



DEPARTMENT
OF MOTOR
VEHICLES

TRANSPORTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION



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TRANSPORTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

I. Transporter registration plates are available to persons who meet the definition of "Transporter" under Title 23 V.S.A. Section 4 (42); and are issued pursuant to Title 23 V.S.A. section 491.

"Transporter" shall mean a person engaged in the business of delivering vehicles of a type required to be registered hereunder from a manufacturing, assembling, or distributing plant to dealers or sales agents of a manufacturer, and includes persons regularly engaged in the business of towing trailer coaches, owned by them or temporarily in their custody, on their own wheels over public highways, persons towing office trailers owned by them or temporarily in their custody, on their own wheels over public highways, persons regularly engaged and properly licensed for the short-term rental of "storage trailers" owned by them and who move these storage trailers on their own wheels over public highways, and persons regularly engaged in the business of moving modular homes over public highways and shall also include dealers and automobile repair shop owners when engaged in the transportation of motor vehicles to and from their place of business for repair purposes. "Transporter" shall include other persons, firms or corporations, provided the transportation and delivery of motor vehicles is a common and usual incident to the repossession of motor vehicles in connection with their business. For purposes of this subdivision, "short-term rental" shall mean a period of less than one year. Before a person may become licensed as a transporter, he or she shall present proof of compliance with section 800 of this title. He or she shall also either own or lease a permanent place of business located in this state where business shall be conducted during regularly establish business hours and the required records stored and maintained.

II. For the purpose of clarification to Title 23 V.S.A. Section 4 (42), the following definitions will apply:

(a) **"Assembly Plant"** shall mean a second stage manufacturer who receives a partially assembled motor vehicle directly from the manufacturer for the purpose of completing the assembly to meet certain owner specifications;

(b) **"Distributing Plant"** shall mean a company who receives motor vehicles direct from the manufacturer for the purpose of completing delivery of the motor vehicle to various dealers and sales agents in the plant's area of responsibility;

(c) **"Sales Agent"** (of a manufacturer) shall mean a person (other than a licensed dealer) who is employed by the manufacturer and authorized to deliver vehicles of a type to be registered;

(d) **"Trailer Coach"** shall mean a trailer or semi-trailer on its own wheels equipped or used for sleeping, eating, or living quarters which is designed to be towed by a motor vehicle.

(e) **"Dealer Repair Shop"** shall mean a licensed automobile dealership with its own repair or body shop which on occasion finds it necessary to transport an unregistered motor vehicle owned by a person or corporation to and from the dealership's repair/body shop;

(f) **"Automotive Repair Shop"** shall mean a company principally engaged in the business of repairing damaged motor vehicles or fixing mechanical/electrical parts on an automobile which becomes inoperative, and shall also include reconditioning shops, radio/stereo installation shops, undercoating shops and shops where additional equipment is added to a vehicle to meet its design purpose, i.e. post hole diggers, line truck buckets, dump bodies, etc.;

(g) **"Repair"** shall mean to restore to sound condition after damage or injury, to fix, to recondition, to install radio/stereo equipment, to apply undercoating and to install additional options;

(h) **"Office Trailer"** is a trailer coach designed or permanently converted for use as a mobile business office but not including storage trailers;

"Storage Trailers" shall mean any regularly manufactured box type trailer which has been removed from normal over the highway service and is used solely for the storage of commodities at a fixed site for extended periods of time. When a storage trailer is moved over the public highways, it shall not contain cargo weighing more than 2,000 lbs., be properly equipped, in good mechanical condition and inspectable under the provisions of section 1222 of this title, except that storage trailers need not display an inspection sticker.

III. Upon receipt of a Transporter application and \$90.00 original plate fee, the Commissioner of his or her representative shall determine eligibility and approve or disapprove the application.

IV. Upon approval, the application will be forwarded to the dealer clerk who will assign transporter registration certificate(s) showing the name, place of business and address of the applicant. These certificates will be mailed or delivered to the transporter along with the necessary forms he or she is required to maintain at his or her place of business.

All transporter registration certificates shall expire on the last day of February next following the date of issue.

The fee for replacement plates is \$10.00.

V. Every transporter is required to keep a written record of transporter usage in a form which is provided by the Department (reference Title 23 V.S.A., Section 496). This record shall be open to inspection by any law enforcement officer during normal business hours.

(A) The written record shall also be carried in any motor vehicle displaying the transporter plate assigned while being operated on the public highway.

(B) The record shall identify the vehicle being transported by make, model and serial number; the owner's name and address; the point of origin; the destination; the trip permit number (if required); date and time where plate was attached/detached; and the overall size of the vehicle and load (if required).

(C) The transporter record shall be produced, upon demand, to any law enforcement officer stopping a motor vehicle with a transporter plate attached.

VI. The transporter plate is a very restricted plate and may only be used to transport a motor vehicle owned by the transporter, repossessed or temporarily in the transporter's custody (reference Title 23 V.S.A. Section 491). A transporter plate may not be used for:

(A) The personal use of the transporter.

(B) Demonstrating any motor vehicle to a potential buyer such as a repossessed vehicle.

(C) Any other use not specifically defined in Title 23 V.S.A. Section 4 (42), Title 23 V.S.A. Section 491 and Departmental Rules and Regulations.

(D) Delivery of a vehicle to the licensed transporter or an affiliated business for registration purposes, or for delivery of a vehicle to the purchaser or auction to be sold.

VII. A transporter shall not loan or lease a transporter plate under any circumstances.

The Commissioner may cancel a transporter registration certificate whenever he or she finds the transporter has violated any motor vehicle laws in this state or any lawful regulation of the Commissioner. The transporter may, upon notification of the cancellation, request a hearing before the Commissioner within a specified time limit regarding the suspension of his or her transporter privileges.

Administrative Procedures, DMV Rule No. 51

TRANSPORTER

A. Building Requirement.

Applicant shall either own or lease a permanent place of business located in this state which is enclosed and heated and shall contain reasonable accommodations to conduct business with the public. Records required by the Department of Motor Vehicles shall be housed and maintained at this location

B. Hours of Operation requirements.

A Transporter shall post the days and hours of business, some portion of which shall be between the hours of 8 AM and 4 PM, in a place visible to the consumer.