



The **General Consumption Tax (GCT)** is a Value Added Tax on consumption and is added to the price of goods and services. The standard rate of GCT (on most items) in Jamaica is 16 ½ percent (%) as of June, 2012.

THE GENERAL CONSUMPTION TAX RATES	
0%	Zero Rated Goods & Services
2%	Books and other printed material
5%	Advanced GCT
10%	Tourism
16.5%	Standard Rate
25%	Telephone service and telephone instruments

The **General Consumption Tax Act** requires businesses in Jamaica to:

- **Apply for Registration** at the Companies Office Of Jamaica or Tax Administration Jamaica (29 tax offices island wide).
- **Upon Registration, Charge and Collect** tax at the specified rate on appropriate goods and services.
- **Calculate** net tax due for each taxable period (one month) (Returns must be filed even when tax payable is nil).
- **Pay** the net GCT collected to the Tax Offices (Tax Administration Jamaica) by the last working day of the month following the month in which the tax was collected.

Who is required to register? All persons engaged in taxable activities are required to register under the GCT Act.

Who is a “Person”? For the purposes of the GCT, a “Person” is:

- An individual
- A Company
- A Partnership (including an unincorporated body, a joint venture, or trustees of a trust)

What is a Taxable Activity? An activity is taxable if it is

- In the form of business, trade, profession, vocation, association or club
- Carried out continuously or regularly
- For profit or not for profit
- Intended to involve, or involves, the sale/supply of goods or services
- Not specifically exempt under the Act

Who is exempt from GCT registration?

- Anyone who is engaged solely in one or more of the following does not have to register for GCT:
 - ⇒ Any activity carried out essentially as a private recreational pursuit or hobby;
 - ⇒ Any engagement (i.e employment), occupation or employment under any contract of services or as a director of a company,
 - ⇒ The supply of goods or services which are exempt from the GCT.

What are the benefits of being a registered taxpayer?

When a person registers as a taxpayer he will enjoy the following benefits under the GCT act:

- **Input Tax Credit** – He will be able to claim a credit for GCT paid on his business purchases (Input Tax), whenever he supplies taxable goods or services.
- **GCT credits for Customers** – Only registered taxpayers can issue tax invoices to customers who are also registered taxpayers so that these customers will be able to claim an Input Tax Credit for purchases made.

How do I register?

- You must have a valid Taxpayer Registration Number (TRN)
- Complete the ‘Super Form’ at the Companies Office of Jamaica or a GCT form at the Tax Office.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 1- 888 - TAX - HELP (829- 4357) or 1- 888 - GO-JA-TAX (465-2829)/ Website: www.jamaicatax.gov.jm
Facebook: www.facebook.com/jamaicatax Twitter: [@jamaicatax](https://twitter.com/jamaicatax) or visit the Tax Office nearest you.**

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