun 2018 as the taxable turnover **has not exceeded** \$1 million. However, GST registration is required for the quarter ending on 30 Sep 2018 as the taxable turnover has exceeded \$1 million.



Check whether you are required to register using the GST Registration Calculator on the IRAS website: [www.iras.gov.sg](http://www.iras.gov.sg) ▶  
Quick Links ▶ Calculators ▶ Goods and Services Tax

#### From 1 Jan 2019

Register for GST if your taxable turnover for a 12-month period at the end of each **calendar year** exceeds \$1 million.

## APPLY



### Register for GST on time

Apply online at [mytax.iras.gov.sg](http://mytax.iras.gov.sg) within 30 days

Period	Deadline to apply
Before 1 Jan 2019	Within 30 days from end of calendar quarter
From 1 Jan 2019	Within 30 days from end of calendar year

The effective date of GST registration will be within two months from the calendar quarter and calendar year accordingly.

#### Example

12-month turnover exceeded \$1 million

Due date to apply for GST registration

Effective date of GST registration



As the 12-month taxable turnover exceeded \$1 million as at 31 Dec 2018, due date to apply for GST registration is 30 Jan 2019. The latest effective date of GST registration will be 1 Mar 2019.

Late registration or failure to register for GST is an offence under the law



For late registration or failure to register, businesses may be subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 and a penalty of 10% of the tax due. Penalties may be waived for businesses that come forward to register for GST in a timely manner.

# LEARN



## What is a taxable turnover?

As a sole-proprietor, your total taxable turnover is the combined revenue, fees and income you earn from:



All your businesses

Self-employed profession or vocation

Rental of commercial properties

Rental of furniture & fittings

Generally, the above will be your standard-rated supplies (GST charged at 7%) unless they qualify for zero-rating (GST charged at 0%). Standard-rated and zero-rated supplies are part of your taxable turnover; exempt supplies and transactions that are out-of-scope are not.

Zero-rated supply	Exempt supply	Out-of-scope
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Export of goods from Singapore</li> <li>▶ International Services as described in Section 21(3) of the GST Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Sale and lease of bare residential property</li> <li>▶ Most financial services, e.g. bank interest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Third-country sales, e.g. sale of goods from China to India where the goods do not enter Singapore</li> </ul>

# Frequently Asked Questions



**Q** Can I choose not to register for GST?

**A** Registration is compulsory once your total taxable turnover exceeds \$1 million.

However, if you are certain that your total taxable turnover for the next 12 months will not exceed \$1 million because of specific circumstances (e.g. large-scale downsizing of business) and can substantiate this with documentation, you will not be required to register for GST.

If zero-rated supplies make up more than 90% of your total taxable supplies and being registered will lead to you claiming GST refunds, you may choose to apply for exemption from GST registration.

Please submit the GST F2 Form, which is available on the IRAS website. ([www.iras.gov.sg](http://www.iras.gov.sg) > Quick Links > Forms > GST)

**Q** What happens if I do not register for GST on time? Can IRAS waive the GST payable for the past sales since I did not collect any GST from my customers?

**A** Your effective date of GST registration will be backdated to the date you ought to have been registered. You are required to pay the GST on taxable supplies made from the date of registration even if you did not collect any GST from your customers.

**Q** Can I start charging my customers GST after I have submitted my application for GST registration?

**A** No. GST should only be charged on sales made on or after the effective date of GST registration.

Once your application is approved, a letter bearing your GST registration number and the effective date of GST registration will be sent to you.

**Q** If I have collected GST prior to my application for registration, what should I do?

**A** If you have wrongfully charged/collected GST from your customers, you should notify the Comptroller of GST in writing with the following attachments:

- Summary of sales for which GST has been wrongfully collected (i.e. invoice date, value of sale and GST collected)
- Copy of invoice issued
- Cheque made payable to "Comptroller of GST" for the amount of GST wrongfully collected

Please mail the documents to:  
55 Newton Road  
Revenue House  
Singapore 307987

**Q** What are my responsibilities and obligations as a GST-registered business?

**A** Your responsibilities and obligations range from filing returns and paying for GST on time to keeping proper business and accounting records.

The list of responsibilities and obligations can be found on the IRAS website ([www.iras.gov.sg](http://www.iras.gov.sg) > GST > Non-GST Registered Businesses > Learning the Basics > Responsibilities of a GST-registered Business).

This information is correct as at 1 Dec 2018. While every effort has been made to ensure that this information is consistent with existing law and practice, should there be any changes, IRAS reserves the right to vary our position accordingly.