

FACT SHEET

Personal Registration Plates

(Including Amateur Radio Operator and Press Photographer Plates)

PURPOSE

This fact sheet outlines the policy for issuance of a standard Personal Registration, Amateur Radio Operator and Press Photographer Plate.

DEFINITION OF PERSONALIZED REGISTRATION PLATE

A standard personal registration plate may contain up to seven letters and numbers in combination. One hyphen or one space is permitted, but not both. Special characters are not available. A personal motorcycle registration plate may contain up to five letters and numbers in combination. **NOTE:** A hyphen or space is not recognized as part of the plate configuration and does not count as one of the letters or numbers.

GENERAL INFORMATION

To apply for a standard personal registration plate, Form MV-904, "Application for Special Registration Plate," must be completed. Personal registration plate applicants must have a valid registration plate and valid sticker first, which the applicant shall retain pending receipt of the requested personal plate. Requests for personal registration plates are restricted to:

- ❖ passenger vehicles
- ❖ motorcycles
- ❖ motor homes
- ❖ trailers
- ❖ trucks with a registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds.

A separate application must be submitted for each standard personal registration plate. The fee is \$76 for a personal registration plate and \$11 for an Amateur Radio Operator or Press Photographer registration plate. Make check or money order payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH. An applicant can check vanity plate availability on our website at www.dmv.state.pa.us by selecting the Personalized Registration Availability link from the list of services under the Online Driver and Vehicle Services heading. Registration plates will not be reserved until PennDOT receives payment and a completed application, and approves your requested registration plate configuration [number(s) and/or letter(s)]. Please note that registration plate requests are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Although a requested registration plate configuration may show as available on the website, it is possible a request for the same registration plate configuration may have already been submitted by another customer and may not be available when making application. In addition, under the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, PennDOT may refuse any combination of letters and numbers for cause and reserves the right to limit or reject certain requests.

To replace a defaced personal plate, the defaced plate must be surrendered to PennDOT. The fee to replace a defaced personal registration plate is \$76 and \$11 for an Amateur Radio Operator or Press Photographer registration plate. In addition, in order for the vehicle to be legally operated pending receipt of the replaced personal plate, an applicant must also submit Form MV-44, "Application for Duplicate Registration Card, Replacement of Registration Plate, Renewal Sticker or Weight Class Sticker," and a fee for \$11 to be issued a standard issued registration plate. **NOTE:** The vehicle may not be driven until the applicant is in receipt of the standard issued registration plate. If the plate is lost or stolen, the registration plate configuration cannot be reissued. New vehicles must be titled and registered prior to a personal registration plate being issued. Allow eight to 10 weeks for delivery of your plate.

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AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR: One plate may be issued with your Federal Communication Commission (FCC) assigned call letters. If you desire a second Amateur Radio Operator registration plate, your call letters plus a hyphen and the number "2" will be issued. A copy of your Amateur Radio Station registration must be attached to the application.

PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER PLATE: This registration plate is available to a person who is employed full time as a newspaper, newsreel or television photographer or cameraman. The vehicle must be registered in the name of the press photographer or jointly by the press photographer and a co-owner. Two identical registration plates are issued to the applicant, one for the front of the vehicle and one for the back of the vehicle. Only one set of Press Photographer plates will be issued to any applicant.

Please Note: Authorized agents are under contract to PennDOT and may charge a market driven service (delivery) fee; these are in addition to any PennDOT statutory fees for temporary, or in some cases, permanent motor vehicle registration plates and cards or other related products and services offered by the agent. The agent's service (delivery) fees are market driven, and vary by agent. To compare service (delivery) fees, you are encouraged to contact the authorized agents in your area for the applicable service (delivery) fees charged.