

What is **BETE** (Business Equipment Tax Exemption)? **BETE** is a 100% property tax exemption for eligible property first subject to tax on or after 4/1/08. There is no time limit on the length of exemption. **BETE** does not replace **BETR** (Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement); the **BETR** application must be filed to receive reimbursement on any **BETR** qualifying property.

1. When and where to file application? This application is to be filed by April 1st of each year with the local assessor even if no changes in property status occur. An automatic extension to May 1st is awarded if the April 1st deadline is not met. An Assessor may extend beyond May 1st upon receipt of written request.

2. What property is **BETE eligible business equipment?** Eligible business equipment is qualified property that, in the absence of this subchapter, would first be subject to assessment under this part on or after April 1, 2008 and includes repair parts, replacement parts, replacement equipment, additions, accessions and accessories to other business property and inventory parts.

3. What property does not qualify for **BETE?** Property that does not qualify includes office furniture, lamps and lighting fixtures used primarily for general office or worker lighting, property owned or used by an excluded person, telecommunications personal property, gambling machines or devices, and property located at a retail sales facility and used primarily in a retail sales activity.

4. Who does not qualify for **BETE?** Property owned or used by an “excluded person” does not qualify. Excluded person includes a public utility, person providing radio paging service, person providing mobile telecommunications services, cable television company, person providing satellite based direct television broadcast services and a person providing multichannel multipoint television services.

5. What is excluded from **BETE?** **BETE** does not apply to property located at a retail sales facility and used primarily in a retail sales activity. Such property may qualify for reimbursement under the **BETR** program. A **retail sales facility** is a structure used to serve customers who are present at the facility for the purpose of selecting and purchasing goods or services at retail or for renting tangible personal property. A warehouse or call center facility is not considered a retail sales facility. **Retail sales activity** is associated with the selection and purchase of goods or services of tangible personal property. Manufacturing or processing is not considered retail sales activity.

INSTRUCTIONS

Date Purchased or Acquired: list date equipment purchased by you.

Date First Placed in Service: list date equipment first put into service in Maine.

Item Description: detail description of equipment; “machinery” or “fixtures” is not sufficient.

Purchase Price: list amount you paid for this piece of equipment.

Current Value: list the current value of this piece of equipment.

Life Expectancy (years): list the number of years this equipment is expected to remain in use.

*****FOR ASSESSORS ONLY*****

Approval Date _____ Effective Tax Year _____ Account # _____

Approved By _____ Date _____