

Section: 5. Motor Vehicle License Plate Classifications & Requirements

**Effective Date:** 05/01/1986 **Revised Date:** 09/07/2020

# **Authority:** R.S. 47:462

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

## **Definitions:**

- Class 4-City Use Vehicles that operate within the corporate (city) limits and not more than 13 miles' distance from corporate (city) limits, and in any unincorporated urban area which has limits determined by the United States Bureau of the Census, without transferring its domicile or obtaining a different class of license; provided that a city use truck is not authorized to carry any cargo or goods from one city or such unincorporated urban area to another. The vehicle's domicile must be shown on the registration certificate. A motor vehicle with a city use license plate is authorized to travel outside of a city provided that it carries absolutely no cargo or goods. If carrying cargo or goods outside of corporate limits, a Class-1 truck plate shall be issued.
- Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR) The maximum allowable combined mass of a towing road vehicle, passengers, and cargo in the tow vehicle, plus the weight of the trailer and cargo in or on the trailer, which can be determined by adding the GVWR of all units in the combination.
- Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) The net weight of the vehicle, plus the weight
  of the passengers, fuel, cargo, and any additional accessories. The rating is set by the
  vehicle manufacturer and is shown on the manufacturer certificate of origin (MSO).
- **Gross Weight -** The weight of a vehicle or vehicle combination without load on all axles, including the steering axle plus the weight of any load thereon
- Truck Every motor propelled single vehicle for the conveyance of property or things for hauling purposes and having one front or steering axle and one rear or load carrying axle
- **Truck Tractor** A motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load drawn.

## **Requirements:**

- Refer to Section 5, <u>Policy 28.00, Truck and Tractor License Plates</u>, for a list of required documents.
- Trucks used for purposes defined within multiple classes shall be issued a Class-1 plate.

#### Fees:

• License plate fees are assessed according to the rate schedule indicated below:

Gross Weight in Pounds	City Use – Class 4 Annual Fee	Duration of Plate
6,000 or less	\$10.00	1 Year (expire June 30 <sup>th</sup> of each year)
6,001 to 23,999	0.25 per 100 lbs.	1 Year(expire June 30 <sup>th</sup> of each year)
24,000 to 88,000	0.30 per 100 lbs.	1 Year (expire June 0 <sup>th</sup> of each year)

- Lost or Stolen Plate Fees for replacement of a lost or stolen plate are assessed as follows:
  - \$10.00 Lost plate fee
  - \$8.00 Handling fee

## Proration of License Plate Fees:

- Louisiana law allows the license plate fee to be prorated if a vehicle requires a non-staggered license plate.
- License plate fees may be prorated August 1<sup>st</sup> May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- o The minimum proration amount allowed is \$10.00 on any prorated plate.

### License Plate Fee Credit

- Credit may be allowed for the unused portion of a truck license plate when requesting
  - A weight increase
  - Class change (city use to private, etc.)
- Credit will be applied to the price of the plate which is being purchased.
- Credit will not be allowed if a higher value plate is being exchanged for a plate of lower value. An even exchange takes place and **no** refund is due.
- Credit will not be allowed if a weight or plate change is requested as a result of a citation being issued. The proper penalty will be charged if a citation is issued.

## **Related Policies:**

- Section 4, Policy 2.00, Basic Requirements For Obtaining A Certificate Of Title
- Section 4, Policy 105.01, Required Proof Of Liability Insurance Prior To Registration Of Vehicles
- Section 5, Policy 10.00, Farm Produce Plates-Class 5
- Section 5, Policy 11.00, Forest Product Plates-Class 2
- Section 5, Policy 28.00, Truck And Tractor License Plates
- Section 5, Policy 28.04, Apportioned License Plates
- Section 5, Policy 28.05, Private Truck Plates Over 6000 Pounds-Class 1
- Section 5, Policy 28.06, Gravel Hauler Plate- Class 3
- Section 5, Policy 28.07, Minimum Weight Truck Plate-Class 1