



Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 16.00 Foreign Title Held by Lienholder

Section: 4. Motor Vehicle Registration Requirements

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 05/29/2024

Authority:

Administrative

[R.S. 47:303 A\(3\)](#)

[R.S. 47:303 B \(1\) \(b\)](#)

[R.S. 47:513.2](#)

To view Louisiana Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

Definition:

- **Foreign Title** - A title issued for a financed vehicle that is titled in a state where the lienholder holds the title until the lien is satisfied

Requirements:

- Louisiana law requires new residents of this state to register their vehicle within thirty (30) days of establishing residency. Louisiana issues titles on all vehicles registered in the state, with the exception of vehicles titled in a state that requires the lienholder retain possession of the title until the lien is satisfied.¹
- In order to register a vehicle as a foreign title held by the lienholder, **one** of the following is required:
 - A non-negotiable copy of the out-of-state title showing a lien. This can be either the owner's copy or a photocopy furnished by the lienholder
 - A valid registration certificate indicating owner and lien information
 - A letter from the Motor Vehicle authority of the state that issued the title confirming the name of the owner, lien information, and description of the vehicle
 - A copy of the "title application" filed in another state, indicating that there is a lien. Copy must be validated by a Motor Vehicle or Revenue employee of that state.
 - **Exclusions:**
 - Mississippi title applications are excluded, as these are prepared by a dealer and have not necessarily been filed with the Mississippi Motor Vehicle Department.
 - Arizona title applications are excluded.
- In addition to the documents indicated above, the following must be provided prior to a vehicle being registered:
 - A completed *Vehicle Application* ([DPSMV1799](#)) form
 - Proof of current liability insurance, if applicable
 - Applicable fees

- Refer to Section 4, Policy 48.00, [Out-of-State Transfers and Reciprocity With Other States](#), for information concerning assessment of tax and credit for sales and/or use tax paid in another jurisdiction
- **Exceptions:**
 - If an original out-of-state title with a lien is provided, the application must be processed in accordance with Section 4, Policy 48.00, [Out-of-State Transfers and Reciprocity Agreements with Other States](#).
 - If no lien is indicated on the out-of-state paperwork, the original out-of-state title is required in order to register the vehicle.

Fees:

- [Title fee](#)
- [Applicable sales/use tax](#)

Related Policies:

Section 4, Policy 2.00 [Basic Requirements For Obtaining A Certificate Of Title](#)

Section 4, Policy 2.03 [Completion Of Vehicle Application](#)

Section 4, Policy 48.00 [Out Of State Transfers And Reciprocity With Other States](#)

Section 4, Policy 49.01 [Exempt From Sales Tax- Lease/Rental Vehicles](#)

References:

¹ – Louisiana State Legislature. *New Residents; Registration; Inspection* (R.S. 47:513.2), retrieved from <https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=1017802>.