



October 2, 2020

UPDATED ALERT FOR LODGING PARTNERS

Please read this important clarification & details on Occupancy Tax penalty waivers, plus an important October 20 deadline

At the August 26, 2020 meeting of the Buncombe County TDA, the board voted to extend earlier action to automatically approve all COVID-related penalties incurred for occupancy tax remittance reports and payments that were due in March through August, for February through July sales.

At the September 30, 2020 meeting of the BCTDA, the board took further actions, approved unanimously by voting BCTDA members (four were recused).

The actions are listed below:

- The COVID-related penalty waiver has been extended for one more month, covering February through August sales, due the 20th of each month in March through September 2020.
- Penalties incurred for the due date of October 20, 2020 and beyond are not subject to penalty waiver due to COVID.
- Buncombe County and Explore Asheville will communicate with establishments to encourage the submission of late reports and payments.

What does this mean for you?

- It means that in the first of a two-step process, the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority has **automatically approved all COVID-related penalties incurred or to be assessed for late occupancy tax reports and payments due in March through September 2020 (for February through August sales).**

- The actions approved by the Buncombe County TDA will go before Buncombe County's Board of Commissioners for further and final approval at the November 4, 2020 meeting.
- *This waiver will not apply to payments due on or after October 20, 2020.*
- **Remittance forms and any payments due for February to August 2020 sales (March to September 2020 remittances) should be submitted as soon as possible to Buncombe County Tax Collections.**
- **Monthly remittance forms are to be submitted even for months with zero sales amounts.**

To submit a payment or if you have questions:

- Visit the online payment portal:
<https://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/tax/occupancy-tax.aspx>
- Contact the **Buncombe County Tax Collections** office if you have questions:

828-250-4910

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