

# Connecticut Federal Surplus Property Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. What is federal surplus property?

It is property belonging to the federal government that is surplus to all federal needs. The General Services Administration (GSA), through the Defense Property Disposal Agency, makes federal surplus property available to states from military installations, federal agencies, government contractors, etc.

## 2. By what authority does the Federal Surplus Property Program operate?

The Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended by Public Law 94-519, authorizes the administrator of the program to allocate federal surplus property to designated state agencies, which in turn distribute the property to eligible donees.

## 3. May an individual purchase or use federal surplus property?

Not through the CT Federal Surplus Program. However, there is a consolidated, citizen friendly web-site that makes it easy for the public to find government assets for sale. Go to: <http://www.govsales.gov/govsales/govsales/>

## 4. Who is eligible to acquire federal surplus property?

Tax supported public agencies and nonprofit tax-exempt educational or public health institutions or organizations, including:

- **Governmental Agencies** – State, local, Indian tribes on state reservations.
- **Education or Public Health Institutions** - accredited or approved schools, colleges, universities, schools for the mentally, or physically disabled, child care centers licensed by DPH, educational radio or educational TV stations, public museums and libraries. Licensed entities which administer health services to patients or related facilities such as medical institutions, hospitals, clinics, health centers, laboratories, and nursing homes licensed by the Connecticut Department of Health (DPH).
- **Nonprofit and Public Programs for the Elderly** – Section 213 of the Older Americans Act Of 1965, as amended (42 U.S.C. 3020d).
- **Other organizations** – such as the American National Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, junior and senior ROTC units, Boys' and Girls' Clubs, and the Marine Corps League.

## 5. What is the procedure for establishing eligibility?

Applications for eligibility must be made to the State Agency for Federal Surplus Property. Evidence of civil rights compliance tax support or non-profit and tax exemption status official state approval, accreditation or license to operate and a description of the services rendered must accompany the application.

## 6. How does an eligible organizations view available property?

Go to the GSA website: <http://gsaccess.gov/>

Login id: GOVUSE

Password: GOVUSE

## 7. How is property claimed?

The approved organization's Authorized Representative should email [Philip.St.Amand@ct.gov](mailto:Philip.St.Amand@ct.gov) with the:

- Item Control Number
- Item Name
- Screen Ending Date
- If more than one of the items is available, the number the approved agency is interested in receiving

The CT Federal Surplus Program will notify the requester if the GSA approves the request.

**8. Is there a guarantee that a request for surplus property will approved?**

No. Once a federal agency has reported excess property to GSA, GSA generally holds a 21-day federal screening of the property. If no federal agency selects the property in this timeframe, it will be made available for donation to state and local governments and public organizations. Both excess and surplus customers can screen personal property simultaneously, though items are available for selection first to federal agencies. After the 21-day federal screening period, state agencies and non-profit organizations have 5 days to select the surplus property. If none of these organizations show interest in the property during the allotted screening period, GSA will offer the property for sale to the general public, unless the agency chooses another approved Sales Center.

**9. What kinds of property are available?**

Federal agencies surplus all kinds of property on the GSAXcess website. Property available includes items such as hand tools; machine tools; furniture; motor vehicles; communication and electronic equipment; construction equipment; medical equipment and supplies; aircraft; small boats; hardware; office machines, furniture and supplies; textiles and many other items.

**10. Are there any warranties on federal surplus property?**

No, all surplus property acquired is "AS IS," "WHERE IS" and without warranty

**11. Are there any restrictions on the use of federal surplus property?**

Yes, the recipient must agree to the following restrictions:

- Selections must be useable and needed.
- Property must be put into use within 12 months after it is received and utilized for a period of 12 months; **or**
- There is a utilization period of 18 months on all property with a Government cost of \$5,000.00 and over and all passenger motor vehicles regardless of Government cost.
- Restrictions on all aircraft and vessels will be according to the terms and conditions within the conditional transfer document for vessels and aircraft.

**12. If this is a donation program, why must there be a service charge?**

There are no appropriated tax funds to operate the program. The money is used only in the operation of the program and for no other purpose.

**13. How are the service charges determined?**

Service charges are fair and equitable in relation to the service performed. Emphasis is placed on keeping the service to a minimum, but at the same time providing the necessary service to operate the program on a sound financial basis.

Factors considered in determining service charges are, the original acquisition cost, condition, normal screening costs, utilization and compliance.

As a general guide and based upon the above factors and exceptions listed, the following chart is used in determining service charges:

<b>Original Acquisition Cost</b>	<b>Percent Assessed</b>
\$ -0- - \$200.00	Minimum of \$35.00, but no greater than 25%
\$ 201.00 - 2000.00	No Greater than 20%
\$ 2,001.00 - \$15,000.00	No Greater than 17%
\$15,000.00 - \$25,000.00	No Greater than 15%
\$25,001.00 - \$1,000,000.00	No Greater than 10%

**14. How are service charges collected?**

Checks should be made payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut" upon receipt of invoice.

**15. How may an eligible organization best take advantage of available property?**

Participants make regular or frequent visits to the GSAccess federal surplus property on-line website.

**16. May federal surplus property be dissembled for parts or be used for other than its intended use?**

Yes, the recipient can obtain authorization for secondary utilization or cannibalization from the CT Federal Surplus Program Director. Email [Philip.St.Amand@ct.gov](mailto:Philip.St.Amand@ct.gov) with the request.

**17. How does the CT Federal Surplus Program enforce compliance with the terms of the transfer?**

Utilization checks are made on all 18-month and five-year restricted property during that period and random utilization checks on selected items shall be conducted on property with a one-year restriction.

*The Federal Property Distribution Program prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex.*