Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles
Policy 22.00 Public Plates

Section: 5. Motor Vehicle License Plate Classifications & Requirements

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 03/01/2001

General:

- A state agency (or political subdivision) or a bona fide organized public volunteer fire department can be issued, free of charge, a public plate or a private plate for a passenger car, truck, school bus or trailer.
- Public (PP) plates, issued since the year 1975, will be valid until further notice. The expiration date of a public plate must be entered on computer as 129999 in order for PERM to be printed on the registration.
- Private plates on public vehicles will be valid for the regular term of the plate (2-year car plates, 4-year truck plates, and 1-year bus and trailer plates). The plates will be subject to normal renewal procedures, but will be issued free of charge.
- At present, there is no motorcycle plate bearing the "public" designation, but a regular motorcycle plate can be issued free of charge to the authorized agency. An off-road vehicle decal with a permanent sticker can also be issued free of charge to authorized agencies.
- **Initial Issuance** - A VEH-5 (DPSMV 1631) form, signed by an authorized representative of state, parish or municipal government, must accompany each application for title and registration. See attachment for form. The appropriate plate which is indicated on the form should be issued. Act 707 amended R.S. 49:121 in 1972 and eliminated the requirement of approval by the Division of Administration. An $8.00 title handling fee will be charged in addition to other fees required. See Section V, Policy/Procedure Statement #14.6 for public handicapped plates.
- **Renewal of Private Plates -** To maintain a private plate on a public vehicle, the agency concerned need only submit the regular renewal form. A VEH 5 (DPSMV 1631) form is not required.
- **Lost Plate / Conversion -** If a replacement plate is needed, a DPSMV 1799 application form, front and back side, must be completed and a $10.00 lost plate fee, in addition to an $8.00 service handling fee, will be required. To convert from one type public plate to another, only the $8.00 handling fee is due. A VEH 5 (DPSMV 1631) form is not required.