

BAG FEE: EXEMPT VS NONEXEMPT

Find out which businesses and bags are included in the 10-cent bag fee, starting January 1, 2023.

The 10-cent bag fee is APPLICABLE to:

“LARGE” RETAILERS (defined as having more than three locations in Colorado, OR with one or more locations outside of Colorado), including:

- Grocery stores and supermarkets
- Convenience stores
- Liquor stores
- Pharmacies or drug stores

PLASTIC AND PAPER CHECKOUT BAGS*†



* Bags provided via curbside pickup are subject to the fee.

† Previously used plastic and paper bags brought into the store by the customer are not subject to the fee.

EXEMPTIONS to the 10-cent bag fee:

- **“SMALL” BUSINESSES** (defined as those with three or fewer locations operating solely in Colorado) are exempt.
- Farmers markets and roadside stand vendors that qualify for the small business exemption (three or fewer locations operating solely in Colorado).
- **RESTAURANTS:** All restaurants are exempt from charging bag fees, no matter how many locations are present in Colorado or outside the state.

Paper and plastic checkout bags used by **customers who participate in state or federal food assistance programs**

Bags used for other purposes besides checkout, including:

- Produce bags, and bags used for food that could contaminate other items, such as frozen food, meat, seafood, etc.
- Bags for unwrapped food and bakery goods
- Bags for loose, bulk items (hardware, nuts, fruits, vegetables, grains)
- Bags for dry cleaning or laundry
- Bags used for prescription medication
- Bags for the sale of small pets like fish, crustaceans, mollusks, and insects