

North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles  
REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING NORTH CAROLINA REGISTRATION

**1. OUT OF STATE RESIDENTS MOVING TO NORTH CAROLINA MUST OBTAIN A NORTH CAROLINA DRIVER LICENSE PRIOR TO TITLING A VEHICLE.**

**2. APPLICATION (FORM MVR-1)**

- a) Driver License Number: Each owner of the vehicle must present a valid North Carolina Driver License or Special Identification Card to register the vehicle in North Carolina. The name on the Driver License and application should be the same. After successfully completing the driver license process, you will be given a Temporary Driver Certificate. A Temporary Driving Certificate is valid for 20 days from the date issued. The driver license is mailed to your residence within 20 days of application. In order to register a vehicle you must have your valid out of state driver license along with your valid Temporary Driving Certificate.
- b) Name: For single or joint ownership, the full name of each owner is required. No initials are accepted unless they stand in lieu of a name. For corporations, the full corporate name is required. For partnership and proprietorship, the trade name is required, if one is used, or if partnership, both partners' full names are required.
- c) Address: The North Carolina residence address, including the zip code and county (not post office number), is required for individuals; for business firms, the business address is required. Include the mailing address when it is different from the residence address. The county declared is the North Carolina county in which the vehicle is located.
- d) Liens: All liens must be declared in order of their priority.
- e) Odometer Disclosure Statement (MVR-180): Seller shall disclose the mileage to the buyer in writing on the application with signatures and hand printed name. If a vehicle is 10 years old and older, odometer reading is not required.
- f) Witness: The application must be witnessed by a notary public or other person authorized to act in the capacity.

**3. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

To obtain or transfer a North Carolina registration plate, the law requires your vehicle be insured by a company licensed to do business in the State of North Carolina in minimum amounts of \$30,000/\$60,000/\$25,000. This certification must be furnished at the time of application for registration.

**4. DOCUMENTS OF OWNERSHIP REQUIRED**

- a) **New Unregistered Vehicles**  
The manufacturer's certificate of origin, properly assigned, is required with a bill of sale showing price and trade-in vehicle and credit.
- b) **New or Used Vehicles Registered in Certificate of Title States**  
The certificate of title in the name of the applicant (properly assigned) must include the purchaser's name and address, date of sale or date of delivery, seller's signature and notarization. If the title is in the possession of a lienholder who can produce evidence of registration and lien, the Division of Motor Vehicles will accept the application without the title and will issue a plate.
- c) **New or Used Vehicles Registered in Non-Title States**  
If the vehicle was last registered in a state with no title requirement for registration, the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles requires current registration certificate, proof of purchase, and evidence of registration for three consecutive years.

**5. TITLE AND REGISTRATION FEES**

*Effective September 2013, property taxes are due at the time of license plate renewals and issuances.*

Certificate of Title	\$56.00
Plate Fee, Private Passenger Vehicles	\$38.75
Plate Fee, Private Truck Under 4,000 lbs.	\$38.75
Vehicles Registered in <b>Wake County</b> (in addition to regular license plate fee)	
Regional Transit Authority Registration Tax	\$8.00
County Vehicle Registration Tax	\$7.00
Vehicles Registered in <b>Durham County</b> (in addition to regular license plate fee)	
Regional Transit Authority Registration Tax	\$8.00
County Vehicle Registration Tax	\$7.00
Vehicles Registered in <b>Randolph County</b> (in addition to regular license plate fee)	
Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation Tax	\$1.00
Vehicles Registered in <b>Orange County</b> (in addition to regular license plate fee)	
Regional Transit Authority Registration Tax	\$8.00
County Vehicle Registration Tax	\$7.00
Highway Use Tax (HUT)	
Dealer Sale - 3% of sale price plus any Administrative/Document Fee less any trade-in price	
Casual Sale - 3% of computer value of vehicle	
Out of State - Up to \$250.00 Max. (*If tax is paid on the vehicle to taxing jurisdiction within 90 days, credit may be allowed - proof of payment is required)	
Vehicle Property Tax - Calculated by a computerized taxing system	