

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Special license plate fees can be \$10, \$15, or \$25 annually or a one-time \$10, \$25 or \$50 fee based on the plate design, in addition to the registration fees. Personalization is an additional \$10 annually.

If you are renewing early, registration, special license plate, and personalized license plate fees will be prorated for the months remaining on your current vehicle registration.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will not honor a change of choice or refund after the order has been sent to the manufacturer.

You may purchase samples of most special license plates.

Personalized License Plates Policy

All personalized character combinations are screened by DMV to ensure compliance with DMV's Personalized License Plate Policy.

The combination of characters used to personalize a license plate must not violate DMV's Personalized License Plate Policy. DMV reserves the right to refuse and/or recall the issuance of any combination of objectionable characters if they, in anyway, carry a connotation that may be reasonably seen by a person viewing a license plate as 1) profane, obscene, or vulgar in nature, 2) sexually explicit or graphic, 3) excretory related, 4) describing intimate body parts or genitals, 5) describing drugs, drug culture or drug use, 6) condoning or encouraging violence, 7) describing illegal activities or illegal substances, 8) socially, racially, ethnically offensive, or disparaging.

Personalized license plates require special handling; allow up to 60 days for delivery. Plates will be mailed directly to the applicant.

Indicate your choices in order of preference. The maximum number of characters allowed on standard and scenic license plates is 7 ½. The maximum number of characters allowed on a heritage license plate is 6 ½. Six characters are allowed on all other license plates bearing logos. License plates with logos may sometimes accommodate an additional ½ space when personalized. A blank space and a dash are the only two characters that are ½ characters. An ampersand is considered a full character. Spaces, dashes, and ampersands cannot be used consecutively.

Visit our website www.dmvNOW.com to create a plate or ask a DMV representative to determine availability.

New Special Interest License Plate Development Information

All application and refund inquiries should be directed to the sponsor who is maintaining and facilitating collection of the 450 pre-paid applications for new license plates through General Assembly authorization or currently under development.

When the 450 pre-paid applications are being processed, personalized license plate and special license plate fees are not prorated. Your vehicle registration will not be renewed unless it is within two months of expiration. Should your vehicle registration require renewal, you will be billed by DMV for payment.

The entire special license plate process could take up to two years depending on the direction of the sponsor. It generally takes about nine months to develop a new plate once the 450 pre-paid applications are collected.

Clean Special Fuel License Plates

Vehicles registered with clean special fuel license plates issued by DMV on or after July 1, 2011, are not eligible for occupancy exemptions in the I-95/395 or I-66 HOV lanes. However, they are exempt from occupancy requirements in all other HOV lanes throughout the state until the general exemption expires.

To qualify for clean special fuel license plates, a vehicle must qualify as a clean special fuel vehicle under the super ultra-low emission vehicle (SULEV) rating or the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) equivalent beginning with model year 2005 vehicles.

Vehicle assessment standards were set by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and adopted by DMV to ensure that only the cleanest vehicles are eligible for clean special fuel license plates.

Not all vehicles qualify for the clean special fuel license plate. For a list of qualifying vehicles, visit our website at www.dmvNOW.com. The list of vehicles is updated as new qualifying vehicles are introduced to the market and assessed by DEQ.

Other License Plates - Certification Required

Antique License Plates require submission of the Antique License Plate Applicant Certification (VSA 10 B) with form VSA 10.

Gold Star License Plates require submission of the Gold Star License Plate Applicant Certification (VSA 10 A) with form VSA 10.

Disabled License Plates require submission of the Disabled Parking Placards or License Plates Application (MED 10) with form VSA 10.