

The Town of Hochatown's new Lodging Tax administration page is now live!

We recognize the importance of clarity and ease in managing your tax obligations. This guide is designed to address the frequently asked questions pertaining to our new online tax payment system, ensuring that both long-time residents and newcomers alike can navigate the process with confidence.

We are excited by the efficiency and convenience this new system can provide our residents, and we thank you for your collaboration in making Hochatown a great place to live and visit!

TOWN OF HOCHATOWN LODGING TAX FAQS

https://www.hochatown.gov/

Q: What is the current Hochatown Lodging Tax Rate:

A: The local town lodging tax of 4% shall become effective and must be collected on all "Lodging" within the town limits of Hochatown, Oklahoma:

LODGING: shall mean any buildings, structures, trailers, or other facilities of any kind or nature, in which the public may, for consideration, obtain sleeping accommodations in which one or more rooms are used for accommodations of such guests (regardless if the rooms are located in one or several buildings, structures, trailers, or facilities). The term 'lodging' includes hotels, apartment hotels, motels, tourist homes, transient lodging facility, RV parks, houses, courts of any kind or nature, lodging houses, inns, rooming houses, bed and breakfast, corporate lodging, trailer houses, trailer motels, dormitory space where bed space is rented to individuals or groups, apartments of any kind or nature, and all other facilities where rooms or sleeping facilities or space are furnished for a consideration. The term "lodging" does not include hospitals, sanitariums or nursing homes nor shall this term affect permanent resident facilities as defined below for residents for terms in excess of thirty (30) days.

Pursuant to Hochatown Ordinance No. 2023-03-07-01, you will now be responsible for collection and remittance of the 4% lodging tax <u>directly to the Town of Hochatown</u> (not to the Oklahoma tax <u>Commission ("OTC").</u> This collection is in addition to any funds remitted to the OTC pursuant to any other federal, state, or county taxes.

Q: How do I calculate my gross income?

A: Gross income is the total earnings or revenue before any deductions or expenses are subtracted. This includes cleaning fees, resort fees, pet fees, flowers, candy, photography, firewood, etc.

Income from Hochatown Lodging

Property Name	Property Address	Owner's Name	Lodging Income	Exemptions (Schedule B)	Net Taxable Lodging Income
1.			\$	\$	\$
2.			S	\$	\$
3.			S	\$	S
4. Total from Schedule A page(s) through					S

5. Total Net Taxable Lodging Income (Add Lines 1-4) \$

Hochatown Lodging Tax Due

6. Add total from Line 5 and multiply by 4%. This is your total Hochatown Lodging Tax.

\$ AMOUNT DUE

Enter the total Hochatown Lodging Tax (Line 6) into the "Amount" field below.

Q: The Town of Hochatown recently passed a short-term rental ordinance (STR). Where can I find it?

A: <u>www.hochatown.gov</u> then Bulletin Board then public documents. Scroll to the bottom and click on "Ordinance No. 6 – Short Term Rentals" or click here:

https://www.hochatown.gov/files/ugd/8c9e93 49909999b6b44d039faaa5582bcd9868.pdf

Q: Is a License required to operate a STR in Hochatown?

A: Yes. Beginning July 1, 2024, a license is required to operate a STR in the Town limits of Hochatown.

Q: What are the costs for a license of an STR?

A: An initial license application costs \$300.00 (which is waived if registration is completed by July 1, 2024, AND no lodging taxes are outstanding). The annual registration fee is an additional \$100 due on or before July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter.

Q: Airbnb or VRBO or [pick a platform] has been paying my lodging tax, so I am current right?

A: The Town of Hochatown has never received a lodging tax check from Airbnb, VRBO or most other platforms. It is the <u>Cabin Owners'</u> responsibility to make sure the lodging tax has been paid. We encourage you to confirm that payments have been made since May 1, 2023. Interest and Penalties accrue on missed tax payments. Typically, Airbnb and VRBO will not collect or remit town lodging tax as policy. You will need to account for it in your rates and remit it to the town directly.

Q: Where do I pay my local Hochatown Lodging taxes?

A: You can register an account and pay your lodging tax at www.hoteltaxonline.com. This needs to be done even if you have previously registered with the Town of Hochatown. By going to www.hoteltaxonline.com, you will be creating a new account (if you have not done so previously).

Q: What if I do not have an account number yet?

A: When you go to <u>www.hoteltaxonline.com</u>, choose the option that allows you to get a registration number.

Q: What are my payment options?

Answer: You can pay online via e-check, credit card or you can mail a check. In all cases, you should create an account at www.hoteltaxonline.com.

Q: I do not have a computer, or I do not want to pay online. What are my options?

A: Go to www.avenuinsights.com, click on "TAXPAYER LOGIN" at the top, then the "SELECT YOUR STATE" drop down at the top, and choose "OKLAHOMA" then select "OKLAHOMA TAXPAYER FORMS." You will find the remittance form and online filing instructions. Please use the remittance form when mailing a check.

Q: I pay a management company and a cleaning crew, so do I subtract that from the total amount and then pay the lodging tax based on the net amount?

A: No. The lodging tax is due on the entire amount you charged the guest – including management fees, cleaning fees and any other applicable fees.

Q: I have been using the EB2GOV site to make my payments. Should I continue using that?

A: No. That was a temporary site to make it easier for cabin owners to remit their taxes. With the new site at www.hoteltaxonline.com, registration and payments will take place there. The new site retains the basic information and allows you to look up the history of your payments. Please begin using the new system.

Q: Who can I call or contact for help with the Hochatown Lodging Tax or registration?

A: You can call the Avenu Taxpayer Support Toll-Free number at 866-240-3665 or by email at Supportmuni@avenuinsights.com. You can mail payments and forms to Avenu Insights & Analytics, PO Box 830725, Birmingham, AL 35283-0725.