Regulations on electronic invoices and documents

I. OVERVIEW OF THE LEGISLATION

Reference number: 254/2026/NĐ-CP
Date of issue: 30 June 2026
Effective date: 1 July 2026
Issuing Authority: The Government
Replaces / Amends: Decree No. 123/2020/NĐ-CP, Article 1 of Decree No. 41/2022/NĐ-CP and Decree No. 70/2025/NĐ-CP

SUMMARY
Decree No. 254/2026/NĐ-CP completely replaces the current legal framework for electronic invoices and documents, setting out detailed provisions in accordance with the Tax Administration Law No. 108/2025/QH15. Key changes include the complete abolition of pre-printed paper invoices issued by tax authorities, the expansion of the scope and thresholds for the application of electronic invoices (including digital assets and carbon trading platforms), the tightening of conditions for exemption from issuing invoices when receiving advance payments, and the introduction of several new mechanisms regarding the timing of invoice issuance tailored to specific sectors.

Please note: From 1 July 2026, pre-printed invoices issued by the tax authorities will no longer be valid; therefore, businesses, economic organisations, business households and self-employed individuals who still hold any of these invoices must destroy them immediately. Self-printed or pre-printed paper receipts, however, may continue to be used until 31 December 2026.

II. KEY NEW PROVISIONS

Point 1: Abolition of tax authority-printed paper invoices

Content	Previous regulations	New regulation
Pre-printed invoices issued by the tax authority cease to be valid from the date the Decree comes into force; self-printed or pre-printed paper receipts may be used until 31 December 2026.	Pre-printed paper invoices issued by the tax authorities may still be sold and used in parallel with electronic invoices for those entities and in those circumstances where the purchase of invoices from the tax authorities is permitted.	From 1 July 2026, pre-printed invoices issued by the Tax Authority will cease to be valid, and there will be no transition period; organisations, business households and self-employed individuals with remaining stock must destroy them in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Ministry of Finance. Self-printed or pre-printed paper receipts may be used until 31 December 2026; from 1 January 2027, they must be destroyed and the transition to electronic receipts must be completed.

Point 2: Amendment to the conditions for exemption from issuing invoices when payment is received prior to the provision of services

Content	Previous regulations	New Provision
The term 'advance payment' has been removed from the scope of services previously exempt from the requirement to issue an invoice immediately; only 'deposits' as defined in the Civil Code are now excluded.	A deposit OR advance payment made to secure the performance of a contract for the provision of six specific categories of services (accounting, auditing, financial/tax consultancy, valuation, technical surveying/design, supervision consultancy, and preparation of	This applies to all contracts for the provision of services (no longer limited to the six industry sectors as previously), but the term 'advance payment' has been removed from the list of exemptions, and only 'deposits as defined in the Civil Code' are now exempt from the obligation to issue an invoice immediately upon receipt of payment.

	construction investment projects) is exempt from the requirement to issue an invoice upon receipt of payment.	

Point 3: Framework for 4 categories of entities, adding digital assets and carbon trading platforms		
Content	**Previous provisions**	**New regulations**
Decree 254 directly codifies the scope of users of electronic invoices (hóa đơn điện tử), dividing them into four groups and incorporating provisions on cash registers into a single set of guidelines.	Reference is made to Article 91 of the Tax Administration Law 38/2019/QH14 (now repealed); provisions on cash registers are set out separately.	The entities required to use electronic invoices include (a) Economic organisations using electronic invoices with a code; (b) electricity and petroleum companies, cryptocurrency entities, and services supporting transactions on carbon trading platforms using electronic invoices without a code; (c) direct retail sales to consumers using cash registers; (d) turnover thresholds. Cryptocurrency and carbon trading platforms are entirely new sectors that have not been covered by previous regulations.

Point 4: Regulations on the use of electronic invoices by business households and sole traders		
Content	**Previous Regulations**	**New Regulations**
The threshold of VND 1 billion per year remains unchanged, but the scope of application of this threshold has been expanded.	The revenue threshold of VND 1 billion per year applies only to the obligation to use electronic invoices generated by cash registers.	Business households and sole traders with an annual turnover exceeding VND 1 billion, OR who sell assets subject to registration of ownership or usage rights (such as cars, property, etc.), must use electronic invoices with a code or electronic invoices generated by a cash register connected to the tax authorities' system, even if their turnover has not yet reached the VND 1 billion threshold.

Point 5: Regulations on Electronic Invoices issued by Foreign Suppliers		
Contents	**Previous Regulations**	**New Regulations**
The criterion for determining whether a foreign supplier is required to register for electronic invoicing has been changed from 'having no permanent establishment in Vietnam' to 'generating taxable turnover in Vietnam'.	Overseas suppliers without a permanent establishment in Vietnam, which engage in e-commerce or business on digital platforms, may voluntarily register to use electronic invoices.	Foreign organisations (including operators of e-commerce platforms and digital platforms based overseas) that conduct business activities on e-commerce platforms and provide other services, and which generate taxable revenue in Vietnam, may voluntarily register to use electronic invoices.

Point 6: Narrowing the scope of entities eligible for single-transaction sales invoices for merchandise		
Content	**Previous Regulations**	**New Regulations**
Exclude the group of businesses and sole traders who were previously issued invoices on a transaction-by-transaction basis when they did not meet the requirements to use electronic invoices	Permit the issuance of invoices on a transaction-by-transaction basis to business households or sole traders who do not meet the criteria for using electronic invoices with a code but require invoices to issue to customers.	The mechanism for issuing invoices on a case-by-case basis to groups of business households or sole traders who do not meet the criteria for using electronic invoices has been abolished. Where there is a need to use electronic invoices, businesses must register to use electronic invoices bearing a code issued by the tax authority, or electronic invoices generated by a cash register connected to the tax authority's data system.

Point 7: Systematisation of cases where electronic invoices do not need to be issued		
Content	**Previous Regulations**	**New Regulations**
Decree 254, for the first time, consolidates the cases where electronic invoices do not need to be issued into a single Article.	There are no specific provisions governing cases where an electronic tax invoice is not issued (purchases of merchandise or services from sole traders, rental of property from private individuals, commissions from lottery agents, insurance agents or multi-level marketing schemes where tax has already been deducted, reinsurance fees, receipt of deposits, sale of receivables, foreign exchange and derivatives transactions, capital contribution by means of assets, internal asset transfers, and lending of machinery and equipment) are scattered across previous documents and are inferred from the VAT legislation.	Consolidated into a single, standalone Article 7, listing eight cases where electronic invoices are not issued, with further reference to Decree 181/2025/NĐ-CP on VAT.

Point 8: Change the basis for identifying individual purchasers to the personal identification number		
Content	**Previous Regulations**	**New Regulations**
For buyers who are individual consumers, the invoice shall state the personal identification number instead of the individual tax code as previously required.	The tax code is the primary means of identifying the purchaser; the personal identification number is merely supplementary information provided voluntarily by the purchaser.	Where a purchaser, as a consumer, provides their name, address and personal identification number, the invoice must show the personal identification number (foreign nationals may use their passport number); if this information is not provided, the invoice must state 'Sold to a consumer'. Invoices that do not contain the purchaser's details or are issued to consumers are not valid for the purposes of accounting for expenses or tax settlement.

Point 9: Amendments/additions to the provisions on the timing of invoice issuance		
Content	**Previous Regulations**	**New Regulations**
The deadline of 'no later than the 7th day of the following month or 7 days from the end of the accounting period' has been extended to cover a wider range of cases	Applies to the following sectors: air transport support services, aviation fuel supply, electricity, rail and water transport support services, television, e-commerce, postal and courier services, telecommunications, logistics, information technology, banking (excluding lending), securities, electronic lotteries, and road toll collection.	Retain all the above industry groups and maintain the deadline of 7 days from the 7th of the following month; add the following sectors: maritime pilotage, online advertising, digital technology/digital platforms, cryptocurrency, carbon trading platform services, insurance, security services, industrial catering, merchandise exchanges, credit information, and passenger transport by taxi, contract cars or two-wheeled motorcycles using transport-hailing apps.
Telecoms/IT reconciliation: addition of data services	Applies only to telecommunications and information technology (including payment intermediaries operating on telecommunications/IT platforms).	Add "data products and services" to the scope of the two-month reconciliation mechanism, alongside telecommunications and IT.
Addition of a transaction-based invoicing mechanism for digital consumer services	There is no corresponding mechanism for this group of digital consumer services.	Applies to businesses providing services to individual consumers: digital banking, e-wallets, cryptocurrencies, e-commerce,

		ride-hailing services, bus/train tickets, car parking, cinema screenings, etc. The date of invoicing is determined based on the detailed transaction data submitted to the tax authorities (in accordance with Article 16, Clause 3, point a.2), rather than a fixed date as under the traditional reconciliation mechanism. Conditions: a software system must be in place to manage the details of each transaction and store all relevant data.
Additional provisions on invoicing for night-time transactions without automated software	None	Where a seller does not have automated invoicing software and a transaction takes place during night working hours as defined by the Labour Code, the deadline for issuing the invoice is extended to the next working day at the latest.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BUSINESSES

01 Continue to keep abreast of guidance from the Ministry of Finance

Certain provisions previously set out in Decrees 123 and 70 regarding the amendment and replacement of invoices are no longer covered in Decree 254. You should therefore continue to keep abreast of the Ministry of Finance’s guidance on this matter, as well as other guidance and the implementation of electronic invoicing solutions.

02 Review of deposit/advance payment clauses in contracts for services

Reconcile the naming conventions and nature of the payments (deposits under the Civil Code and advance payments) in contracts for services to determine the invoicing obligations from 1 July 2026.

03 Update the regulations on cases where an invoice is not required

Adjust the invoicing software/process to accommodate cases where invoices are not required under the new regulations.

04 Update the regulations on the timing of invoice issuance

Review the amended or supplementary provisions regarding the timing of invoicing to ensure the correct reconciliation procedures are applied or that invoices are issued based on transaction data, etc., thereby avoiding the issuance of invoices at the wrong time.

CONTACT US FOR ADVICE

Mr. Nguyen Bao Anh
Deputy General Director in charge of Tax, Transfer Pricing & Outsourcing Services
Email: anh.nb@a-c.com.vn

Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Thao
Senior Manager, Tax and Accounting Services
Email: thao.ntt@a-c.com.vn