



Cook County Department of Revenue

2018/2019 Vehicle License Guidelines

Section 74-552 of the Cook County Wheel Tax Ordinance requires a Cook County Vehicle License for all motor vehicles owned and operated by a person who resides within unincorporated Cook County. The Cook County Vehicle License is an annual license (sticker/decals) for the period of July 1st through June 30th of the following year and must be displayed by July 1st of each year.

A comparison of records, using information supplied by the Illinois Secretary of State's Office, indicates that the vehicle shown on the enclosed 2018/2019 Cook County Vehicle License pre-printed application is registered to an unincorporated Cook County address.

If you no longer own the vehicle, please indicate the reason on the enclosed application and return it along with supporting documentation in the envelope provided. This information will be used to update our records. Also, please notify the Secretary of State with this information so they can update their records as well.

Your Cook County Vehicle License must be displayed on your vehicle by July 1st.

A late penalty will be charged for licenses purchased AFTER July 1st.

Who Is Required To Purchase A Cook County Vehicle License?

- ▶ If you live in unincorporated Cook County and own a vehicle, you are required to purchase a Cook County Vehicle License for cars and trucks or vehicle plate for motorcycles and trailers.
- ▶ If you own a business in unincorporated Cook County and keep a vehicle there, you are required to purchase a Cook County Vehicle License.

Guidelines

- ▶ The Cook County Vehicle License is an annual license for the period of July 1st through June 30th of the following year and must be displayed by July 1st of each year.
- ▶ If you obtain your Vehicle License after July 1st, you will be assessed a late penalty. You may also be subject to additional penalties if your license is not displayed by July 1st.
- ▶ If the Cook County Vehicle License is not properly displayed after July 1st, the Wheel Tax Ordinance will be enforced by the Cook County Department of Revenue and the Cook County Sheriff's Department.
- ▶ Supporting documentation will be required for all new vehicle purchases, new residents, transfers, duplicates, exemptions and removal of vehicles.
- ▶ In order to qualify for a transfer, you are required to have a current vehicle license; remove and return the original license at the time of the transfer to the Department of Revenue or a participating Township Office; new vehicle license must be in the same vehicle class as the previously purchased vehicle license; the newly acquired vehicle must have been purchased within the last 30 days; valid proof that the vehicle was physically traded-in, sold or disposed of is required.

Seniors

If you are over the age of 65 or older on or before July 1st of this year, you are entitled to a NO FEE SR license for vehicle classes XSV, XLV or A only. There is a limit of 2 free vehicle licenses per senior. The vehicle license does not require an annual renewal and remains valid as long as you own this vehicle. If you no longer own this vehicle, please remove the SR License and return it to the Department or Township Office. The vehicle license is no longer considered valid and cannot be transferred to another vehicle.

The Categories Below May Be Eligible For 'NF' Class Licenses At No Charge

If you qualify for a NF vehicle license as of July 1st of this year, you are entitled to a no fee NF vehicle license. The license is permanent, does not require an annual renewal and remains valid as long as you own this vehicle. If you no longer own this vehicle, please remove the NF License and return to the Department or Township Office. The vehicle license is no longer considered valid and cannot be transferred to another vehicle.

- ▶ Physically disabled individuals (Proof of vehicle registration certificate or registration with the State of Illinois under 625 ILCS 5/3-616 required).
- ▶ Disabled Veterans (Proof of service related disability required from the Veterans Administration).
- ▶ School, church, and nonprofit vehicles (as defined in Sec. 74-554 of the Cook County Wheel Tax Ordinance).
- ▶ Government owned vehicles.

Commercial motor vehicles as defined under 625 ILCS 5/18b-101 and registered as apportionable vehicles (proof required) with the Illinois Secretary of State pursuant to 625 ILCS 5/3-402.1 are exempt from the Cook County Wheel Tax.

Penalty For Late Purchase

If you purchase your vehicle license after July 1st, you will be assessed a late penalty equal to the price of the license or \$25.00, whichever is greater. You may also be subject to additional penalties if your license is not displayed by July 1st.

If you would like to purchase your 2018/2019 Cook County Vehicle License online . . .

please visit <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/wheel-tax-vehicle-sticker>.

Vehicle Licenses may be purchased in-person at participating Township offices or at the **Cook County Dept. of Revenue** located at 118 N. Clark Street, Room 1160, Chicago, IL 60602 during regular business hours Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They can also be purchased through mail by completing the enclosed application, returning the ENTIRE FORM along with your payment (if applicable) and any supporting documentation in the enclosed envelope. Make checks/money orders payable to "Cook County Collector".

