

FAQ'S ON REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

Q. What is a registration?

A. A registration is evidence of having paid the registration tax and fees on a motor vehicle. It consists of a metal license plate, a validation decal, and a registration certificate.

Q. Why must I register my motor vehicle?

A. In the state of Florida, a motor vehicle is required by law to be registered within 10 days of the owner either becoming employed, placing children in public school, or establishing residency. Registering your motor vehicle goes hand in hand with the titling process.

Q. How do I register a vehicle if I am in Florida?

A. If registering the vehicle in person make sure all parties listed on the title, bring the original title or lien holder information, proof of Florida insurance, to the local tax collector office.

Q. What are the basic registration fees?

A. Fees are located on <http://www.flhsmv.gov/dmv/forms/BTR/Milpak/83140.pdf>

Q. How do I obtain a duplicate of my registration if I have lost it?

A duplicate vehicle registration may be obtained at any local tax collector office for the fee of \$5.00 or from the department's website.

Q. Where do I affix the decal on the Florida license plate?

A. Affix the decal in the square space in the upper right hand corner of the Florida license plate.

Q. When do I get a new license plate?

A. Florida Statutes, section 320.06(1)(b), requires 10 year replacement of all license plates. The replacement is necessary because license plates must be fully reflectorized to ensure visibility for law enforcement purposes.

Q. Why am I paying a \$225.00 fee for "new wheels"? The term initial registration is confusing.

A. Florida Statutes, section 320.072, requires a fee of \$225.00 to be imposed upon the initial application for registration on certain motor vehicle registration transactions. Whether the vehicle is new or not does not matter. Basically, the fee is due on any privately used automobile, light weight truck/pick-up, or any motor home unless the vehicle is replacing a vehicle that has been disposed of (same category of vehicles).

Q. If I don't register my vehicle on time, is there a delinquent fee?

A. Yes, Florida Statutes, section 320.07(4)(a), specifically requires the delinquent fee to be imposed on any applicant who fails to renew a registration before the end of the month the registration is due. The delinquent fee is applied beginning the 11th calendar day of the month succeeding the renewal period. Delinquent fees are as follows:

If the license renewal fee is	Delinquent fee is
Up to \$ 25.00	\$ 5.00
\$ 25.01 to \$ 50.00	\$ 10.00
\$ 50.01 to \$ 100.00	\$ 15.00
\$ 100.01 to \$ 400.00	\$ 50.00
\$ 400.01 to \$ 600.00	\$ 100.00
\$ 600.01 and higher	\$ 250.00

Q. What is the purpose for issuance of temporary license plates?

A. Florida law provides for a variety of legal uses of temporary license plates. Automobile dealerships may issue a temporary license plate, valid for 30 days to individuals that do not have a license plate to transfer to the vehicle being purchased. You may get a temporary license plate to use to demonstrate a vehicle you are wanting to sell (you must have insurance on the vehicle). Non-residents that purchase a vehicle in Florida may get a temporary license for transit purposes if they purchase a vehicle in Florida and want to drive the vehicle back to title and register the vehicle in their state, however, proof of insurance and the sales tax in the amount required by the home state must be paid before the temporary license plate will be issued.

Q. Why do lease cars cost more to register and renew registrations?

A. Florida Statute, section 320.08(6)(a) states motor vehicles “for hire” under 9 passenger pay \$17.00 flat fee plus \$1.50 per cwt (100 pounds). Florida Statute, section 320.08(6)(b) states motor vehicles “for hire” with 9 passenger and over pay \$17.00 flat fee plus \$2.00 per cwt (100 pounds).

Q. Does my registration expire on my birthday or the end of the month?

A. Registrations expire midnight on the day of their birth on the 1st person named on the registration, except for mobile homes, commercial vehicles. Mobile homes expire at midnight on the 1st day of December, commercial vehicles expire at midnight on the last day of the month of May (if registered semi-annually) or December (if registered annually). Registration issued in a company name (not commercial vehicles) are assigned a designated month and the registration expires midnight on the last day of that month.

Q. Can anyone renew my registration for me?

A. Yes, however, the individual renewing your license plate must have proof of insurance, copy of your current registration or renewal notice and proper fees.

Q. Do I have to turn in my license plate when I cancel my insurance?

A. Yes, you may turn it in to any tax collector office or state driver license office, make sure to get a receipt and hold onto it so when you purchase another vehicle or want to re-tag the previous vehicle you have the license plate information with you.

Q. Are there any exemptions for the \$225.00 initial registration fee?

A. Yes there are exemptions.