

FACT SHEET

Personalized Registration Plates

(Including Amateur Radio Operator and Press Photographer Plates)

PURPOSE

This fact sheet outlines the policy for issuance of Personalized, Amateur Radio Operator and Press Photographer Registration Plates.

DEFINITION OF PERSONALIZED REGISTRATION PLATE

A personalized registration plate can have a combination of up to seven letters and/or numbers. Special characters are not available. **NOTE:** A hyphen or space (**not both**) may be permitted on your personalized registration plate. For the appropriate registration plate configuration allowed for the personalized registration plate you are applying for, please refer to the instructions provided on the application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

To apply for a standard personalized registration plate, Form MV-904, "Application for Personalized, Amateur Radio Operator or Press Photographer Registration Plate," must be completed. Personalized registration plate applicants must have a valid registration plate, which the applicant must retain pending receipt of the requested personalized registration plate.

Requests for standard issued personalized registration plates are restricted to:

- ❖ passenger vehicles
- ❖ motorcycles
- ❖ motor homes
- ❖ trailers
- ❖ trucks with a registered gross weight of not more than 14,000 pounds.

A separate application must be submitted for each standard personalized registration plate. **NOTE:** For a current listing of motor vehicle fees, refer to Form [MV-70S](#), "Bureau of Motor Vehicles Schedule of Fees." Make check or money order payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.** An applicant can check personalized registration plate availability on our website at www.dmv.pa.gov by selecting *Plate Availability* from the list of services under the *Online Services* heading. Registration plates will not be reserved until PennDOT receives payment and a completed application, and approves your requested registration plate configuration [number(s) and/or letter(s)]. Please note that registration plate requests are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Although a requested registration plate configuration may show as available on the website, it is possible a request for the same registration plate configuration may have already been submitted by another customer and may not be available when making application. In addition, under the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, PennDOT may refuse any combination of letters and numbers for cause and reserves the right to limit or reject certain requests.

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR: One registration plate may be issued with your Federal Communication Commission (FCC) assigned call letters. If you desire a second Amateur Radio Operator registration plate, your call letters plus a hyphen and the number "2" will be issued. A copy of your Amateur Radio Station registration must be attached to the application.

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PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER: This registration plate is available to a person who is employed full time as a newspaper, newsreel or television photographer or cameraman. The vehicle must be registered in the name of the press photographer or jointly by the press photographer and a co-owner. Two identical registration plates are issued to the applicant, one for the front of the vehicle and one for the back of the vehicle. Only one set of Press Photographer registration plates will be issued to any applicant.

REPLACEMENT OF A DEFACED STANDARD ISSUED PERSONALIZED REGISTRATION PLATE

If you have a defaced personalized registration plate that is not destroyed (cut, burned or defaced beyond recognition) and would like to request a replacement, you must visit any official Pennsylvania inspection station for verification that the registration plate is illegible and receive Form MV-46, "Authorization to Replace Registration Plate," from the station **OR** have a law enforcement official verify the need for a replacement registration plate on Form MV-44, "Application for Duplicate Registration Card, Replacement of Registration Plate or Weight Class Sticker," obtained from PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website at www.dmv.pa.gov. You are then responsible for signing and returning either Form MV-46 or Form MV-44 to PennDOT in order to receive a replacement registration plate, free of charge. **NOTE:** A registration plate is deemed illegible when one or more numbers or letters cannot be recognized from 50 feet or if the registration plate shows any blistering, peeling, discoloration or loss of reflectivity.

If your personalized registration plate is lost or stolen, the combination of letters and numbers cannot be reproduced. You will need to apply for a new registration plate containing a new combination of letters and numbers. If you would like to order a new registration plate, please apply by completing the appropriate form for the type of registration plate you are applying for.

NOTE: Provided the registration plate is not destroyed or illegible, you may continue to use your current registration plate until your replacement registration plate is received. You must affix your replacement registration plate to your vehicle immediately upon receipt. If an immediate replacement registration plate is needed while waiting for your personalized registration plate, please complete and submit Form MV-44, "Application for Duplicate Registration Card, Replacement of Registration Plate or Weight Class Sticker," and the replacement registration plate fee. A standard registration plate will be issued until the replacement personalized registration plate can be provided.

REPLACEMENT OF A DEFACED SPECIALTY TYPE PERSONALIZED REGISTRATION PLATE

If you have a defaced personalized specialty registration plate that is not destroyed (cut, burned or defaced beyond recognition) and would like to request a replacement, you must also submit the applicable form indicating a request for a replacement of registration plate containing the same combination of letters and/or numbers along with the fee for that type of specialty registration plate. A picture or tracing of the registration plate must be submitted with the application for identification purposes. **NOTE:** A registration plate is deemed illegible when one or more numbers or letters cannot be recognized from 50 feet or if the registration plate shows any blistering, peeling, discoloration or loss of reflectivity.

If your personalized registration plate is lost or stolen, the combination of letters and numbers cannot be reproduced. You need to apply for a new registration plate containing a new combination of letters and numbers. If you would like to order a new registration plate, please apply by completing the appropriate form for the type of registration plate you are applying for.

NOTE: Provided the registration plate is not destroyed or illegible, you may continue to use your current registration plate until your replacement registration plate is received. You must affix your replacement registration plate to your vehicle immediately upon receipt. If an immediate replacement registration plate is needed while waiting for your personalized registration plate, please complete and submit Form MV-44, "Application for Duplicate Registration Card, Replacement of Registration Plate or Weight Class Sticker," and the replacement registration plate fee. A standard registration plate will be issued until the replacement personalized registration plate can be provided.

Please Note: Authorized agents are under contract to PennDOT and may charge a market driven service (delivery) fee; these are in addition to any PennDOT statutory fees for temporary, or in some cases, permanent motor vehicle registration plates and cards or other related products and services offered by the agent. The agent's service (delivery) fees are market driven, and vary by agent. To compare service (delivery) fees, you are encouraged to contact the authorized agents in your area for the applicable service (delivery) fees charged.