Department of Finance Canada | Ministère des Finances Canada

Canada

PROTECTING CANADIAN BUSINESSES

Understanding Tariff Relief and Remission Available Under Canada's U.S. Counter-Tariffs

Canada's counter-tariffs support Canadian workers, producers, and manufacturers affected by U.S. tariffs by creating a more level playing field in the Canadian market. Businesses that import goods subject to these measures—including certain U.S. imports covered by the counter-tariffs that came into force on September 8, 2026—may be eligible for remission or other tariff relief where the measures create unintended challenges for their operations or supply chains.

Step 1:

Are Your Imports Subject to Canada's Counter-Tariffs?

Canada's counter-tariffs apply only to certain goods imported from the United States.

➢ **Are your imports on the list of goods from the United States subject to counter-tariffs?**

The surtaxes apply only to specific products. Importers should review the Complete List of U.S. Products Subject to Counter Tariffs to determine if their goods are subject.

Also exempt from tariffs are goods that were in transit when the tariffs came into force, goods imported under the Import for Re-Export Program, and goods imported through Campobello Island, New Brunswick. If your goods fall into one of these categories, you do not need remission because no surtax applies.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CANADA'S TARIFF RESPONSE
www.Canada.ca/Tariff-Response

OTHER SUPPORT PROGRAMS
www.Canada.ca/CanadaStrong

Where to send your questions: remissions-remises@fin.gc.ca

Step 2:

Do you qualify for existing tariff relief?

You have determined your imports are subject to Canada's counter-tariffs. What should you do next?

➢ **Do you already qualify for automatic remission under an existing program?**

Many businesses can obtain tariff relief without submitting a remission request to the Department of Finance.

This includes:

1. Broad-based (horizontal) remission

Remission has been granted on a generally available basis (i.e., to all importers) under Sections 1, 2, 3 and 3.1 of the United States Surtax Remission Order (2025) for:

- Goods used in public health, health care and public safety
- Steel used in automotive or aerospace manufacturing
- Non-steel goods used in:
  - manufacturing,
  - processing,
  - food and beverage packaging, or
  - agricultural production in Canada.

2. Existing product-specific or company-specific remission

Product-specific remission implemented under Schedules 1, 2, 3 and 6 of the United States Surtax Remission Order (2025) also applies to the new tariff measures, in accordance with the terms of the Order.

This includes hundreds of products determined not to be produced in Canada, including a wide range of steel inputs.

How can you claim relief?

Review the United States Surtax Remission Order (2025) and the Customs Notice (25-19) to see if your imports qualify for broad-based (horizontal) or existing product-specific remission. If so:

- The surtax can be waived at importation rather than paid and subsequently refunded by including the appropriate CBSA authorization code on your customs declaration.
- You do not need to submit a remission request to Finance Canada.

To access existing relief under the United States Surtax Remission Order (2025), importers can follow the "How to apply" instructions in the CBSA's Customs Notice.

GOOD TO KNOW!

Horizontal remission is available on a retroactive and prospective basis until June 30, 2027, without the need to submit a remission request.

This relief applies to direct inputs and machinery used in manufacturing, processing, food and beverage packaging, or agricultural production in Canada.

Steel goods are those referred to in Schedules 2 and 2.1 of the United States Surtax Order (Steel and Aluminum 2025).

There is no specific list of goods that are eligible for horizontal remission. Rather, it is up to the importer to keep the necessary documents to demonstrate that their imports were used for the purposes prescribed under the remission order.

Step 3:

Should you submit an exceptional remission request?

Where existing remission does not apply, the Government may consider a remission request in the following instances:

1. When goods used as inputs cannot be sourced domestically, either nationally or regionally, or reasonably from non-U.S. sources.
2. When other exceptional circumstances could, on a case-by-case basis, have severe adverse effects on the Canadian economy.

Remission requests can come from either the importer of record or a downstream user. However, if remission is granted, it can be claimed only by the importer of record. The requester would therefore need to work with its distributor to ensure that the surtax relief is passed on.

To apply:

- Identify the circumstances affecting your business.
- Gather evidence demonstrating constraints or impacts related to the criteria above.
- Submit a remission request to Finance Canada. Requests relevant to the criteria above are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

For more information on the remission framework and how to apply, consult Canada's United States Remission Framework.

Tariff relief or exemption is available in other circumstances

1. Remission for certain motor vehicles

Remission on automotive tariffs is available to all importers for certain motor vehicles set out in Schedule 1, Section 4.3 and Schedule 5 to the United States Surtax Remission Order (2025).

This includes certain:

- Recreational vehicles
- ATVs , UTVs, and Side-by-Sides
- Hearses and hearse limousines
- Ambulances and hospital transfer vans
- Fire trucks
- Police vans

2. Imports not subject to tariffs

Imports classified under certain special classification items in Chapter 98 or 99 of the Schedule to the Customs Tariff are not subject to the tariffs.

For more information on the items of Chapter 98 and 99 that are subject to the tariffs, please refer to:

- Schedule 3 (for aluminum) and Schedule 4 (for steel) of the United States Surtax Order (Steel and Aluminum 2025).
- Schedule 4 of the United States Surtax Order (2026).

3. Goods destined for export

Even if the surtax applies and remission is unavailable, you may still be able to obtain relief through existing CBSA programs if the goods are exported.

Potential options include:

- Duties Relief Program
- Duty Drawback Program