



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

We strengthen communities

WASHINGTON STATE

Tariff Information and Resource Guide.

International trade policy is changing rapidly. Whether you're managing supply chains, exploring new markets, or reassessing costs, we can help businesses stay informed and connected. This guide offers strategies and resources that businesses can explore to adapt to an ever-changing trade landscape.

Take action

- **Stay engaged and informed.** Contact your federal and state legislators. If you're not quite sure what to say, our team can help.
- **Leverage industry associations.** Trade associations often unify members to take collective advocacy.
- **Monitor official notices.** The Federal Register, the Office of the US Trade Representative and the Bureau of Industry and Security issue notices, updates and changes that are available for inspection.

Revisit supply chain and trade agreements

- **Alternate sourcing.** Investigate if you can source from countries with no new tariffs.
- **Leverage FTAs and preference programs.** The US has 14 active Free Trade Agreements spanning 22 countries and also has several trade preference programs.

See our expanded online guide:

ChooseWashingtonState.com/Tariff-Response

Classification and valuation

- **Classification and engineering.** Even small, legitimate modifications to a product can shift it into a more favorable Harmonized Tariff Schedule category.
- **Correct valuation and 'first sale' rule.** Tariffs are calculated on the manufacturing cost.

Duty deferral and reduction

- **Foreign trade zones (FTZs).** There are 11 FTZs in Washington that allow for duty deferral, until goods go to U.S. consumption, or may be eliminated.
- **Customs bonded warehouses.** These are similar to FTZs, storing goods with no immediate payment.

Refund and recovery options

- **Duty drawback.** Duty drawback is a refund of import duties paid on imported goods that are subsequently exported, either in the same form as when imported or after having value added in the United States.
- **Post-summary.** Classification or valuation errors may be corrected via post-summary correction or protest.



Collaboration and training

- **One-on-one expert guidance.** We can help identify overseas markets and create global business strategies.
- **Workshops, training and events.** Connect with our network of experts on an array of emerging topics.
 - **EFACW webinars:** Their sessions focus on practical guidance for exporters. <https://efacw.org/>
- **STEP export voucher program.** Funded in-part via a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) allows small businesses to offset up to \$10,000 in eligible expenses.
- **Other support.** International trade shows, exporting plans, advocacy, interpreters, loan programs and introductions to foreign buyers are just a few examples of other forms of support.

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