

CHAPTER 4 MOTOR VEHICLE TITLE AND REGISTRATION**Sections**

411 Registration of Motor Vehicles: General Provisions**412 Refusal of Registration**

411 REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES: GENERAL PROVISIONS

411.1 Except as otherwise provided in this title, no person shall drive or tow, nor shall an owner knowingly permit to be driven or towed, upon any highway of the District of Columbia, any vehicle of a type required to be registered which is not registered; except that a towing vehicle may move an unregistered vehicle over the highways when the front or rear wheels of the towed vehicle are lifted from the highways and remain so lifted during the entire movement.

411.4 A reciprocity sticker shall be valid for the period noted on the sticker, shall be attached to a window of the motor vehicle in the place and in the manner determined by the Director, and shall not be transferred to any other vehicle.

Any order of refusal, suspension, or revocation shall set forth the proposed action and the grounds for the action in sufficient detail to allow the person adversely affected by the order to fully understand the nature of the order and the reasons for issuance.

411.5 Any person whose registration has been refused, suspended, or revoked by the Director may petition for a hearing subject to the provisions of chapter 10.

411.6 An owner or operator entering the District and housing a motor vehicle within the District shall be exempt from complying with the motor vehicle licensing and registration laws, regulations, or rules of the District for a continuous thirty (30) day period following such entry if the owner or operator meets the following requirements:

- (a) Is not a legal resident of the District; and
- (b) Is complying with the motor vehicle licensing and registration laws and regulations of any other domestic or foreign jurisdiction.

411.7 An owner or operator of a motor vehicle may extend or waive the thirty (30) day exemption period of §411.6 if the owner or operator acquires a reciprocity sticker and the owner or operator meets the following requirements:

- (a) Is not a legal resident of the District;

- (b) Is complying, and will continue to comply, with the motor vehicle licensing and registration laws and
- (c) Applies, under oath, to the Director for a reciprocity sticker; and
- (d) Pays a one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$ 125.00) fee for the reciprocity sticker; Provided, that the sticker shall not be valid for more than one hundred eighty (180) days; Provided further, that no sticker shall be issued within one (1) year of expiration date of any previous reciprocity sticker issued to the applicant under this chapter.

411.8 An owner or operator of a motor vehicle housed within the District shall be exempted from complying with the motor vehicle licensing and registration laws, regulations, or rules of the District if the owner or operator meets the following requirements:

- (a) Is not a legal resident of the District;
- (b) Is complying and will continue to comply with the motor vehicle licensing and registration laws and regulations of the domestic or foreign jurisdiction of which the person is a legal resident;

Is a member of one (1) of the following categories:

- (1) The President or Vice-President of the United States;
- (2) Members of Congress;
- (3) Officers of the Executive Branch who:
 - (A) Are appointed by the President of the United States and are subject to confirmation by the U.S. Senate; and
 - (B) Serve at the pleasure of the President of the United States;
- (4) Congressional employees who:
 - (A) Are direct and specific personal employees of a Member of Congress;
 - (B) Are legal residents, and their motor vehicles bear registration tags, of the domestic jurisdiction being represented by a Member of Congress;
 - (C) Are not staff members of a committee of the Congress; and
 - (D) Are not patronage staff;
- (5) Members of the Armed Forces of the United States;

- (6) Are legal residents of a foreign jurisdiction that grants similar reciprocity to District legal residents under an international agreement to which the United States and the jurisdiction are signatories;
 - (7) A person enrolled as a full-time student (as defined by the respective institution) at an accredited institution of higher education located within the District who meets the following requirements:
 - (A) Is not a legal resident of the District of Columbia;
 - (B) Is not employed for more than twenty (20) hours per week in the District, except that work undertaken to satisfy an education requirement shall be considered employment;
 - (C) Is not registered to vote in the District;
 - (D) Is not receiving financial aid from a financial institution located in the District;
 - (E) Is not a dependent of a taxpayer whose home is within the District for District income tax purposes; and
 - (F) Is not being billed at a District address by the educational facility in which the person is a full-time student; or
 - (8) The spouse and children of an individual who is exempt under subparagraph (c)(3) of this subsection; and
- (d) Displays on the affected motor vehicle a reciprocity sticker issued by the Department. The sticker shall be issued or renewed as follows:
- (1) Issued to or renewed at no cost to persons belonging to the categories enumerated in paragraphs (c)(1) through (c)(5) and (c)(8) of this section;
 - (2) Issued or renewed for a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$ 25.00) to the persons enumerated in paragraph (c)(6) of this section unless the international agreement creating the exemption provides otherwise;
 - (3) Issued or renewed for a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$ 25.00) to the category of persons enumerated in paragraph (c)(7) of this section;
 - (4) Valid only for a period of one (1) year; Provided, that the sticker may be renewed annually by persons who continue to satisfy the requirements of § 411.8.

(5) Void when the person is no longer a member of one (1) of the categories creating the exemption; and

(6) Not transferable.

411.9 The Director shall refuse to issue or renew a reciprocity sticker under any one (1) of the following conditions:

- (a) The owner or operator of the motor vehicle has failed to furnish the insurance information required pursuant to § 411.10;
- (b) The insurance company listed on the application forms has not complied with 26 DCMR § 503;
- (c) The insurance policy number or binder number is not in the form or manner utilized by the insurance company; or
- (d) The certificate of self-insurance listed on the application form is invalid.

411.10 The application for a reciprocity sticker shall contain space for the applicant to furnish the following information:

- (a) The name of the insurance company that will provide the applicant with a motor vehicle insurance policy;
- (b) The insurance policy number or binder number;
- (c) The applicant's signature; and
- (d) Any other information that the Director may require.

411.11 The Director shall suspend or revoke a person's registration or reciprocity sticker for any one of the following reasons:

- (a) The person has been convicted of a violation of the No-Fault Insurance Act;
- (b) The person has falsely certified to the Director that the motor vehicle is insured pursuant to the No-Fault Insurance Act.
- (c) The person operates or permits the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle;
- (d) The person possesses a current registration certificate or reciprocity sticker without possessing the motor vehicle insurance required pursuant to the No-Fault Insurance Act; or

- (e) The person has provided the Director with false or inaccurate information as requested by the Director pursuant to § 411.10 or § 413.12.

411.12 At the discretion of the Director, the suspension period shall not exceed ninety (90) days and the revocation period shall be for a period not less than six (6) months.

411.13 At the end of a period of suspension or revocation the registration certificate or reciprocity sticker shall be reissued and restored to the person suspended or revoked when the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) The person applies for the registration or the reciprocity sticker to be reissued or restored;
- (b) The person has obtained a valid and current motor vehicle insurance policy, and provided proof satisfactory thereof to the Director; and
- (c) The person has paid the reinstatement fee; Provided, that the person shall not avoid paying the reinstatement fee by applying for registration when the reciprocity sticker has been suspended or revoked or when the period of suspension or revocation has expired.

412. REFUSAL OF REGISTRATION

412.1 The Director shall refuse registration and shall withhold issuance of any application for re-registration on any of the following grounds:

- (a) If the application contains any false or fraudulent statement or if the applicant has failed to furnish required information or reasonable additional information requested by the Director or if the applicant is not entitled to the issuance of certificate or registration of the vehicle under this chapter;
- (b) If the vehicle has not been inspected as required, is unsafe or improperly equipped, or is mechanically unfit to be operated upon the highways;
- (c) If the required fee has not been paid or if a check given in payment of any fee required by this chapter has been dishonored;
- (d) If the registrant has failed to respond to any warrant issued by request of any police authority in the District as a result of any traffic or motor vehicle parking violation.
- (e) If the registrant has failed to pay a civil fine imposed pursuant to the District of Columbia Traffic Adjudication Act.
- (f) If the registrant has failed to furnish the insurance information required pursuant to § 413.12;
- (g) If the insurance company listed by the registrant is not licensed by the District of Columbia Department of Insurance;

- (h) If the insurance policy number or binder number listed by the registrant is not in the form or manner utilized by the listed insurance company; or
- (i) If the certificate of self-insurance listed by the registrant is invalid.
- (j) If the registrant has not complied with the provisions of section 619 of this Title.