CHAPTER 341
REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

SUBCHAPTER I
REGISTRATION

341.01 Words and phrases defined. (1) Words and phrases defined in s. 340.01 are used in the same sense in this chapter unless a different definition is specifically provided.

(2) In this chapter:

(a) “Former military vehicle” means a vehicle, including a trailer but excluding a tracked vehicle, that was manufactured for use in any country’s military forces.

(b) Notwithstanding s. 340.01 (42), “owner” means, with respect to a vehicle that is leased to a lessee for a period of one year or more, the lessee of the vehicle for purposes of vehicle registration under this chapter.


341.02 Subchapter applies. This subchapter applies to the registration of vehicles other than private automobiles and taxicabs.

341.03 Operational vehicle after suspension, revocation or cancellation of registration. (1) Prohibition. No person may operate or knowingly permit the operation of a motor vehicle if the registration for that vehicle is suspended, revoked or canceled under s. 285.30 (6) (d) or 342.255, ch. 344 or this chapter, or if the registration for that vehicle is suspended, canceled or revoked under the law of another jurisdiction.

(2) Penalties. (a) Any person who violates sub. (1), where the vehicle used is an automobile or any other vehicle having a gross weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, as determined by the manufacturer of the vehicle, may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(b) Any person who violates sub. (1), where the vehicle used is a vehicle not enumerated under par. (a), may be required to forfeit not more than $500.

341.04 Registration periods for private automobiles and taxicabs. (a) Real property taxes. When an automobile or taxicab is registered under this chapter, the annual registration fee shall be used as the basis for paying the real property taxes due on the automobile or taxicab.

(b) Annual registration. The registration fees described in this subdivision shall be paid annually under this chapter.

(c) Biennial registration. The registration fees described in this subdivision shall be paid biennially under this chapter.

341.05 Operating vehicle after suspension, revocation or cancellation of registration. (1) Prohibition. No person may operate or knowingly permit the operation of a motor vehicle if the registration for that vehicle is suspended, revoked or canceled under s. 285.30 (6) (d) or 342.255, ch. 344 or this chapter, or if the registration for that vehicle is suspended, canceled or revoked under the law of another jurisdiction.

(2) Penalties. (a) Any person who violates sub. (1), where the vehicle used is an automobile or any other vehicle having a gross weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, as determined by the manufacturer of the vehicle, may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(b) Any person who violates sub. (1), where the vehicle used is a vehicle not enumerated under par. (a), may be required to forfeit not more than $500.

341.06 Transfer of vehicle ownership while registration is suspended. (a) Any vehicle owner may transfer the vehicle to a subsequent owner who, if the vehicle is an automobile or any other vehicle having a gross weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, as determined by the manufacturer of the vehicle, may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(b) Any person who violates sub. (a), where the vehicle used is a vehicle not enumerated under par. (a), may be required to forfeit not more than $500.
(3) **DEFENSES.** (a) 1. It is a defense to a violation of sub. (1) that the person did not know, and had no reason to know, that the motor vehicle registration was suspended, revoked or canceled at the time of the violation.

2. Refusal to accept or failure to receive an order of suspension, revocation or cancellation mailed by the department to the person’s last-known address shall not be a defense to a violation of sub. (1). If the person has changed his or her address and fails to notify the department as required in s. 343.22, then failure to receive notice of suspension, revocation or cancellation shall not be a defense to a violation of sub. (1).

(b) This section does not apply if operating the motor vehicle was made necessary by a situation of emergency.

**History:** 1995 a. 128; 1997 a. 35; 1999 a. 30.

### 341.04 Penalty for operating unregistered or improperly registered vehicle.

Except during a state of emergency proclaimed under ch. 323:

(1) It is unlawful for any person to operate or for an owner to consent to being operated on any highway of this state any motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, or any other vehicle for which a registration fee is specifically prescribed, unless the vehicle is in operation the vehicle in question either is registered in this state, or, except for registration under s. 341.30 or 341.305, a complete application for registration, including evidence of any inspection under s. 110.20 when required, accompanied by the required fee has been delivered to the department, submitted to a dealer under s. 341.09 (2m) for transmittal to the department or deposited in the mail properly addressed with postage prepaid and, if the vehicle is an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less, the vehicle displays a temporary operation plate issued for the vehicle unless the operator or owner of the vehicle produces proof that operation of the vehicle is within 2 business days of the vehicle’s sale or transfer, or the vehicle in question is exempt from registration.

(a) A vehicle may be operated by a private person after the date of purchase of such vehicle by such private person or after the date such person moved to this state if application for registration, except for registration under s. 341.30 or 341.305, and certificate of title has been made and the person otherwise complies with any applicable requirements of this section.

(b) All vehicles subject to renewal of registration may be operated provided that application for reregistration, except for registration under s. 341.30 or 341.305, has been made.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if a vehicle is owned by a lessor of vehicles and is leased to a lessee for a period of one year or more and the vehicle was registered in the name of the lessor before January 1, 1998, the department may renew the registration in the name of the lessor in lieu of registration of the vehicle by the lessee. This paragraph does not apply to any subsequent lease of the vehicle by a lessor.

(2) Unless application for reregistration has been made as required by s. 341.32, it is unlawful for any person to operate or for the owner to consent to being operated on any highway of this state any registered vehicle the construction or use of which has been changed so as to make the vehicle subject to a higher fee than the fee at which it currently is registered or which is carrying a greater load than that permitted under the current registration.

(3) **Penalties.** (a) Any person who violates sub. (1) or (2), where the vehicle used is an automobile or any other vehicle having a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, as determined by the manufacturer of the vehicle, may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(b) Any person who violates sub. (1) or (2), where the vehicle used is a vehicle not enumerated under par. (a), may be required to forfeit not more than $500.

(c) In addition to imposing the penalty under par. (a) or (b), the court shall order the offender to make application for registration or reregistration and to pay the required fee. If 45 days have elapsed from the date of conviction and the department has not received an application for registration or reregistration and the required fee, the department shall order the offender to make application for registration or reregistration and to pay the required fee. Unless the department receives the application for registration or reregistration and the required fee within 20 days from the date of the department’s order, the department may suspend any or all registrations of the offender. Any registration suspended under this section shall remain suspended until the offender makes application for registration or reregistration and the required fee for registration is paid. For purposes of this section, the required registration or reregistration fee for residents of this state is the required annual or biennial fee, or, if the vehicle is eligible for quarterly or consecutive monthly registration, the fee required in s. 341.30 or 341.305. For purposes of this section, the required fee for a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight shall be the fee for the maximum weight for which the vehicle may be legally registered or the weight at which the vehicle was operating, whichever is greater.

**History:** 1973 c. 218; 1975 c. 351; 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (7) (a); 1977 c. 274; 1979 c. 361 s. 113; 1983 a. 469; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 288; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 9, 80, 186; 2007 a. 137; 2009 a. 42.

### 341.045 Use of registered farm trucks regulated.

A motor truck under s. 340.01 (18) (a) 1. registered as a farm truck under s. 341.26 (3) may be used for personal and family purposes if the primary use of that motor truck is for purposes specified in s. 340.01 (18) (a) 1. except that a registered farm truck may not be used in furtherance of any nonfarm occupation, trade, profession or other employment, including commuting to or from the place of such nonfarm occupation, trade, profession or employment. A motor truck under s. 340.01 (18) (a) 2. may not be used for personal and family purposes. This section does not apply to dual purpose farm trucks registered under s. 341.26 (3) (am). Any violations of this section are subject to the penalty prescribed for violations of s. 341.04 (2).

**History:** 1977 c. 29, 418; 1983 a. 227, 270; 1987 a. 399.

### 341.05 When vehicles exempt from registration.

A vehicle, even though operated upon a highway of this state, is exempt from registration if any of the following applies:

(1) The vehicle is operated in accordance with the provisions relating to registration of dealers, distributors, manufacturers, transporters or finance companies.

(2) The vehicle is operated in accordance with the provisions exempting nonresident or foreign-registered vehicles from registration.

(3) The vehicle is operated in accordance with s. 341.405.

(4) The vehicle is operated exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

(5) The vehicle is a farm truck used exclusively in agricultural operations, including threshing, or used exclusively to provide power to drive other machinery, or to transport farm personnel to job machinery driven by a farm tractor; used for special occasions such as display and parade purposes or for participation in tractor or antique vehicle clubs, including traveling to and from such events; or used for testing, maintenance, and storage purposes.

(6) The vehicle is a trailer or semitrailer used exclusively for the transportation of farm machinery, implements, produce or supplies on a farm or between farms.

(7) The vehicle is a trailer or semitrailer permanently equipped with a well-drilling outfit or designed for moving pea vines and used exclusively for either of those purposes.

(8) The vehicle is a fork-lift truck, a specially constructed road or truck tractor used for shunting trailers or semitrailers in terminal areas or a trailer that is used principally off the highway.

(9) The vehicle is a trailer, semitrailer or camping trailer equipped with a gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less and not used for hire or rental.
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(14) The vehicle is a trailer or semitrailer not operated in conjunction with a motor vehicle.

(14m) The vehicle is a new motor vehicle being operated only across a highway from its point of manufacture or assembly.

(15) The vehicle is a motor vehicle being towed, except that when the person operating the vehicle supplying the motive power is a transporter, that person must be registered as a transporter.

(16) The vehicle is a piece of road machinery.

(17) The vehicle is an implement of husbandry or an agricultural commercial motor vehicle.

(18) The vehicle is a motor truck that is operated upon a highway only when directly crossing the highway.

(19) The vehicle is a repaired salvage vehicle operated to or from a location where it is to be inspected as required by s. 342.07, or is an unregistered vehicle operated to or from a location where it is to be inspected as required by s. 110.20.

(19m) The vehicle is owned by a technical college district board, used exclusively to instruct students in techniques of automotive repair and maintenance and is operated only within 5 miles of the technical college to transport the vehicle to or from a technical college. The operator of the vehicle shall, when operating the vehicle upon a highway, carry in the vehicle a letter from the district director of the technical college stating that the vehicle is exempt from registration.

(20) The vehicle is an amphibious motor vehicle capable of carrying 10 or more passengers when used for sight-seeing purposes, registered as a boat with the department of natural resources and operated upon a highway for a distance not to exceed 5 miles.

(21) The vehicle is owned by the United States.

(22) The vehicle is registered by a federally recognized Indian band or tribe and is exempt under a reciprocal registration exemption of the department.

(23) The vehicle is a motor bicycle or bicycle, except as provided in s. 349.18.

(24) The vehicle is a golf cart being operated in accordance with s. 349.18 (1) (b) or (c) or (1m).

(25) The vehicle is a wood harvesting slasher, as defined by the department by rule, that is used principally off the highway.

(26) The vehicle is a manufactured home, as defined in s. 101.91 (2).

(27) The vehicle is an off-road utility vehicle being operated in accordance with s. 346.94 (19).

(27m) The vehicle is a lightweight utility vehicle, as defined in s. 346.94 (21) (a) 2.

(28) Notwithstanding s. 341.26 (3) (ar), the vehicle is a farm truck tractor being operated solely in intrastate transportation and is transporting manure, grain, silage, haylage, or equipment between fields or between a farm and a field at the time of operation or is being operated from its point of purchase to the operator’s farm. This subsection does not apply to transportation by a common motor carrier or contract motor carrier.

(29) The vehicle is a product delivery device.

(30) The vehicle is a snowmobile.

341.058 Electric personal assistive mobility devices. Electric personal assistive mobility devices, even though operated upon a highway of this state, are exempt from registration.

History: 2001 a. 90.

341.0585 Personal delivery devices. Personal delivery devices, even though operated upon a highway of this state, are exempt from registration.


341.059 Off-highway motorcycles. All motorcycles that are only being operated off the highways, as defined in s. 23.335 (1) (y), are not required to be registered under this chapter but shall be registered as required under s. 23.335 (3).

History: 2015 a. 170.

341.060 Optional registration. (1) The department shall register the following vehicles upon proper application therefor and payment of the required fee even though such vehicles may be exempt from registration:

(a) A trailer or semitrailer or camping trailer having a gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less and not used for hire or rental. The registration fee charged under this paragraph shall be the same as the fee under s. 341.25 (1) (gd).

(b) A vehicle owned by a nonresident and which would be subject to registration if owned by a resident. The registration fee charged shall be the same as if the vehicle were owned by a resident.

(2) A vehicle registered under authority of this section is not on that account exempt from any property tax which would be payable in the absence of such registration.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 1413, 1654 (7) (a); 1977 c. 418; 1999 a. 80.

341.067 Registration of special vehicles. The department shall register a specially designed vehicle which is authorized for operation by a person holding a special restricted operator’s license under s. 343.135 if the special vehicle meets the equipment standards established under s. 347.02 (6).

History: 1979 c. 345; Stats. 1979 s. 341.065; 1979 c. 355 s. 156; Stats. 1979 s. 341.067.

341.0675 Registration of certain vehicles. The department shall register the following vehicles, which are not required to be registered under this chapter but shall be registered under ch. 350:

(1) All-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles. All-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles are not required to be registered under this chapter but shall be registered under s. 23.33 (2) or (2g).

History: 1985 a. 29; 1997 a. 27; 2011 a. 208.

(2) A mobile air conditioner servicing device.

History: 1993 a. 16.

341.075 Mobile air conditioner servicing information. The department shall provide information concerning the requirements for servicing mobile air conditioners under s. 100.45 (4) (t) to the public.

341.08 Application for registration. (1) Application for original registration and for renewal of registration shall be made to the department upon forms prescribed by it and shall be accompanied by the required fee.

(1m) The forms for application for original registration and for renewal of registration under sub. (1) shall include the information required under s. 85.103 (2) and the applicant’s birth date.

(2) Applications for original registration of a vehicle shall contain the following information:

(a) The name and birth date of the owner.

(ag) A statement that a form on which the applicant may indicate to law enforcement officers the existence of an invisible disability is available on the department’s Internet site and at local examining centers. The department shall make available on its Internet site and at each local examining center a separate form on which an applicant may indicate that he or she has a disability that may not be immediately apparent to another. The form shall include the following statement together with a set of check boxes allowing a person to indicate that the person wishes to disclose the condition indicated by the check box. “I have an invisible disability that I wish to disclose to law enforcement officers and that may include:

Appears deaf or unable to understand.

Has difficulty speaking or communicating.

Engages in repetitive or self-stimulating behaviors such as rocking or hand flapping.

Appears anxious, nervous, or upset.

Becomes agitated due to physical contact or stressful situations.

Acts indifferent or unresponsive.

Other (provide brief description).”

The department shall inform the applicant that an indication under this paragraph will be available to law enforcement officers and employees of the department.

(am) If the owner under par. (a) is a lessee, the name and birth date of the lessor.

(b) The name of the town, city or village in which the owner resides and, if the owner resides in a city of the first or second class, the owner’s true residential or business address.

(bm) If applicable, the name of the town, city or village in which the lessor resides and, if the lessor resides in a 1st or 2nd class city, the lessor’s true residential or business address.

(c) A description of the vehicle, including make, model, color, identification number and any other information which the department may reasonably require for proper identification of the vehicle. An application for a motorcycle or for a vehicle registered at a gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds is not required to include the vehicle color in the description of the vehicle.

(cm) A place for the applicant to indicate whether the color of the vehicle being registered has changed from the color specified on the certificate of registration and, if so, the new color.

(d) The city, village or town and the county in which the vehicle is customarily kept.

(e) Such further information as the department may reasonably require to enable it to determine whether the vehicle is by law entitled to registration or to enable it to determine the proper applicant or registration fee for the vehicle.

(f) If the application is for registration of a vehicle under s. 341.14 (6m), an opportunity for the applicant to identify himself or herself as a member or former member of a Wisconsin national guard unit identified by the department of military affairs under s. 341.14 (6m) (d) 5.

(3) The department may accept an application and complete registration of a vehicle when the evidence of ownership is held by a nonresident lienholder or for other reason is not immediately available and the department is satisfied as to ownership of the vehicle. The title fee shall be collected at the time of registration and retained even though certificate of title is not issued.

(4) Applications for renewal of registration shall contain the information required in sub. (2) for original applications or such parts thereof as the department deems necessary to assure the proper registration of the vehicle. The department may require that applications for renewal of registration be accompanied by the certificate of title issued for the vehicle only when the true ownership or proper registration of the vehicle is in doubt and cannot be resolved from records maintained by the department.

(4m) At least 30 days prior to the expiration of a vehicle’s registration, the department shall mail to the last-known address of the registrant a notice of the date upon which the registration must be renewed and an application form for renewal of registration. The application form or an accompanying document shall include a list of any unpaid citations for nonmoving traffic violations or any judgments for violation of chs. 110, 194, or 341 to 350, an administrative rule of the department, or an ordinance enacted in accordance with s. 349.06, including parking violations, and of any unpaid towing and storage charges associated with nonmoving traffic violations entered against the registrant that remain unpaid. The list of unpaid citations for nonmoving traffic violations and of unpaid towing and storage charges associated with nonmoving traffic violations shall be based on information obtained under s. 345.28 (4). The list of unpaid judgments shall be based on information obtained under s. 345.47 (1) (d). If there is a citation for any nonmoving traffic violation entered against the registrant that is unpaid, he or she shall be notified that the vehicle may not be registered until the citation is paid or the registrant appears in court to respond to the citation. If there are any towing and storage charges entered against the registrant that are unpaid, he or she shall be notified that the vehicle may not be registered until such towing and storage charges are paid. If there is a judgment entered against the registrant which is unpaid, he or she shall be notified that the vehicle may not be registered until the judgment is paid.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 128, Wis. adm. code.

(5) The department shall supply the several county clerks with blank application forms for original registration of vehicles.

(6) If the applicant for a certificate of registration is under 18 years of age, the application shall be accompanied by a statement made and signed by either of the applicant’s parents, if such parent has custody of the minor; or if neither parent has custody, then by the person having custody, stating that the applicant has the signer’s consent to register the vehicle in the applicant’s name. The signature on the statement shall not impute any liability for the negligence or misconduct of the applicant while operating such motor vehicle on the highways. Any person who violates this section may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(7) A vehicle’s registration does not expire on the date of expiration of registration under ss. 341.25 to 341.36 if, on that date of expiration, the registrant is on active duty in the U.S. armed forces and is absent from this state or is a member of the U.S. foreign service appointed under 22 USC 3942 (a) (1) or 3943 who is on active duty and is absent from this state. Any registration extended pursuant to this subsection expires 30 days after the registrant returns to this state or 90 days after the registrant is discharged from active duty, whichever is earlier. If a registration is renewed after an extension under this subsection, the renewal period shall begin on the day after the date of expiration of registration.

(8) (a) The department shall maintain a record of applicants who file a form under sub. (2) (ag). In the event of a request of a law enforcement officer or other appropriate person, as determined by the department, for application information, the department shall examine its record of applicants who have indicated a disability that may not be immediately apparent to another and shall advise the law enforcement officer or other person as to whether the applicant is recorded as a person who has indicated

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a disability that may not be immediately apparent to another and as to any condition that has been disclosed under sub. (2) (ag).

(b) Upon request by a person, the department shall remove any information related to that person from the record under par. (a).

341.085 Registration of ambulances. (1) The department shall inspect all ambulances prior to issuing an original or renewal registration to determine that the vehicles meet requirements specified by law or administrative rule as to specifications, medical equipment, supplies and sanitation.

(2) The department may adopt rules necessary for administration of this section and prescribe ambulance service equipment and standards thereof, except that any ambulance which does not conform to rules adopted by the department may be used until December 30, 1979.

341.09 Temporary operation permits and plates. (1) (a) The department shall issue temporary operation plates as provided under subs. (2), (2m) and (9) and may issue a temporary operation permit or plate for an unregistered vehicle as otherwise provided under this section. Except as provided in par. (b), the permits or plates shall contain the date of expiration and sufficient information to identify the vehicle for which and the person to whom it is issued. The department may place the information identifying the vehicle and the person to whom the permit or plate is issued on a separate form. Except as provided in subs. (3) to (5), a temporary operation plate issued under this section is valid for a period of 90 days or until the applicant receives the regular registration plates, whichever occurs first.

(b) The department shall specify by rule the size, color, design, form and specifications of temporary operation plates issued under sub. (2m) or (9) for an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less, and the system to be used to identify the date of issuance of such plates. All temporary operation plates issued under sub. (2m) or (9) for an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less shall contain a registration number composed of letters or numbers.

(c) Notwithstanding subs. (2m) (a) 1. b., a dealer may collect a special handling fee of not more than $5 if the dealer provides special assistance to a person who is applying for a temporary operation permit or plate under sub. (2m) (a) 1. b.

(1m) The department may issue a temporary operation plate for a motorcycle under sub. (8). The plate shall contain the date of expiration and sufficient information to identify the motorcycle for which and the person to whom it is issued.

(2) (a) Upon request therefor by a person who has made a verifiable application for registration and paid the registration fee, the department shall issue a temporary operation permit or plate if it appears that the person would otherwise be unable to lawfully operate the vehicle permitting receipt of the registration plates.

(b) If the department is not able to verify that an application has been submitted, the department may issue a temporary operation permit or plate if it is satisfied as to the ownership of the vehicle and the applicant submits another application with all fees normally required to title and register the vehicle. The fee paid under this paragraph shall be refunded upon completion of processing of the original application.

(d) The department may issue temporary operation plates for use on any vehicle except buses, for-hire vehicles and vehicles which are subject to registration under the international registration plan if the state is a party to such plan. The department shall determine the size, color, design, form and specifications of the plate. The department shall charge a fee of $3 for each temporary operation plate issued under this subsection.

(e) Sections 341.13 and 341.14 do not apply to plates issued under this subsection.

(f) Nothing in this subsection requires a person who has complied with s. 341.04 (1) to obtain a temporary operation plate under this subsection.

(g) A temporary operation plate may not be issued under this subsection to a state resident for use on an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less.

(2m) (a) 1. Upon request by a dealer licensed in this state, the department may issue any number of temporary operation plates and temporary permits to a dealer under sub. (2) at a fee of $3 per item. The dealer may issue the temporary operation plate or permit at a fee of $3 to any of the following:

a. Except as provided in subd. 2., a resident who purchases or leases from the dealer any type of vehicle except buses, for-hire vehicles and vehicles which are subject to registration under the international registration plan if the state is a party to such plan, for use on such vehicle.

b. A state resident who purchases or leases an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less from a person other than the dealer for use on such vehicle if the state resident submits to the dealer a complete application for registration of the vehicle, including evidence of any inspection under s. 110.20 when required, and for a new certificate of title for a purchased vehicle, together with a check or money order made payable to the department for all applicable title, registration, security interest and sales tax moneys, for transmittal to the department by the dealer.

2. Notwithstanding subd. 1., the department shall issue a sufficient number of temporary operation plates and temporary permits without charge to each dealer licensed in this state for issuance under this subdivision. Each dealer shall issue a temporary operation permit or a temporary permit without charge to any state resident who purchases or leases from the dealer an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less, for use on such vehicle if the state resident submits to the dealer a complete application for registration of the vehicle, including evidence of inspection under s. 110.20 when required, and for a new certificate of title for a purchased vehicle, together with a check or money order made payable to the department for all applicable title, registration, security interest and sales tax moneys, for transmittal to the department by the dealer.

3. The department shall prescribe the manner in which a dealer shall keep records of temporary operation plates and temporary permits issued by the dealer.

(d) If the department determines that a dealer has misused plates or permits issued under this subsection or sub. (4) or has failed to comply with the requirements of this section or rules issued under this section, the department may order the dealer to return all temporary operation plates and permits in the dealer’s possession. Within 30 days after the issuance of the order, the dealer may request a hearing before the division of hearings and appeals. The division of hearings and appeals shall schedule a hearing with reasonable promptness. The dealer may not issue any temporary operation plates or permits until after the decision of hearings and appeals holds its scheduled hearing and issues its findings.

(3) Upon application to the department by a person engaged in the active military service of the United States or its allies or who is a member of the U.S. foreign service appointed under 22 USC 3942 (a) (1) or 3943 who is on active duty and upon satisfactory proof of the active military or foreign service status of the applicant and of being granted a furlough, the department shall issue to the applicant without charge a temporary operation plate that authorizes the applicant to operate any vehicle owned or designated by the applicant without registration of the vehicle. The
plate is valid only while the applicant is on furlough and for a period not to exceed 30 days. The department shall determine the size, color, design, form, and specifications of a plate issued under this subsection. The plate may be similar or identical to a plate issued under sub. (2).

(4) Upon receipt of an application and a fee of $3, the department shall register a vehicle purchased or leased in this state by a nonresident for a period not to exceed 30 days. The department shall determine the size, color, design, form and specifications of a plate issued under this subsection. The plate may be similar or identical to a plate issued under sub. (2). The department may issue the plates to dealers at a fee of $3 per plate in the manner and for the purpose provided in sub. (2m).

(5) The department may issue a temporary operation permit or plate which is valid for a period of 30 days upon request of the owner of a vehicle which is subject to the inspection required by s. 110.20 (6). The department shall charge a fee of $3 for each temporary operation permit or plate issued under this subsection. The department shall determine the size, color, design, form and specification of the plate.

(6) The department may, in instances of special transportation need as determined by the department, issue a trip permit which is valid for a 72-hour period to the owner or operator of a vehicle which is eligible for quarterly registration under s. 341.30 or consecutive monthly registration under s. 341.305. The fee for the trip permit shall be not less than $15. The secretary may waive the fee for the trip permit if the secretary determines that waiver is appropriate under the circumstances.

(7) The owner of a special interest vehicle registered under s. 341.266 (2) (a) or a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle registered under s. 341.268 (2) (a), upon payment of a fee of $5 and application to the department, be issued a permit for operation of the vehicle for a period not to exceed 5 consecutive days during the month of January. The permit shall be valid only in the calendar year for which the permit is issued. The department shall prescribe the form of the application and permit and the manner in which the permit shall be displayed. The owner may be issued additional permits in subsequent years upon application and payment of the required fee.

(8) The department may issue a temporary operation plate to a person who is eligible for the issuance of a special plate for a motorcycle under s. 341.14 (1e) if the department determines that the person’s disability is temporary. The plate shall contain the information specified in sub. (1m) and comply with s. 341.13 (2m), if applicable. The plate shall otherwise be similar to or identical to plates issued under s. 341.14 (1e). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance of a plate under this subsection.

(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department shall issue a temporary operation plate or a temporary permit without charge for an automobile or motor truck having a registered weight of 8,000 pounds or less upon receipt of a complete application accompanied by the required fee for registration of the vehicle, including evidence of any inspection under s. 110.20 when required, if the department does not immediately issue the regular registration plates for the vehicle and the department determines that the applicant has not otherwise been issued a temporary operation plate or a temporary permit under this section.


Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 132, Wis. adm. code.

341.10 Grounds for refusing registration. The department shall refuse registration of a vehicle under any of the following circumstances:

(1) The required state fee and any municipal vehicle registration fee imposed by the town, village or city in which the vehicle is customarily kept has not been paid for the specific vehicle, and the department may refuse registration of a vehicle if such fees for the current period or for any previous period for which payment of a registration fee is required by law have not been paid on any other vehicles owned by the applicant for registration.

(2) The applicant has failed to furnish any of the following: (a) If applicable, the power of attorney required under 15 USC 1988 or rules of the department.

(b) Unless exempted by rule of the department, the mileage disclosure from the most recent titled owner and of all subsequent nontitled owners of the vehicle.

(c) Other information or documents required by law or by the department pursuant to authority of law.

(3) A certificate of title is a prerequisite to registration of the vehicle and, except for an applicant who is the lessee of a vehicle, a valid certificate of title has not been issued to the applicant for the vehicle and the applicant is not entitled to the issuance of a certificate of title.

(4) The applicant’s registration has been suspended or revoked and such suspension or revocation is still in effect.

(5) The vehicle is exempt from registration under this chapter and voluntary registration of the vehicle is not expressly authorized.

(6) The vehicle was manufactured after 1969 and does not meet manufacturer or importer certification label requirements as specified in 49 CFR 567 or the vehicle is a Kei class vehicle. This subsection does not apply to former military vehicles, historic military vehicles, as defined in s. 341.269 (1) (a), for which the department receives an application, and which are eligible, for registration under s. 341.269, or special interest vehicles, as defined in s. 341.266 (1) (c), for which the department receives an application, and which are eligible, for registration under s. 341.266.

(7) A court has notified the department under s. 345.47 (1) (d) that a judgment has been entered against the applicant and the judgment remains unpaid.

(7m) An authority has notified the department under s. 345.28 (4) that a citation for a nonmoving traffic violation has been issued against the applicant and the applicant has not paid the citation or appeared in court to respond to the citation or that the applicant has not paid towing and storage charges associated with a citation for a nonmoving traffic violation issued against the applicant.

(7r) A city has notified the department under s. 345.285 (2) (b) 1. that one or more citations for nonmoving traffic violations have been issued against the applicant and the applicant has not paid the citations or appeared in court to respond to the citations.

(8) The vehicle is not eligible for registration under s. 285.30 (6).

(10) The vehicle requires inspection under s. 110.20 (6) and any of the following applies:

(a) The vehicle has not been inspected.

(b) The most recent inspection of the vehicle under s. 110.20 (6) indicates noncompliance unless the department has issued a temporary operating permit under s. 110.20 (10) (b) or a waiver of compliance under s. 110.20 (13).

(c) The most recent inspection of the vehicle under s. 110.20 (6) involved a violation of s. 110.20 (11) (c).

(11) The applicant has failed to furnish proof of payment, in the form prescribed by the U.S. secretary of the treasury, that the federal heavy vehicle use tax imposed by section 4481 of the internal revenue code has been paid.

(12) The vehicle is required to be inspected under s. 110.063 (2) and any of the following applies:

(a) The vehicle has not been inspected.

(b) The most recent inspection of the vehicle indicates noncompliance with ss. 110.063 and 110.075, ch. 347 or rules promulgated under those sections or ch. 347.
(14) The vehicle has a mobile air conditioner, as defined in s. 100.45 (1) (b), the distribution of which in this state would be prohibited under s. 100.45 (2).

(15) The vehicle is required to be inspected under s. 110.05 and any of the following applies:

(a) The vehicle has not been inspected.

(b) The most recent inspection of the vehicle indicates non-compliance with ss. 110.05 and 110.075 or ch. 347 or rules promulgated under those sections or ch. 347.

(16) The applicant has applied for registration under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405 and, in the registration application, the applicant has identified as the motor carrier responsible for the safety of the motor vehicle to be registered a motor carrier for which the department has received notice that the motor carrier is subject to a federal out-of-service order for unsatisfactory safety compliance. This subsection does not prohibit the applicant from registering the motor vehicle under any applicable provision of this chapter other than s. 341.405.

(17) The applicant has applied for registration under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405 and the motor vehicle for which application is made has been identified by the federal motor carrier safety administration as having been assigned for safety to a motor carrier whose business is operated, managed, or otherwise controlled or affiliated with a person that has been issued a federal out-of-service order for unsatisfactory safety compliance. This subsection does not prohibit the applicant from registering the motor vehicle under any applicable provision of this chapter other than s. 341.405.


341.11 Contents, issuance and display of certificate of registration; issuance of duplicate certificate. (1) Except as provided in sub. (2) the department upon registering a vehicle shall issue and deliver to the owner a certificate of registration. The certificate shall contain the name, residence and address of the owner; a brief description of the vehicle, including its color; the registration number assigned; and the date of expiration of registration. The certificate shall be in such form and may contain such additional information as the department deems advisable. A certificate for a motorcycle or for a vehicle registered at a gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds is not required to include the vehicle color in the description of the vehicle.

(2) Whenever a certificate of registration is issued upon registration of a motor truck or truck tractor by a certificated or licensed carrier in accordance with s. 341.07, the certificate shall show that the vehicle is registered in the name of ...., owner, ...., lessee, and shall be delivered to the applicant.

(3) The department shall issue a duplicate certificate of registration upon application therefor by any person in whose name the vehicle is registered and upon payment of a fee of $2.

(4) In the case of a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight for which special registration plates have been issued under s. 341.14 (2), (6), (6m) or (6r) or for which personalized registration plates have been issued under s. 341.145, or any motor bus, motor home, dual purpose motor home, motor truck, truck tractor, or truck bus or truck tractor, the certificate of registration shall be displayed in a prominent place in the driver’s compartment of the vehicle to which the certificate refers. Any person who operates and any person in whose name the vehicle is registered who consents to the operation of any such vehicle without the certificate of registration being so displayed may be required to forfeit not more than $200.


341.12 Design, procurement and issuance of registration plates. (1) The department upon registering a vehicle pursuant to s. 341.25 or 341.30 shall issue and deliver prepaid to the applicant 2 registration plates for an automobile, motor truck, motor bus, school bus, motor home, or dual purpose motor home and one plate for other vehicles. The department upon registering a vehicle pursuant to any other section shall issue one plate unless the department determines that 2 plates will better serve the interests of law enforcement.

(2) The department shall purchase plates from the Waupun Correctional Institution unless otherwise approved by the governor. Subject to any specific requirements which may be imposed by statute, the department shall determine the size, color and design of registration plates with a view toward making them visible evidence of the period for which the vehicle is registered and the fee class into which the vehicle falls as well as making them a ready means of identifying the specific vehicle or owner for which the plates were issued.

(3) All registration plates shall have displayed upon them the following:

(a) The registration number assigned to the vehicle or owner. The registration number shall be composed of numbers or letters or both.

(b) The name “Wisconsin” or abbreviation “Wis.”.

(c) An indication of the period for which the specific plate is issued or the date of expiration of registration.

(4) (a) All registration plates issued under s. 341.25 (1) (a) and for motor trucks having a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds shall be treated with a reflectorized material or substance. The department shall prescribe the term for the use of reflectorized plates.

(b) The department, in conjunction with the department of corrections and the department of administration, shall establish the specifications for the reflectorized material and invite bids for supplying reflectorized material. The department of administration shall establish a date for the opening of such bids and shall award the contract for supplying reflectorized material to the lowest responsible bidder. The specifications shall be drawn up for each base plate year.

History: 1971 c. 164 ss. 71, 83; 1975 c. 136; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1415, 1654 (7) (a); 1977 c. 418 s. 924 (18) (a); 1979 c. 34; 1989 a. 31; 1993 a. 16; 1999 a. 9; 2007 a. 11.

341.13 Additional specifications for design of certain plates. (1) In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), registration plates for automobiles registered pursuant to the registration system under s. 341.27, except automobiles registered under s. 341.14 (6r) or 341.145 (1) (c), shall comply with the following specifications:

(a) The words “America’s Dairyland” shall be displayed across either the lower or upper portion of the plate at the discretion of the secretary.

(b) A 3-letter abbreviation for the month of registration and the year of registration shall be displayed in symbols.

(2) In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), the registration plates for a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight except a dual purpose motor home or a motor home, motor truck, farm truck, or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (6m), or (6r) or 341.145 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) or a motor truck or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (6) shall indicate the weight class into which the vehicle falls in a manner prescribed by the department. The gross weight which determines the registration fee for a dual purpose motor home or a motor home, motor truck, farm truck, or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (6m), or (6r) or 341.145 (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) or a motor truck or dual purpose farm truck registered under s. 341.14 (6) shall be shown on its certificate of registration.

(2m) A registration plate issued for a motorcycle shall have a white background and black lettering and shall be 4 inches by 7 inches in size.

(2r) In addition to the matter specified in s. 341.12 (3), the registration plates for a vehicle registered under s. 341.14 (6e) (f) 32.
shall display the words “combat−wounded veteran.” The department shall specify one combination of colors and design for a plate issued under s. 341.14 (6r)(f) 32., except that the department may not specify the colors or design unless the colors and design are approved in writing by the department of veterans affairs.

(3) In lieu of issuing a new plate upon each renewal of registration of a vehicle, the department may issue one insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration. The designs for registration plates shall be provided by the department and used only if the outstanding plate is in suitable condition for further usage. A decal shall be displayed as provided in s. 341.15 (1m).

(4) A specially designed vehicle which is authorized for operation under s. 343.135 (12) (a) 2. shall bear a tag, decal or other identification issued by the department to indicate that the vehicle may be subject to special equipment standards under s. 347.02 (6) and that the vehicle may be operated only by a person authorized to do so under s. 343.135 (2) (b).


341.135 Rebasign registration plates. At intervals determined by the department, the department shall establish new designs of registration plates to be issued under ss. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (2m), (6m), and (6r), 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), and (j) and (2) (a), (b), and (c), and 341.26 (2) and (3) (a) 1. and (am).

Any design for registration plates issued for automobiles and for vehicles registered on the basis of gross weight shall comply with the applicable design requirements of ss. 341.12 (3), 341.13, and 341.14 (6r) (c). The designs for registration plates specified in this section shall be so selected as in appearance as practicable during each design interval. Except as provided in ss. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1m), (1q), (2), (2m), (6m), or (6r), 341.25 (1) (a), (c), (h), and (j) or (2) (a), (b), or (c), or 341.26 (2) or (3) (a) 1. or (am) during each design interval shall be of the design established under this section. The department may not redesign registration plates for the special groups under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 53., 54., or 55. until July 1, 2010. Notwithstanding s. 341.13 (3), as the department establishes new designs for registration plates under this section, the department shall, at the time determined appropriate by the department, issue registration plates of the new design to replace registration plates previously issued. This section does not apply to special group plates under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 19m., 33m., and 48m.


341.14 Application for and issuance of special plates. The department shall issue special plates as specified in this section under the following circumstances:

(1) If any resident of this state who is registering or has registered an automobile, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds or a motor home submits a statement once every 4 years, as determined by the department, from the U.S. department of veterans affairs certifying to the department that the resident is a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the department shall procure, issue and deliver to the disabled person a plate of a special design in lieu of plates which ordinarily would be issued for the vehicle, and shall renew the plates.

Addition to the registration fee shall be made for the issuance or renewal of such plates. (1a) If any resident of this state, who is registering or has registered an automobile, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds or a motor home, submits a statement once every 4 years, as determined by the department, from a physician licensed to practice medicine in any state, from an advanced practice nurse licensed to practice nursing in any state, from a public health nurse certified or licensed to practice in any state, from a podiatrist licensed to practice in any state, or from a Christian Science practitioner residing in this state and listed in the Christian Science journal certifying to the department that the resident is a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the department shall procure, issue and deliver to the disabled person plates of a special design in lieu of plates which ordinarily would be issued for the vehicle, and shall renew the plates. The plates shall be so designed as to readily apprise law enforcement officers of the fact that the vehicle is owned by a nonveteran disabled person and is entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee shall be made for the issuance or renewal of such plates.

(1e) (a) If any resident of this state, who is registering or has registered a motorcycle, submits a statement once every 4 years, as determined by the department, from a physician licensed to practice medicine in any state, from an advanced practice nurse licensed to practice nursing in any state, from a public health nurse certified or licensed to practice in any state, from a physician assistant licensed or certified to practice in any state, from a podiatrist licensed to practice in any state, from a chiropractor licensed to practice chiropractic in any state, from a Christian Science practitioner residing in this state and listed in the Christian Science journal, or from the U.S. department of veterans affairs certifying to the department that the resident is a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the department shall procure, issue and deliver to the disabled person a plate of a special design in lieu of the plate which ordinarily would be issued for the motorcycle, and shall renew the plate. The statement shall state whether the disability is permanent or temporary and, if temporary, the opinion of the physician, advanced practice nurse, public health nurse, physician assistant, podiatrist, chiropractor, practitioner, or U.S. department of veterans affairs as to the duration of the disability. The plate shall be so designed as to readily apprise law enforcement officers of the fact that the motorcycle is owned by a disabled person and is entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance or renewal of the plate.

(b) If the department determines that the disability of a person submitting a statement under par. (a) is temporary, a temporary operation plate may be issued to the person under s. 341.09 (8). A plate issued under s. 341.09 (8) shall be considered a special registration plate issued under this subsection for purposes of s. 346.50 (2a) and (3), 346.503 (1), 346.505 (2), 349.13 (1m) or 349.145.

(1m) If any licensed driver submits to the department a statement once every 4 years, as determined by the department, from a physician licensed to practice medicine in any state, from a public health nurse certified or licensed to practice in any state, from an advanced practice nurse licensed to practice nursing in any state, from a physician assistant licensed or certified to practice in any state, from a podiatrist licensed to practice in any state, from a chiropractor licensed to practice chiropractic in any state, or from a Christian Science practitioner residing in this state and listed in the Christian Science journal certifying that another person who is regularly dependent on the licensed driver for transportation is a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability
ity to walk, the department shall issue and deliver to the licensed driver plates of a special design in lieu of the plates which ordinarily would be issued for the automobile or motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck having a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, farm truck having a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds or motor home, and shall renew the plates. The plates shall be so designed as to readily apprise law enforcement officers of the fact that the vehicle is operated by a licensed driver on whom a disabled person is regularly dependent and is entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance or renewal of the plates. The plates shall conform to the plates required in sub. (1a).

(1a) If any employer who provides an automobile, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds or a motor home, for an employee’s use submits to the department a statement once every 4 years, as determined by the department, from a person licensed to practice medicine in any state, from an advanced practice nurse licensed to practice nursing in any state, from a public health nurse certified or licensed to practice in any state, from a person licensed or certified to practice in any state, from a person licensed to practice chiropractic in any state, or from a Christian Science practitioner residing in this state and listed in the Christian Science journal certifying that the employee is a person with a disability that limits or impairs the ability to walk, the department shall issue and deliver to such employer plates of a special design in lieu of the plates which ordinarily would be issued for the vehicle, and shall renew the plates. The plates shall be so designed as to readily apprise law enforcement officers of the fact that the vehicle is operated by a disabled person and is entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance or renewal of the plates. The plates shall conform to the plates required in sub. (1a).

(2) Upon compliance with the laws relating to registration of automobiles and motor homes; motor trucks, dual purpose motor homes, and dual purpose farm trucks which have a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds; and farm trucks which have a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, including payment of the prescribed registration fees therefor plus an additional fee of $15 when registration plates are issued accompanied by an application showing satisfactory proof that the applicant is the holder of an expired amateur radio station license issued by the federal communications commission, the department shall issue registration plates on which, in lieu of the usual registration number, shall be inscribed in large legible form the call letters of such applicant as assigned by the federal communications commission. The fee for reissuance of a plate under this subsection shall be $15.

(2m) Upon compliance with laws relating to registration of motor vehicles, including payment of the prescribed fee, and an additional fee of $15 when the original or new registration plates are issued and accompanied by an application showing satisfactory proof that the applicant has a collector’s identification number and is entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance or renewal of the plates. The plates shall be so designed as to readily apprise law enforcement officers of the fact that the vehicle is operated by a person entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance or renewal of the plates. The plates shall conform to the plates required in sub. (1a).

(3) Upon request therefor by the state or a county or municipality or federally recognized Indian tribe or band which is registering a vehicle owned by it and to be used in law enforcement work, to be used by investigators for the office of the state public defender or to be used for operation under s. 20.916 (7), the department shall issue the same type of registration plate as it would issue for a privately owned vehicle of the same type in lieu of the type of plate it ordinarily would issue for a vehicle owned by the state or by a county or municipality or Indian tribe or band. This subsection does not affect the registration fee to be charged.

(4) For antique motor vehicles as specified in s. 341.265. The special plate for an antique motorcycle under this subsection shall be the same size as the usual registration plate for a motorcycle that is not an antique motorcycle.

(4m) For special interest vehicles as specified in s. 341.266.

(4r) For reconstructed, replica, street modified, and home-made vehicles as specified in s. 341.268.

(4u) For historic military vehicles as specified in s. 341.269. The special plate for a historic military vehicle that is a motorcycle shall be the same size as the usual registration plate for a motorcycle that is not a historic military vehicle.

(5) Upon application by any person awarded the congressional medal of honor and submission of proper proof thereof, the department shall issue special plates so designed as to indicate such award. No charge whatever shall be made for the issuance of such plates from a person who is entitled to the parking privileges specified in s. 346.50 (2a). No charge in addition to the registration fee may be made for the issuance or renewal of the plates. The plates shall conform to the plates required in sub. (1a).

(c) A person who maintains no more than one registration under this subsection at one time shall not be charged a fee for registration of the vehicle or issuance of the plates.

(d) For each additional vehicle, a person who maintains more than one registration under this subsection at one time shall be charged a fee of $15 for issuance or reissuance of the plates in addition to the annual registration fee for the vehicle. Except as provided in par. (c), a motor truck or dual purpose farm truck registered under this subsection shall be registered under this paragraph.

(6m) (a) Upon application to register an automobile or a motor home, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home, or dual purpose farm truck that has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds by any person who was a member of any of the U.S. armed services and who was held as a prisoner of war during a war period, as defined in s. 45.01 (13), or while in service in a crisis zone, as defined in s. 45.01 (11), and upon submission of a statement from the U.S. department of veterans affairs certifying that the person was a prisoner of war during a war period, as defined in s. 45.01 (13), or while in service in a crisis zone, as defined in s. 45.01 (11), the department shall issue to the person a special plate that is colored red, white, and blue and that has the words “ex–prisoner of war” placed on the plate in the manner designated by the department.

(6p) (a) Upon application to register an automobile or a motor home, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home, or dual purpose farm truck that has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, or a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, by any person who is a resident of this state and a member or retired member of the national guard, the department shall issue to the person special plates whose colors and design shall be determined by the department and which have the words “Wisconsin guard member” placed on the plates in the manner designated by the department. The department shall consult with or obtain the approval of the adjutant general with respect to any word or symbol used to identify the national guard. An additional fee of $15 shall be charged for the issuance or reissuance of the plates. Registration plates issued under this subsection shall expire annually.

(b) Except as provided in par. (c), if an individual in possession of special plates under this subsection or of personalized plates under s. 341.145 (1) (b) does not maintain membership in the national guard during a year which is not a plate issuance year, the individual shall dispose of the special plates in a manner prescribed by the department.
(c) Paragraph (b) does not apply to an individual who is a retired member of the national guard.

(d) 1. If an applicant for initial issuance of special plates under this subsection identifies himself or herself in the application as a member or former member of a Wisconsin national guard unit identified by the department of military affairs under subd. 5., the department shall provide to the applicant, to be affixed to one of the plates issued under this subsection, a decal that includes a symbol associated with the unit of which the applicant is or was a member and instructions for placement of the decal on the special plate.

2. Upon receiving any application for renewal of registration of a vehicle for which special plates have been issued under this subsection, if the applicant identifies himself or herself in the application as a member or former member of a Wisconsin national guard unit identified by the department of military affairs under subd. 5. and if the department has not previously provided a decal under subd. 1. or 3., the department shall provide a decal described in subd. 1. to the applicant, with instructions for placement of the decal on one of the special plates.

3. Notwithstanding subd. 2., upon receiving any application for renewal of registration of a vehicle for which special plates have been issued under this subsection, if the applicant identifies himself or herself in the application as a member or former member of a Wisconsin national guard unit identified by the department of military affairs under subd. 5. and if the department is required under s. 341.135 to issue new registration plates for the vehicle, the department shall provide to the applicant, to be affixed to one of these plates, a decal described in subd. 1. and instructions for placement of the decal on the plate.

4. This paragraph applies to personalized registration plates issued under s. 341.145 (1) (a).

5. The department of military affairs shall, by rule, identify each Wisconsin national guard unit for which a decal is available under this paragraph.

6. The department shall charge a fee of $20 for each decal provided to an applicant under this paragraph.

(6r) (a) In this subsection and s. 341.145 (1) (c):
1. “Authorized special group” means a special group enumerated in par. (f) or designated by the department under par. (fm).
2. “Immediate family member” means a spouse, grandparent, parent, sibling, child, stepchild, stepparent, or grandchild, or the spouse of a grandparent, parent, sibling, child, stepchild, stepparent, or grandchild.

(b) 1. Subject to subd. 1m., upon application to register an automobile or motor home, or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds or a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, by any person who is a resident of this state and a member of an authorized special group, or with respect to an authorized special group designated under par. (fm) that includes the statement under par. (fm) 2., interested in supporting the authorized special group, the department shall issue to the person special plates whose colors and design shall indicate that the vehicle is owned by a person who is a member, or if applicable a supporter, of the applicable special group. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 55., 60., or 61 r. until 6 months after the department has received information sufficient for the department to determine that any approvals required for use of any logo, trademark, trade name or other commercial symbol have been obtained. Subject to subs. (9) (d), (10) (d), (11) (d), (11m) (d), (12) (d), (13) (d), and (14) (d), the department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 61 m., 63., 65., or 65 m. to 68. until the department has received information sufficient for the department to determine that any license or other approval required for use of any logo, trademark or service mark, trade name or other commercial symbol to be used on or in association with these plates has been obtained.

1m. a. Upon receipt of contributions totaling an amount equal to the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 61. or $11,800, whichever is less, from Marquette University or other persons interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 61., the department shall commence any development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 61. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within 6 months of its commencement. The development work under this subd. 1m. a. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from contributions received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. a. If the department does not receive, by June 30, 2017, sufficient contributions to commence development work under this subd. 1m. a., the department may not commence development work under this subd. 1m. a. and shall promptly return to each contributor all contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than $2.50 per contributor for costs associated with the return of contributions, received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. a. if the department receives contributions in excess of the amount necessary to commence development work under this subd. 1m. b. and promptly return to each contributor all contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than $2.50 per contributor for costs associated with the return of contributions, received by the department after the department had received sufficient contributions. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. a. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 61. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. a.

b. Upon receipt of contributions totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 63. or $23,700, whichever is less, from persons interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 63., the department shall commence any development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 63. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 63. The development work under this subd. 1m. b. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from contributions received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. b. If the department does not receive, by June 30, 2017, sufficient contributions to commence development work under this subd. 1m. b., the department may not commence development work under this subd. 1m. b. and shall promptly return to each contributor all contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than $2.50 per contributor for costs associated with the return of contributions, received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. b. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 63. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. b.

c. Upon receipt of a contribution totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 65. or $23,700, whichever is less, from any person or group interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 65., the department shall commence any development work necessary to implement the provisions of par.
(f) 65. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 65. The development work under this subd. 1m. c. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from the contribution received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. c. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. c. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 65. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. c.

c. Upon receipt of a contribution totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 65m. or $23,700, whichever is less, from any person or group interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 65m., the department shall commence development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 65m. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 65m. The development work under this subd. 1m. cm. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from the contribution received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. cm. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. cm. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 65m. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. cm. If, in the 3rd year beginning after special group plates under par. (f) 65m. are first issued, or any 3rd year thereafter, the department receives, in the calendar year, fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall inform Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer that the special group plates will be discontinued if fewer than 500 applications are received in the following year. If, in that following calendar year, the department receives fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall cease issuing special group plates under par. (f) 65m.

d. Upon receipt of contributions totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 62. or $23,700, whichever is less, from persons interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 62., the department shall commence development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 62. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 62. The development work under this subd. 1m. d. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from contributions received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. d. If the department does not receive, by June 30, 2017, sufficient contributions to commence development work under this subd. 1m. d., the department may not commence development work under this subd. 1m. d. and shall promptly return to each contributor all contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than $2.50 per contributor for costs associated with the return of contributions, received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. d. If the department receives contributions in excess of the amount necessary to commence development work under this subd. 1m. d., the department shall discontinue receiving contributions under this subd. 1m. d. and promptly return to each contributor all contributions, less a transaction fee of no more than $2.50 per contributor for costs associated with the return of contributions, received by the department after the department had received sufficient contributions. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. d. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 9. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 62. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. d.

e. Upon receipt of a contribution totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 66. or $23,700, whichever is less, from any person or group interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 66., the department shall commence development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 66. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 66. The development work under this subd. 1m. e. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from the contribution received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. e. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. e. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 66. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. e. If, in the 3rd year beginning after special group plates under par. (f) 66. are first issued, or any 3rd year thereafter, the department receives, in the calendar year, fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall inform the Boy Scouts of America National Foundation that the special group plates will be discontinued if fewer than 500 applications are received in the following year. If, in that following calendar year, the department receives fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall cease issuing special group plates under par. (f) 66.

f. Upon receipt of a contribution totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 67. or $23,700, whichever is less, from any person or group interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 67., the department shall commence development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 67. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 67. The development work under this subd. 1m. f. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from the contribution received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. f. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. f. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 67. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. f. If, in the 3rd year beginning after special group plates under par. (f) 67. are first issued, or any 3rd year thereafter, the department receives, in the calendar year, fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall inform Whitetails Unlimited that the special group plates will be discontinued if fewer than 500 applications are received in the following year. If, in that following calendar year, the department receives fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall cease issuing special group plates under par. (f) 67.

g. Upon receipt of a contribution totaling an amount equal to the department’s final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 68. or $23,700, whichever is less, from any person or group interested in the special group plates under par. (f) 68., the department shall commence development work necessary to implement the provisions of par. (f) 68. and related provisions under this subsection and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. As soon as possible, the department shall post notice on the department’s Internet site of its final estimate of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 68. The development work under this subd. 1m. g. shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (4) (ch) from the contribution received by the department for purposes of this subd. 1m. g. No contribution received by the department under this subd. 1m. g. may be applied to any fee established under subd. 2. The department may not issue any special group plates under par. (f) 68. until the department has completed the development work specified in this subd. 1m. g. If, in the 3rd year beginning after special group plates under par. (f) 68. are first issued, or any 3rd year thereafter, the department receives, in the calendar year, fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall inform Whitetails Unlimited that the special group plates will be discontinued if fewer than 500 applications are received in the following year. If, in that following calendar year, the department receives fewer than 500 applications for registration renewal for vehicles for which these special plates were issued, the department shall cease issuing special group plates under par. (f) 68.
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plates under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for a special group specified under par. (f) 57, to $47, if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $20 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. The fee under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71. The department shall pay all moneys received under this subdivision to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin system to fund the scholarship programs under s. 36.44-

5. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 50. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 50, if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision in excess of the initial costs of production of the special group plate under par. (f) 50, or $15,000, whichever is less, shall be deposited in the conservation fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.370 (1) (fs). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the fee under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

6. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 53. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 53, if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision in excess of the initial costs of data processing for the special group plate under par. (f) 53, or $35,000, whichever is less, shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (1) (ih) and deposited in the fund maintained under s. 48.982 (2e) (a). 2. To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the fee under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

7. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 54. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 54, if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision in excess of the initial costs of production of the special group plate under par. (f) 54, or $196,700, whichever is less, shall be deposited in the conservation fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (au). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the fee under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

8. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 55. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 55, if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. For each professional football team for which the plate is deposited under par. (f) 55, all moneys received under
this subdivision in excess of the initial costs of data processing for the special group plate related to that team under par. (f) 55. or $35,000, whichever is less, shall be deposited in the general fund and credited as follows:

a. An amount equal to the costs of licensing fees under par. (h) that are related to that team shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (ci).  
b. The remainder after crediting the appropriation account as provided in subd. 8. a. shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (1) (ig). The department of transportation shall identify and record the percentage of moneys that are attributable to each professional football team represented by a plate under par. (f) 55.

9. A fee of $15 shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate for a special group specified under par. (f) 1 to 15., 16. to 19., 20. to 32., 49. to 49s., 51., or 56. All moneys received under this subd. 9. a. in excess of the initial costs of production of the special group plates under par. (f) 3m., 6m., 9g., 9m., 12g., 12m., 49d., 49h., 49s., and 56. or $37,800, whichever is less, shall be deposited in the veterans trust fund.

b. A fee of $15 shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate for a special group specified under par. (f) 15m. to 15q. or 62. All moneys received under this subd. 9. b. in excess of the initial costs of production of the special group plate under par. (f) 15m., 2011 stats., or $23,700, whichever is less, shall be deposited in the veterans trust fund.

9m. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 55m. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 55m. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision in excess of $23,500 shall be deposited in the conservation fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.370 (1) (i6). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the fee under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

13. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 60. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 60. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. For each professional baseball team for which plates are produced under par. (f) 60., all moneys received under this subdivision, in excess of $24,300, for the initial costs of production for each team’s special group plates, shall be deposited into the general fund and credited as follows:

a. An amount equal to the costs of licensing fees under par. (i) that are related to that team shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (ei).

b. Until the date on which the local professional baseball park district board makes a certification to the department under s. 229.685 (2), the remainder after crediting the appropriation account as provided in subd. 13. a. shall be credited to the appropriation under s. 20.835 (4) (gb). After the date on which the local professional baseball park district board makes a certification to the department under s. 229.685 (2), the remainder after crediting the appropriation account as provided in subd. 13. a. shall be credited to the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (ego). The department of transportation shall identify and record the percentage of moneys that are attributable to each professional baseball team represented by a plate under par. (f) 60.

14. Subject to sub. (9) (d), a fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 61m. Subject to sub. (9) (d), a fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 61m. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision, in excess of $6,580 for the initial costs of production of the special group plate under par. (f) 61m., shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (egl). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the fee under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

14m. An additional fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 61e. An additional fee of $50 that is in addition to the
the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 61r., if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision, in excess of $16,100 for the initial costs of production of the special group plate under par. (f) 61r., shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (gh), unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

13. A voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 9. b. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 62. A voluntary payment of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 9. b. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 62. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (gh), unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

14. A voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 63. Subject to sub. (10) (d), a fee of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 63. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (gh). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

15. A voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. A voluntary payment of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. All moneys received under this subdivision shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (gh). The department of transportation shall identify and record the percentage of moneys that are attributable to each professional basketball team represented by a plate under par. (f) 65.

16. Subject to sub. (10) (d), a fee of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be charged for the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

17. A voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

18. Subject to sub. (12) (d), a voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

19. Subject to sub. (13) (d), a voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

20. Subject to sub. (14) (d), a voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

21. A voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 65m. unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

2017–18 Wisconsin Statutes updated through 2019 Wis. Act 5 and through all Supreme Court and Controlled Substances Board Orders filed before and in effect on April 21, 2019. Published and certified under s. 35.18. Changes effective after May 11, 2019, are designated by NOTES. (Published 5–11–19)
specified under par. (f) 60. A voluntary payment of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on the biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 60, if the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. No plate may be issued for the special group specified under par. (f) 60, unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is collected. All moneys received under this subdivision shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (f). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

22. A voluntary payment of $25 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on an annual basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 64. A voluntary payment of $50 that is in addition to the fee under subd. 2. shall be collected in connection with the issuance or renewal of a plate issued on a biennial basis for the special group specified under par. (f) 64. If the plate is issued or renewed during the first year of the biennial registration period or $25 for the issuance or renewal if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. No plate may be issued for the special group specified under par. (f) 64, unless the voluntary payment under this subdivision is collected. To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the voluntary payment under this subdivision is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71. All moneys received under this subdivision shall be deposited into the general fund and credited as follows:

a. Fifty percent shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (hi).

b. Fifty percent shall be credited to the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (hj).

c. Special group plates shall display the word “Wisconsin”, the name of the applicable authorized special group, a symbol representing the special group, not exceeding one position, and identifying letters or numbers or both, not exceeding 7 positions and not less than one position. Except as provided in this paragraph, the department shall specify the design for special group plates, but the department shall consult the president of the University of Wisconsin System before specifying the design. The word or symbol used to identify the special groups under par. (f) 55, to 47, the secretary of natural resources before specifying the word or symbol used to identify the special groups under par. (f) 50, and 59, the chief executive officer of the professional football team and an authorized representative of the league of professional football teams described in s. 229.823 to which that team belongs before specifying the design for the applicable special group plate under par. (f) 55, the chief trademark officer of Harley−Davidson Michigan, LLC before specifying the design for the applicable special group plate under par. (f) 55, the department of veterans affairs before specifying the design for the special group plates under par. (f) 48m, to 47, the department of tourism and chief executive officer of the organization specified in par. (f) 55m, to 49h, before specifying the design and word or symbol used to identify the special groups under par. (f) 55m, and 59m, the chief executive officer of the professional football team and an authorized representative of the league of professional football teams described in s. 229.823 to which that team belongs before specifying the design for the applicable special group plate under par. (f) 55m, the department of tourism and chief executive officer of the organization specified in par. (f) 55m, to 49h, before specifying the design and word or symbol used to identify the special groups under par. (f) 55m, and 59m, to 49h, the department of tourist information and chief executive officer of the organization specified in par. (f) 55m, to 49h, before specifying the design and word or symbol used to identify the special groups under par. (f) 55m, and 59m, the Three Harbors Council, Boy Scouts of America NESA License Committee before specifying the designs for the initial special group plate under par. (f) 60. Special group plates under par. (f) 50 shall be as similar as possible to regular registration plates in color and design. Special group plates issued under par. (f) 62. shall display the words “In God We Trust”. The department shall make available 2 designs for the special group plates under par. (f) 60. The department may not specify any design for the special group plates under par. (f) 60. unless the design is approved by the executive vice president of the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club LF. The department may not specify any design for the special group plates under par. (f) 60. unless the design is approved by the president of the Milwaukee Bucks. The word or symbol used to identify the special group under par. (f) 59 shall be different from the word or symbol used to identify the special group under par. (f) 50, and the design shall cover the entire plate. Special group plates under par. (f) 61m. shall display a logo or image of the lion associated with the Lions Clubs International. Special group plates under par. (f) 61r. shall display a bar and shield logo associated with Harley−Davidson, Inc., on the left portion of the plates and the words “share the road” on the bottom portion of the plates. Special group plates under par. (f) 63. shall display the words “Trout Unlimited.” Special group plates under par. (f) 65m. shall display the words “Help Cure Childhood Cancer” in purple lettering and a symbol comprised of a purple handprint superimposed upon a red heart superimposed upon a gold ribbon. Special group plates under par. (f) 66. shall display the words “Scouting Alumni” and, at the option of the vehicle owner, either a logo or symbol associated with the Boy Scouts of America or a logo or symbol associated with the Eagle Scouts. Special group plates under par. (f) 67. shall display a logo or symbol associated with Whitetails Unlimited. Special group plates under par. (f) 68. shall display a logo or symbol associated with the Wisconsin Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Special group plates under par. (f) 69. shall display the words “Nurses Change Lives” and an image of a heart partially encircled by a stethoscope. Notwithstanding par. (e), special group plates under par. (f) 33m. and 48m. shall be the same color and design that was specified by the department for special group plates under par. (f) 33. and 48., respectively, immediately prior to January 1, 2007. The design for special group plates under par. (f) 33. and 48. shall be different from the design of special group plates under par. (f) 33m. and 48m., respectively.

(d) 1. Subject to subd. 2. and par. (c), the department shall specify the word or words comprising the special group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a group associated with a branch of the armed services or a related organization after consultation with the appropriate state or federal representative of that service or organization. Special group plates for a group associated with a branch of the armed services or a related organization shall be colored red, white and blue.

2. Special group plates under par. (f) 19m. shall display a gold star flag. The department shall consult the Brian LaViolette Scholarship Foundation, Inc., in designing the special group plates under par. (f) 19m., and the department may not specify a design for the special group plates under par. (f) 19m. unless the design is approved in writing by the department of veterans affairs.

(e) The department shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates for groups or organizations which are not military in nature and not special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47., 50., and 59., for each professional football team under par. (f) 55., for each professional baseball team under par. (f) 60., and for each professional basketball team under par. (f) 65. The department shall specify one combination of colors for special group plates under par. (f) 35. to 47. Subject to par. (c), the department shall specify the word or words comprising the special group name and the symbol to be displayed upon special group plates for a group or organization which is not military in nature after consultation with the chief executive officer in this state of the group or organization. The department shall require that the word or words and symbol for a university specified under par. (f) 35. to 47., be a registration decal or tag and affixed to the special group plate and be of the colors for a university specified under par. (f) 35. to 47., that the president of the University of Wisconsin System specifies. The department shall consult the chief trademark officer of Harley−Davidson Michigan, LLC before specifying the colors for the special group plate under par. (f) 61r.

(f) Subject to par. (b) 1m., the department shall issue special group plates under this subsection for the following authorized special groups:

1. U.S. army.
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1m. U.S. Army retired.
2. U.S. army reserve.
3m. Students and alumni of the U.S. Military Academy.
4m. U.S. navy retired.
5. U.S. navy reserve.
6m. Students and alumni of the U.S. Naval Academy.
7. U.S. air force.
7m. U.S. air force retired.
9g. Students and alumni of the U.S. Air Force Academy.
9m. Members of the Civil Air Patrol.
10m. U.S. coast guard retired.
11. U.S. coast guard reserve.
12g. Students and alumni of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.
12m. Students and alumni of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.
13m. U.S. marine corps retired.
15m. Woman veteran air force.
15n. Woman veteran army.
15o. Woman veteran coast guard.
15p. Woman veteran marine corps.
15q. Woman veteran navy.
16. World War I veterans.
17. World War II veterans.
19m. Persons who have had an immediate family member die while serving in the U.S. armed forces or in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed forces if the immediate family member meets any of the eligibility criteria specified in 10 USC 1126 (a) (1) to (3) for a gold star lapel button.
20. Persons awarded the distinguished service cross medal.
21. Persons awarded the air force cross medal.
22. Persons awarded the navy cross medal.
23. Persons awarded the distinguished service medal from any branch of the U.S. armed forces.
24. Persons awarded the silver star medal.
25. Persons awarded the legon of merit medal.
26. Persons awarded the distinguished flying cross medal.
27. Persons awarded the soldier’s medal.
28. Persons awarded the navy and marine corps medal.
29. Persons awarded the airman’s medal.
30. Persons awarded the coast guard medal.
31. Persons awarded the bronze star medal.
32. Persons awarded the purple heart medal.
33. Fire fighters and surviving spouses of fire fighters who die in the line of duty.
33m. Fire fighters and surviving spouses of fire fighters who die in the line of duty.
34. Rescue squad members.
35. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire on it.
36. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Green Bay on it.
37. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–La Crosse on it.
38. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Madison on it.
39. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee on it.
40. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh on it.
41. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Parkside on it.
42. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Platteville on it.
43. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–River Falls on it.
44. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point on it.
45. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Stout on it.
46. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Superior on it.
47. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with University of Wisconsin–Whitewater on it.
48. Emergency medical services practitioners, as defined in s. 256.01 (5), and emergency medical responders, as defined in s. 256.01 (4p).
48m. Emergency medical services practitioners, as defined in s. 256.01 (5), and emergency medical responders, as defined in s. 256.01 (4p).
49. Persian Gulf War veterans.
49d. Iraq War veterans.
49h. Afghanistan War veterans.
49m. Somalia War veterans.
49n. Noble Eagle veterans.
50. Persons interested in supporting endangered resources.
51. Veterans of the attack on Pearl Harbor who were stationed in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.
53. Persons interested in obtaining a plate with the words “Celebrate Children” on it to show their support of the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
54. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting Ducks Unlimited, Inc., and its conservation efforts in the United States, Canada and Mexico.
55. Persons interested in expressing their support of a professional football team, as described in s. 229.823, whose home stadium, as defined in s. 229.821 (8), is in this state.
55m. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting the efforts of the WPGA Junior Foundation, Inc. to provide opportunities, enjoyment, and education to junior golfers in this state and promoting golf in this state.
56. Persons interested in supporting veterans.
57. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting the efforts of the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc., to provide women’s health outreach and education programs and support for women’s health research that improves the quality of life for women and families in this state.
58. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting the efforts of Donate Life Wisconsin to promote the donation of organs and tissue, to promote organ and tissue transplant research, and to advance patient services involving organ and tissue transplants in this state.
59. Persons interested in supporting endangered resources.
60. Persons interested in expressing their support of a major league professional baseball team that uses as its home field baseball park facilities that are constructed under subch. III of ch. 229.
61. Persons interested in obtaining a plate expressing their support for Marquette University and their appreciation of the
many benefits Marquette University and its thousands of alumni confer on this state.

61m. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting the Lions Clubs of Wisconsin.

61r. Persons interested in supporting motorcycle safety.

62. Persons interested in obtaining registration plates with the words “In God We Trust” on them.

63. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting Wisconsin Trout Unlimited.

64. Persons interested in expressing their support for the family members of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

65. Persons interested in expressing support for a professional basketball team that has entered into, or whose affiliate has entered into, a development agreement with a local exposition district under s. 229.461.

65m. Persons interested in obtaining a plate supporting the efforts of Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer to fund childhood cancer and related blood disorder research.

66. Persons interested in obtaining a plate expressing support for the Boy Scouts of America.

67. Persons interested in obtaining a plate expressing support for Whitetails Unlimited.

68. Persons interested in obtaining a plate expressing support for the Wisconsin Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

69. Persons interested in expressing their support for nurses and the nursing profession.

(1m) 1. In addition to the special groups specified under par. (f), any group or organization may apply to the department for designation as an authorized special group. Except as provided in subd. 1m., after the department has received a complete application and the requisite period under subd. 1m. has elapsed, the department shall designate the group or organization as an authorized special group.

1m. a. Upon receiving a complete application and payment under subd. 2., the department shall post a notice of the application on the department’s Internet site. The notice shall identify the group or organization applying for designation as an authorized special group, include the date that the notice is posted, and describe the process by which a person may object to designation of the group or organization as an authorized special group and the deadline under subd. 1m. b. for submitting the objection.

b. Subject to subd. 1r., any person may, within 30 days after the date of the department’s notice under subd. 1m. a., object to designation of the group or organization as an authorized special group by submitting a written objection to the department in the manner prescribed by the department.

c. If no timely objection is received under subd. 1m. b., the department shall designate the group or organization as an authorized special group.

d. If the department receives a timely objection under subd. 1m. b., the department shall refer the application to the standing committees of each house of the legislature dealing with transportation matters.

e. If an application is referred under subd. 1m. c. and the chairperson of each applicable standing committee does not notify the department within 14 days after the date on which the application is referred that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the application, the application is approved. If, within 14 days after the date on which the application is referred by the department, the chairperson of any applicable standing committee notifies the department that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the application, the application is approved only if each standing committee to which the application was referred under subd. 1m. c. expressly approves the application.

f. After referring an application to the standing committees under subd. 1m. c., the department shall designate the applicant as an authorized special group only if the application is approved under subd. 1m. d.

1r. An objection under subd. 1m. b. to designation of a group or organization as an authorized special group may be made only by a resident of this state and may be based on any of the following grounds or other grounds:

a. The group or organization is organized or operated for profit.

b. The group or organization is a committee, as defined in s. 11.0101 (6).

c. The group or organization is a church, a synagogue, a mosque, or any organization, whether or not organized under ch. 187, that operates under a creed.

d. The group or organization promotes, practices, or encourages hatred or any form of discrimination.

e. The group or organization carries connotations offensive to good taste or decency, or that would be misleading, or in conflict with the enumeration or designation of any other authorized special group.

2. The application for designation as an authorized special group shall include all of the following:

a. A payment to the department of $15,500 for the department’s initial costs of production of special plates associated with the group making application under this paragraph. This payment may not be applied to, and is in addition to, any applicable registration fee and any voluntary payment under subd. 8. a. The department shall return this payment to the authorized special group making the application if the application is denied. All moneys received by the department under this subd. 2. a. shall be credited to the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (c).j.

b. A certification by the group or organization that any approvals required for use of any logo, trademark, trade name or other commercial symbol related to the group or organization have been obtained and that the group or organization shall be responsible for any licensing fees related to the word or words or the symbol on special group plates for the group or organization.

c. Any other information that the department reasonably requires.

d. If the applicant seeks issuance of special plates that provide moneys to the authorized special group or gifts to a state agency, a statement to this effect and identification of the intended recipient of the moneys or gifts.

e. If the applicant wishes to allow issuance of special plates to supporters of the group or organization in addition to members of the group or organization, a statement to this effect.

f. On a form prescribed by the department and attached to the application, the signatures of at least 500 residents of this state who affirm their intent to obtain special plates associated with the applicant when these special plates become available.

3g. Upon receiving a complete application and payment under subd. 2., and upon satisfaction of all requirements under subs. 1. and 1m., the department shall commence any development work necessary for issuance of the special plates and shall complete the development work within one year of its commencement. The development work under this subdivision shall be funded only from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (c).j. The department shall specify the design for special plates issued under this paragraph after consultation with the authorized special group. The special plates for each authorized special group shall be distinguishable from the special plates of any other authorized special group. The department may use a decal to distinguish between special plates of different authorized special groups.

3m. a. If, at any time after 3 years from the date that special plates associated with an authorized special group are first issued under this paragraph, there are fewer than 500 motor vehicles registered for which these special plates have been issued and are valid for the motor vehicles’ then current registration period, the department shall give notice to the authorized special group that
it will rescind its designation of the authorized special group and cease issuing special plates associated with the authorized special group unless, within one year after the date of this notice, this threshold of at least 500 currently registered vehicles displaying these special plates is met.

b. If one year elapses after the department has given notice under subd. 3m. a. and the threshold under subd. 3m. a. is still not met, the department shall rescind its designation of the authorized special group and, except as provided in subd. 3m. c., cease issuing special plates associated with the authorized special group.

c. After rescinding its designation of an authorized special group under subd. 3m. b., the department may continue issuing special plates associated with the authorized special group until the department’s inventory of these special plates is depleted and the department may continue to renew registrations of vehicles displaying these special plates and continue to collect the involuntary payment under subd. 8. a. After the department’s inventory of these special plates is depleted, the department may not accept applications for initial issuance of these special plates or issue these special plates as replacement plates, but may continue to renew registrations of vehicles displaying these special plates and may continue to collect the involuntary payment under subd. 8. a. in connection with these registration renewals.

d. This subdivision does not apply to any group or organization designated by the department as an authorized special group prior to October 1, 2016.

4. If the application for designation as an authorized special group is denied, the department shall promptly provide notice of the denial. All actions and decisions of the department and the legislature with respect to applications under this paragraph shall be final and not subject to judicial review under ch. 227.

6. The department shall establish by rule procedures for the designation of authorized special groups under this paragraph and for the issuance or the discontinuance of issuance of special group plates under this subsection to members of an authorized special group and, as applicable, persons interested in supporting the authorized special group.

7. After October 1, 1998, additional authorized special groups may only be special groups designated by the department under this paragraph. The authorized special groups enumerated in par. (f) shall be limited solely to those special groups specified under par. (f) on October 1, 1998. This subdivision does not apply to the special groups specified under par. (f) 3m., 6m., 9g., 9m., 12g., 12w., 13m., 15m., 15o., 15p., 15u., 19m., 33m., 48m., 49h., 49h., 49k., 49l., 54., 55., 55m., 56., 57., 58., 59., 60., 61., 61m., 61r., 62., 63., 64., 65., 65m., 66., 67., 68., and 69.

8. a. An authorized special group may, as provided in subd. 2. d., be, or designate a state agency as, the recipient for voluntary payments collected by the department in connection with the initial issuance or renewal of special plates associated with the authorized special group. With each initial issuance or renewal, the voluntary payment shall be $25 for special plates issued or renewed on an annual basis and $50 for special plates issued or renewed on a biennial basis except that, if the plate is issued or renewed during the 2nd year of a biennial registration period, the voluntary payment for that year shall be $25. This voluntary payment is in addition to any fee collected by the department. If an authorized special group included a statement under subd. 2. d. in its application, no plate may be issued for the authorized special group unless the voluntary payment is collected. All moneys received under this subd. 8. a. shall be deposited into the general fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (el). To the extent permitted under ch. 71, the voluntary payment under this subd. 8. a. is deductible as a charitable contribution for purposes of the taxes under ch. 71.

b. Subject to subd. 8. e., if the department collects voluntary payments under subd. 8. a., the department shall, from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (el), make payments of all such monies collected to the authorized special groups or designated state agency.

c. The department shall cease collecting voluntary payments under subd. 8. a. if the department has knowledge that the recipient of these moneys has dissolved, become insolvent, or filed a petition for bankruptcy or that moneys forwarded to the recipient under subd. 8. b. have been used for any purpose prohibited under subd. 8. d.

d. No moneys received under subd. 8. b. may be used for any political purpose, including for lobbying or campaign activities or to otherwise influence legislation or assist any political campaign or candidate for public office.

(g) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2. and subd. (8) (a), if an individual in possession of special plates under par. (f) 33., 33m., 34., 48., or 48m. or of personalized plates under s. 341.145 (1) (c) of the same color and design as special plates under par. (f) 33., 33m., 34., 48., or 48m. suffers an injury in the course of his or her job duties as a fire fighter, rescue squad member, or emergency medical services practitioner, as defined in s. 256.01 (5), and the injury prevents the individual from subsequently performing such job duties, the individual may retain these special plates.

(h) From the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (eL), the department shall pay reasonable licensing fees relating to the word or words or the symbol on special group plates under par. (f) 33., 33m., 34., 48., or 48m. that are deposited into the general fund for licensing fees relating to the word or words or the symbol on, or otherwise required for, special group plates under par. (f) 60.

(6w) Upon application to register a motorcycle by any person who is a resident of this state and a veteran of the U.S. armed forces, the department shall issue to the person a special plate whose colors and design shall indicate that the vehicle is owned by a veteran of the U.S. armed forces. The department shall specify the design of the special plate. Notwithstanding s. 341.13 (2m), the special plate shall be colored red, white, and blue and be 4 inches by 7 inches in size. An additional fee of $15 shall be charged for the issuance or reissuance of the plate.

(7) The department shall disseminate information to all applicants for registration plates under sub. (1). (1a), (1e), (1m) or (1q) relating to the parking privileges granted under s. 346.50 (2), (2a) or (3) and their right to request enforcement of s. 346.505 (5). (a) If a special plate for a group associated with a branch of the armed services or otherwise military in nature has been issued to a person under this section, or if a special plate under sub. (6r) (f) 33. or 33m. has been issued to a person who dies in the line of duty, upon application by the surviving spouse of the person, the department shall permit the surviving spouse to retain the plate. If the plate has been returned to the department or surrendered to another state, the department shall reissue the plate to the surviving spouse if the application for reissuance of the plate is made within 2 years of the plate’s return or surrender. The department shall charge an additional fee of $15 to reissue the plate.

(b) For a plate retained or reissued under this subsection, upon request of the surviving spouse, the department shall change the plate from a personalized plate to a standard plate. Upon request of a surviving spouse and upon payment of the additional fee...
under s. 341.145 (3), the department shall personalize the plate or modify any existing personalization to the plate.

(c) This subsection does not apply to a special plate issued under s. 341.14 (1).

8v) Payments to the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation. (a) From the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (gi), the department shall make payments to the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc., to provide women’s health outreach and education programs and support for women’s health research that improves the quality of life for women and families in this state.

(b) The Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc., shall provide, without fee and as a condition of receiving payments specified under this subsection, any license or other approval required for use of any logo, trademark, trade name, word, or symbol to be used on or in association with special group registration plates under sub. (6r) (f) 57.

(c) As a condition of receiving payments specified under this subsection, the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc., shall annually submit to the attorney general and the presiding officer of each house of the legislature an audited financial statement of its use of the payments under this subsection, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(d) Payments to the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc., under this subsection shall be discontinued by the department if the Wisconsin Women’s Health Foundation, Inc., dissolves or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

8w) Organ and Tissue Donation. (a) From the appropriation account under s. 20.395 (5) (gg), the department shall make payments to Donate Life Wisconsin, or an organization designated under par. (d) if Donate Life Wisconsin ceases to exist, to encourage organ and tissue donation by providing educational programs, promoting or advancing research and patient services, and, at the discretion of Donate Life Wisconsin, distributing portions of these payments to any other organ and tissue procurement and donation organization in this state that is exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code, to be used for these same purposes.

(b) Donate Life Wisconsin shall provide, without fee and as a condition of receiving payments specified under this subsection, any license or other approval required for use of any logo, trademark, trade name, word, or symbol to be used on or in association with special group registration plates under sub. (6r) (f) 58.

(c) As a condition of receiving payments specified under this subsection, Donate Life Wisconsin shall annually submit to the attorney general and the presiding officer of each house of the legislature an audited financial statement of its use of the payments under this subsection, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. As a condition of receiving payments specified under this subsection, Donate Life Wisconsin shall enter into a contract with any organ and tissue donor organization to which it distributes funds under par. (a) requiring that organization to prepare and submit audited financial statements of that organization’s use of funds received under par. (a).

(d) The department shall discontinue payments to Donate Life Wisconsin under this subsection if Donate Life Wisconsin dissolves or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code and the department, in consultation with the department of health services, shall designate a new recipient for payments under this subsection. The new recipient must be a nonprofit organization that promotes organ and tissue donation and must comply with any requirement specified in this subsection for Donate Life Wisconsin. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, the department shall not make any payments under this subsection until Donate Life Wisconsin is properly formed and operational and is exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

9) (a) Subject to par. (c), from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (eg), the department shall make payments to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc.

(b) For each year in which the department makes payments under par. (a), the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc., shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature an audited financial statement of its use of the payments under this subsection, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(c) The department shall discontinue payments to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc., under this subsection if the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc., dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) 1. The department may not issue any plates under sub. (6r) (f) 61m. unless the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. provides for all of the following:

a. That the approval is irrevocable with respect to all plates issued for vehicles after the plates are issued for these vehicles.

b. That, if the approval is withdrawn, the department may continue to renew the registration of vehicles previously issued plates under sub. (6r) (f) 61m., without replacing those plates, but the department shall discontinue with respect to these renewals.

2. Notwithstanding sub. (6r) (b) 1. and (f) (intro.), if the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. is withdrawn, the department shall discontinue issuing plates under sub. (6r) (f) 61m. unless additional approval, as specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. and this paragraph, is obtained by the department.

10) (a) Subject to par. (c), from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (ei), the department shall make payments to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, Inc., if the department issues special group plates under sub. (6r) (f) 63.

(b) For each year in which the department makes payments under par. (a), Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, Inc., shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature an audited financial statement of its use of the payments under this subsection, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(c) The department shall discontinue payments to Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, Inc., under this subsection if Wisconsin Trout Unlimited, Inc., dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) 1. The department may not issue any plates under sub. (6r) (f) 63. unless any approval required under sub. (6r) (b) 1. for these plates provides for all of the following:

a. That the approval is irrevocable with respect to all plates issued for vehicles after the plates are issued for these vehicles.

b. That, if the approval is withdrawn, the department may continue to renew the registration of vehicles previously issued plates under sub. (6r) (f) 63., without replacing those plates, but the department shall discontinue with respect to these renewals.

2. Notwithstanding sub. (6r) (b) 1. and (f) (intro.), if the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for plates issued under sub. (6r) (f) 63. is withdrawn, the department shall discontinue issuing plates under sub. (6r) (f) 63. unless additional approval, as specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. and this paragraph, is obtained by the department.
financial statement of its use of the payments under this subsection, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(c) The department may make payments to the Milwaukee Bucks Foundation under this subsection only if the Milwaukee Bucks Foundation is eligible for the exemption from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The department shall discontinue payments to the Milwaukee Bucks Foundation under this subsection if the Milwaukee Bucks Foundation dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) 1. If the special group plates under sub. (6r) (f) 65m. will display any logo, trademark or service mark, trade name, or other commercial symbol associated with the Milwaukee Bucks, the department may not issue any plates under sub. (6r) (f) 65m. unless the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for these plates provides for all of the following:
   a. That the approval is irrevocable with respect to all plates issued for vehicles after the plates are issued for these vehicles.
   b. That, if the approval is withdrawn, the department may continue to renew the registration of vehicles previously issued plates under sub. (6r) (f) 65m., without replacing those plates, but the department shall discontinue collecting the voluntary payment specified in sub. (6r) (b) 17. with respect to these renewals.
   2. Notwithstanding sub. (6r) (b) 1. and (f) (intro.), if the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for plates issued under sub. (6r) (f) 65m. is withdrawn, the department shall discontinue issuing plates under sub. (6r) (f) 65m. unless additional approval, as specified in this paragraph and sub. (6r) (b) 1., is obtained by the department.

(11m) (a) Subject to par. (c), from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (gh), the department shall make payments to Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer.

(b) For each year in which the department makes payments under par. (a), Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature a financial statement of its use of the payments received under par. (a), prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(c) The department shall discontinue payments to Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer under par. (a) if Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) 1. If the special group plates under sub. (6r) (f) 65m. will display any logo, trademark or service mark, trade name, or other commercial symbol associated with Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer, the department may not issue any plates under sub. (6r) (f) 65m. if Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer shall be distributed by the National Foundation to these local councils in accordance with an agreement entered into between the National Foundation and the local councils.

(b) For each year in which the department makes payments under par. (a), any local council receiving funds from the National Foundation under par. (a) shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature a financial statement of its use of the payments received under par. (a), prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(c) The department shall discontinue payments to the Boy Scouts of America National Foundation under par. (a) if the Boy Scouts of America dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) 1. If the special group plates under sub. (6r) (f) 66. will display any logo, trademark or service mark, trade name, or other commercial symbol associated with the Boy Scouts of America, the department may not issue any plates under sub. (6r) (f) 66. unless the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for these plates provides for all of the following:
   a. That the approval is irrevocable with respect to all plates issued for vehicles after the plates are issued for these vehicles.
   b. That, if the approval is withdrawn, the department may continue to renew the registration of vehicles previously issued plates under sub. (6r) (f) 66., without replacing those plates, but the department shall discontinue collecting the voluntary payment specified in sub. (6r) (b) 18. with respect to these renewals.
   2. Notwithstanding sub. (6r) (b) 1. and (f) (intro.), if the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for plates issued under sub. (6r) (f) 66. is withdrawn, the department shall discontinue issuing plates under sub. (6r) (f) 66. for which the approval had been provided unless additional approval, as specified in this paragraph and sub. (6r) (b) 1., is obtained by the department.

(13) (a) Subject to par. (c), from the appropriation under s. 20.395 (5) (fh), the department shall make payments to Whitetails Unlimited.

(b) For each year in which the department makes payments under par. (a), Whitetails Unlimited shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature a financial statement of its use of the payments received under par. (a), prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

(c) The department shall discontinue payments to Whitetails Unlimited under par. (a) if Whitetails Unlimited dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(d) 1. If the special group plates under sub. (6r) (f) 67. will display any logo, trademark or service mark, trade name, or other commercial symbol associated with Whitetails Unlimited, the department may not issue any plates under sub. (6r) (f) 67. unless the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for these plates provides for all of the following:
   a. That the approval is irrevocable with respect to all plates issued for vehicles after the plates are issued for these vehicles.
   b. That, if the approval is withdrawn, the department may continue to renew the registration of vehicles previously issued plates under sub. (6r) (f) 67., without replacing those plates, but the department shall discontinue collecting the voluntary payment specified in sub. (6r) (b) 19. with respect to these renewals.
   2. Notwithstanding sub. (6r) (b) 1. and (f) (intro.), if the approval specified in sub. (6r) (b) 1. for plates issued under sub. (6r) (f) 67. is withdrawn, the department shall discontinue issuing plates under sub. (6r) (f) 67. unless additional approval, as speci-
REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

341.135 Veterans honorary medal decals. (a) If any person who is registering or has registered a vehicle specified in s. 341.14 (6r) (b) 1. submits a statement from the U.S. department of veterans affairs certifying to the department that the person has been awarded a medal authorized under an act of congress relating to that person’s service in the U.S. armed forces, as defined in s. 341.14 (5f), the department shall, free of charge, procure, issue and deliver to that veteran one decal, similar in appearance to the medal awarded to that veteran, for each motor vehicle registered in the name of that veteran. Notwithstanding s. 341.61 (3), a decal issued under this section shall be displayed in the manner directed by the department on the rear registration plate of the vehicle registered in the name of the veteran to whom the decal was issued. The department shall specify one combination of colors and design for each medal authorized under an act of congress for which a statement has been submitted to the department, except that the department may not specify the colors or design unless the colors and design are approved in writing by the state department of veterans affairs. Not more than one decal may be issued under this section for each motor vehicle registered in the name of a veteran.


341.145 Personalized registration plates. (1) In this section, “personalized registration plate” means any of the following:

(a) A registration plate for an owned automobile or a motor home registered for an annual registration period under s. 341.29 or 341.295 or a motorcycle or a motor truck, dual purpose motor home or dual purpose farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds, or a farm truck which has a gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds, which displays a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, requested by the applicant. Personalized registration plates under this paragraph shall consist of a single color design and shall consist of numbers or letters, or both, not exceeding 5 positions and not less than one position for a plate issued for a motorcycle or not exceeding 7 positions and not less than one position for all other plates.

(b) A registration plate of the same color and design as provided in s. 341.14 (6m) for a vehicle specified under s. 341.14 (6m), which displays a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, not exceeding 7 positions and not less than one position, requested by the applicant.

(c) A registration plate of the same color and design as provided in s. 341.14 (6r) for a vehicle specified under s. 341.14 (6r), received under par. (a) 2. have been or will be expended in the state of Wisconsin.

(c) 1. The department shall discontinue payments to Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial, Inc., under par. (a) 1. if Wisconsin Law Enforcement Memorial, Inc., dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, or is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

2. The department shall discontinue payments to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund under par. (a) 2. if the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund dissolves, becomes insolvent, files a petition for bankruptcy, is no longer exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code, or expends funds received under par. (a) 2. other than in the state of Wisconsin.


Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 130, Wis. adm. code.

341.142 Veterans honorary medal decals. If any person who is registering or has registered a vehicle specified in s. 341.14 (6r) (b) 1. submits a statement from the U.S. department of veterans affairs certifying to the department that the person has been awarded a medal authorized under an act of congress relating to that person’s service in the U.S. armed forces, as defined in s. 341.14 (5f), the department shall, free of charge, procure, issue and deliver to that veteran one decal, similar in appearance to the medal awarded to that veteran, for each motor vehicle registered in the name of that veteran. Notwithstanding s. 341.61 (3), a decal issued under this section shall be displayed in the manner directed by the department on the rear registration plate of the vehicle registered in the name of the veteran to whom the decal was issued. The department shall specify one combination of colors and design for each medal authorized under an act of congress for which a statement has been submitted to the department, except that the department may not specify the colors or design unless the colors and design are approved in writing by the state department of veterans affairs. Not more than one decal may be issued under this section for each motor vehicle registered in the name of a veteran.

which displays the applicable symbol of the authorized special group to which the person belongs or supports and a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, not exceeding 7 positions and not less than one position, requested by the applicant.

(d) A registration plate of the same color and design as provided in s. 341.14 (1) for a vehicle specified in s. 341.14 (1), which displays a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, not exceeding 6 positions and not less than one position, requested by the applicant.

(e) A registration plate of the same color and design as provided in s. 341.14 (1a) for a vehicle specified in s. 341.14 (1a), which displays a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, not exceeding 6 positions and not less than one position, requested by the applicant.

(f) A registration plate of the same color and design as provided in s. 341.14 (6w) for a vehicle specified in s. 341.14 (6w), which displays a registration number composed of letters or numbers, or both, not exceeding 6 positions and not less than one position, requested by an applicant.

1g) (a) The department may issue personalized registration plates under sub. (1) (b) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (6m).

(b) The department may issue personalized registration plates under sub. (1) (c) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (6r).

(c) The department may issue personalized registration plates under sub. (1) (d) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (1).

(d) The department may issue personalized registration plates under sub. (1) (e) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (1a), (1m) or (1q).

(e) The department may issue personalized registration plates under sub. (1) (f) to a person who qualifies for special plates under s. 341.14 (6w).

1f) In lieu of the procedure under s. 341.13 (2), the department may issue distinguishing tags or decals for personalized registration plates for a vehicle registered on the basis of gross weight.

2) The department shall issue personalized registration plates only upon request and if:

(a) The request and alternative thereto is received by the department in writing by the 15th day of the month in which the vehicle is to be registered;

(b) The request is accompanied by the proper fee, an application for original or renewal vehicle registration and the proper registration fee;

(c) The requested combination of numbers or letters has not already been issued.

3) In addition to the regular application fee provided under s. 341.25 (1) (a), (c) or (j) or (2) or 341.26 (3) (a) 2. or (am), the applicant for a personalized registration plate issued on an annual basis shall pay a fee of $15 for the issuance of the plate and $15 in each succeeding year to maintain the plate. In addition to the regular application fee provided under s. 341.25 (1) (b) or 341.26 (3) (a) 1., the applicant for a personalized registration plate issued on a biennial basis shall pay a fee of $30 for issuance of the plate if the plate is issued during the first year of the biennial registration period or $15 for issuance of the plate if the plate is issued during the 2nd year of the biennial registration period. The fee to maintain a personalized plate issued on a biennial basis is $30. The fee for reissuance of a personalized plate shall be $15 for an annual registration and $30 for a biennial registration. An applicant for personalized plates issued under sub. (1) (b) or (c) shall not be required to pay the fee for initial issuance of the plates.

4) Each personalized registration plate issued shall be reserved for the recipient in succeeding registration periods and shall not be duplicated for issuance to any other person if the recipient maintains the plate, unless the recipient authorizes the issuance of the plate to another person. If the recipient does not maintain the plate for 2 successive years which are not plate issuance years or if the recipient does not specifically request reissuance of the personalized registration plate by the date on which the plate expires in a plate issuance year, the department may issue the personalized registration plate to another applicant.

5) If an individual in possession of a personalized registration plate does not maintain the personalized registration plate under sub. (3) during a year that is not a plate issuance year, the individual shall dispose of the personalized plate in a manner prescribed by the department.

6) Any registration plate issued sequentially to an applicant for original or renewal registration shall be available for issuance as a personalized registration plate if the plate has not been maintained for 2 successive years or if the recipient of the plate authorizes the issuance of the plate to another person.

7) The department may refuse to issue any combination of letters or numbers, or both, which may carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency, or which would be misleading, or in conflict with the issuance of any other registration plates. All decisions of the department with respect to personalized registration plate applications shall be final and not subject to judicial review under ch. 227.

8) The department may cancel and order the return of any personalized registration plates issued which contain any combination of letters or numbers, or both, which the department determines may carry connotations offensive to good taste and decency or which may be misleading. Any person ordered to return such plates shall either be reimbursed for any additional fees they paid for the plates for the registration year in which they are recalled, or be given at no additional cost replacement personalized registration plates, the issuance of which is in compliance with the statutes. A person who fails to return personalized registration plates upon request of the department may be required to forfeit not more than $200.


341.15 Display of registration plates. (1) Whenever 2 registration plates are issued for a vehicle, one plate shall be attached to the front and one to the rear of the vehicle. Whenever only one registration plate is issued for a vehicle, the plate shall be attached as follows:

(a) If the vehicle is a truck tractor or road tractor or a motor truck issued the plate under s. 341.405 (2), to the front.

(b) For any other vehicle for which only one plate is issued, to the rear, except that a plate issued to or for a municipality under s. 341.26 (2m) may be attached to the front of the vehicle if the design or use of the vehicle is such as to make a plate attached to the rear difficult to see and read.

1m) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), any registration decal or tag issued by the department shall be placed on the rear registration plate of the vehicle in the manner directed by the department.

(b) Any registration decal or tag issued by the department for a truck tractor, road tractor or motor truck under sub. (1) (a) or for any other vehicle which may bear a registration plate attached to the front as provided in sub. (1) (b) shall be placed on the front registration plate of the vehicle in the manner directed by the department.

2) Registration plates shall be attached firmly and rigidly in a horizontal position and conspicuous place. The plates shall at all times be maintained in a legible condition and shall be so displayed that they can be readily and distinctly seen and read. Any peace officer may require the operator of any vehicle on which
plates are not properly displayed to display such plates as required by this section.

(3) Any of the following may be required to forfeit not more than $200:

(a) A person who operates a vehicle for which a current registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration has been issued without such plate, tag, decal or other evidence of registration being attached to the vehicle, except when such vehicle is being operated pursuant to a temporary operation permit or plate or displays a historical plate under s. 341.265 (1m) or 341.266 (2) (dm);

(b) A person who operates a vehicle with a registration plate attached in a non−rigid or non−horizontal manner or in an inconspicuous place so as to make it difficult to see and read the plate;

(c) A person who operates a vehicle with a registration plate in an illegible condition due to the accumulation of dirt or other foreign matter.


The language referencing a single plate in s. 341.40 (1) (a) is the first of a list of criteria that vehicles registered in a jurisdiction other than Wisconsin must meet in order to be exempt from the registration laws of this state. Having been issued at least one plate is a condition precedent for exemption, not a display requirement. Since s. 341.40 (1) (a) does not address how nonresidents are to display license plates, there is no conflict with sub. (1). Given the legislature’s use of the word “whenever,” sub. (1) unambiguously applies to all vehicles operated in Wisconsin, not just those that are registered in Wisconsin. State v. Boyd, 2012 WI App 39, 340 Wis. 2d 168, 811 N.W.2d 853, 11−1056.

This section is applicable to temporary plates under s. 341.09. U.S. v. Dexter, 165 F.3d 1120 (1999).

341.16 Issuance of replacement plate. (1) (a) Whenever a current registration plate is lost or destroyed, the owner of the vehicle to which the plate was attached shall immediately apply to the department for replacement. Except as provided in par. (b) and sub. (2m), upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of the plate and upon payment of a fee of $2 for each plate, the department shall issue a replacement.

(b) Upon satisfactory proof of the loss or destruction of a special plate issued under s. 341.14 (6m) (a), (6r) (b), or (6w) or a special personalized plate issued under s. 341.145 (1) (b), (c), or (f) and upon payment of a fee of $5 for each plate or, if the plate is for a special group specified under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 35, to 47, or 53., $6 for each plate, the department shall issue a replacement.

(2) Whenever a current registration plate becomes illegible, the owner of the vehicle to which the plate is attached shall apply to the department for a replacement. Except as provided in sub. (2m), upon receipt of satisfactory proof of illegibility, and upon payment of a fee of $2 for each plate, the department shall issue a replacement. Upon receipt of a replacement plate, the applicant shall destroy the illegible plate.

(2e) The owner of a vehicle to which special group plates under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 33, or 48, are attached may apply to the department for replacement special group plates under s. 341.14 (6r) (f) 33m. or 48m., respectively. Upon receipt of the application and payment of a fee of $40, the department shall issue the replacement special group plates. Upon receipt of a replacement plate, the applicant shall destroy the replaced plates.

(2m) Upon request therefor and payment of a fee of $10, the department may issue an applicant for replacement plates for an automobile registered pursuant to the registration system under s. 341.27 registration plates of the design specified in s. 341.13 for the plate issuance cycle next succeeding the cycle under which the original plates were issued. The department may limit the receipt of requests under this subsection to applicants for a renewal registration of a motor vehicle.

(3) When issuing a replacement plate, the department may assign a new number and issue a new plate rather than a duplicate of the original if in its judgment that is in the best interests of economy or prevention of fraud. Upon receipt of a replacement plate, the applicant shall destroy all plates replaced.

(4) Any person issued replacement plates who fails to destroy the original plates as required by sub. (2), (2e), or (3) may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

This section does not apply to plates issued pursuant to the law pertaining to the registration of dealers, distributors, manufacturers or transporters.


341.17 Department to compile registration lists. (1) At intervals selected by the department, the department shall compile a list of registrations made during that interval pursuant to the system of registering automobiles under s. 341.27. The list shall give the name and address of each registrant, the registration number assigned, and other identifying information as the department deems necessary.

(2) The department shall compile a list by counties of new automobile and motor truck registrations. Registrations for other new vehicles may be included if deemed necessary by the department. Such lists shall be compiled at such intervals during the month as is deemed necessary by the department but the final list compiled each month shall include the listing of the last day of the month. Such list shall contain only those vehicles being registered for the first time after sale by a dealer. Such list shall contain the name and address of the owner, the make, body type, identification number of the vehicle, the dealer license number, if such dealer is registered in this state, and the date of sale.

(4) Upon request, the department shall distribute free of charge registration lists compiled under this section as follows:

(a) To each county clerk, one copy of each automobile registration list under sub. (1).

(c) To the sheriff of each county, one copy of each automobile registration list under sub. (1).

(d) To each chief of police, one copy of each automobile registration list under sub. (1).

(e) To each village clerk, one copy of each automobile registration list under sub. (1).

(g) To the department of revenue, the number of copies of each automobile registration list under sub. (1) as requested.

(h) To the commission, one copy of each automobile registration list under sub. (1).

(5) Except as provided in sub. (9) (e), public officers and agencies receiving free copies of registration lists under sub. (4) shall keep such lists current and open to public inspection.

(6) The department shall sell subscriptions to the registration lists compiled under this section and may sell other registration information. In computing the charge to be made for subscriptions to the registration lists and for other registration information, the department shall determine the costs of compiling the lists and other information and shall fairly apportion the major share of those costs among the subscribers and other purchasers.

(7) The department may suspend the compilation and distribution of the registration lists during a period of national war emergency and while new registration numbers are not being issued annually, but shall continue to transmit from time to time to the persons under sub. (4) who request free copies of the lists any additions to or changes in the lists issued during the year preceding suspension which are caused by the registration of vehicles not previously registered in the state or by the issuance of new registration numbers for vehicles previously registered.

(8) The department shall charge a fee of not less than $2 for conducting a file search of vehicle registration records.

(9) (a) In this subsection:

1. “Agent” means an authorized person who acts on behalf of or at the direction of another person.

2. “Insurer” has the meaning given in s. 600.03 (27).
REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

3. “Personal identifier” has the meaning given in s. 85.103 (1) and includes a birth date submitted under s. 341.08.

4. “State authority” has the meaning given in s. 19.62 (8).

(b) In providing copies under this section or ch. 342 which consists in whole or in part of the personal identifiers of 10 or more persons, the department may not disclose a personal identifier of any person who has made a designation under s. 85.103 (2) or (3).

(c) Paragraph (b) does not apply to any of the following:
1. A person receiving a registration list under sub. (4) to perform a legally authorized function.
2. A law enforcement agency, a state authority, a federal governmental agency, or the commission to perform a legally authorized function.
3. An insurer authorized to write property and casualty, or disability or long-term care insurance in this state or an agent of the insurer, if the insurer or agent uses the personal identifiers designated for nondisclosure under s. 85.103 (2) or (3) for purposes of issuing or renewing a policy and related underwriting, billing or processing or paying a claim. Notwithstanding par. (e), no insurer, or agent of an insurer, may disclose to another person for marketing purposes any personal identifier received under this subdivision.
4. A person obtaining registration or title information for use in the conduct of a vehicle recall by the manufacturer of the vehicle or an agent of the manufacturer, if the person uses the personal identifiers designated for nondisclosure under s. 85.103 (2) or (3) for vehicle recalls. Notwithstanding par. (e), no person receiving a personal identifier under this subdivision may disclose the personal identifier to another person for marketing purposes.
5. An association, as defined in s. 895.449 (1), obtaining registration information for use in providing information under s. 895.449, if the association uses the personal identifiers designated for nondisclosure under s. 85.103 (2) or (3) for this purpose. Notwithstanding par. (e), no person receiving a personal identifier under this subdivision may disclose the personal identifier to another person for marketing purposes.

(e) Any person who has received under par. (c) a personal identifier of any person who has made a designation under s. 85.103 (2) or (3) shall keep the personal identifier confidential and may not disclose it except for a purpose applicable to that person under par. (f) (e).

(f) 1. Any person who discloses a personal identifier in violation of this subsection may be required to forfeit not more than $500 for each violation.
2. Any person who requests or obtains a personal identifier from the department under this subsection under false pretenses may be required to forfeit not more than $500 for each violation.
3. Subdivisions 1. and 2. do not apply to a legal custodian under s. 19.33 of the department.


Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 195, Wis. adm. code.

EVIDENCE OF REGISTRATION TO BE DISPLAYED ON VEHICLES REGISTERED UNDER QUARTERLY OR CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY SYSTEMS; OPERATION WITHOUT DISPLAY OF REGISTRATION PROHIBITED. (1) A vehicle registered under s. 341.30 or 341.305 may not be operated on the highway without evidence of registration in the form required by the department displayed on or in the vehicle as required by the department, unless the vehicle has been authorized to operate under s. 341.19.

(2) If a person claims as a defense to a citation for failure to display evidence of registration that the person has made application for annual registration as provided in s. 341.04 (1) (intro.) and no such application was submitted to the department and the person is convicted of operating the vehicle without registration, the person shall be required to pay the full annual fee upon registration of the vehicle, notwithstanding the eligibility of the vehicle for registration under s. 341.30 or 341.305. The court or the department shall order the annual registration under s. 341.04 (3) (c).


APPLICATION FOR QUARTERLY OR CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY REGISTRATION. (1) RENEWAL APPLICATION. (a) Application for renewal of quarterly or consecutive monthly registration shall be made to the department upon forms prescribed by the department and shall be accompanied by the required fee. An applicant may obtain evidence of registration before the beginning of the registration period for which application is made by submitting for receipt by the department on or before the 15th day of the month preceding the registration period a complete application accompanied by the required fee.

(b) If the applicant complies with par. (a) and does not receive evidence of registration before the beginning of the registration period, the applicant may, before the beginning of the registration period, utilize the telephone authorization procedure in s. 341.19 without charge.

(c) If the application for renewal of a quarterly or consecutive monthly registration is submitted after the 15th day of the month preceding the beginning of the registration period, and evidence of registration is not received before the beginning of the registration period, the applicant may not operate the vehicle on a highway unless the applicant utilizes the telephone authorization procedure in s. 341.19.

(2) ORIGINAL APPLICATION. An applicant for original registration of a vehicle under the quarterly or consecutive monthly registration system may not operate the vehicle on a highway without evidence of registration as determined by the department or a permit under s. 341.09 (6) displayed in or on the vehicle, unless the applicant obtains authorization to operate the vehicle as provided in s. 341.19.


TELEPHONE AUTHORIZATION FOR QUARTERLY AND CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY REGISTRATION. (1) The department shall establish a telephone call-in procedure to authorize the operation of vehicles under the quarterly registration system in s. 341.30 or consecutive monthly registration system in s. 341.305. In addition to the registration fee required under s. 341.30 or 341.305, for authorizing the operation of a vehicle under this section, a fee shall be paid to the department of the lesser of $10 per vehicle or the actual cost of the telephone authorization per vehicle as determined by the department.

(2) (a) The department may require that cancellation of telephone authorization be made by telephone.

(c) Telephone authorization to operate a vehicle may be canceled by the applicant within 36 hours after making the request for telephone authorization, and the applicant shall not be required to pay the registration fee. The applicant shall pay to the department the authorization fee under sub. (1) and may be charged a cancellation fee established by the department.

(3) The department may refuse telephone authorization to an applicant who does not comply with this section or whose registration has been suspended under s. 341.195.

(4) The department shall promulgate rules to implement this section.


Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 133, Wis. adm. code.

SUSPENSION FOR FAILURE TO PAY FEES FOR TELEPHONE AUTHORIZATION. The department may suspend any or all registrations of a person who obtains authorization to operate under s. 341.19 and fails to pay the required authorization and registration fees within the time period established by the department


Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 133, Wis. adm. code.
under s. 341.19. A registration suspended under this section shall remain suspended until the fees required in s. 341.19 are paid.

History: 1983 a. 469.
Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 132, Wis. admn. code.

341.20 Alternative vehicle registration and title pilot projects. The department may conduct one or more pilot projects to test and evaluate the effectiveness of alternative methods of processing and distributing vehicle registration renewals under this chapter or certificates of title under ch. 342. In implementing any pilot project under this section, the department may exempt certain persons from one or more of the mandatory requirements of this chapter or ch. 342 to establish a test group in order to compare this group with a group of persons not exempted from any of the mandatory requirements of this chapter or ch. 342. The department may contract for services relating to pilot projects under this section. The department shall submit an evaluation of any pilot project implemented under this section to the secretary who shall include them in the report required under s. 15.04 (1) (d).

History: 1993 a. 16.

341.21 Registration and title transactions by contractors. (1m) In this section, “contractor” means a person who has contracted with the department to provide services under this section.

(2) The department may contract with any person for services relating to the processing or distribution of original or renewal registrations under this chapter or certificates of title under ch. 342. The department may not compensate a contractor for services provided under this section. A contract under this section shall contain the following provisions:

(a) The amount of fees, if any, that the contractor may charge a person for services relating to the processing or distribution of an original or renewal registration or a certificate of title.

(b) Within 7 business days after the completion of an application, the contractor shall process the application and submit any required fees and other documentation to the department.

(c) The contractor shall retain all records related to an application for original or renewal registration or a certificate of title for at least 5 years.

(d) The department or its representative may, without any prior notice, conduct random inspections and audits of the contractor.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 156, Wis. admn. code.

SUBCHAPTER II

PROVISIONS RELATING TO REGISTRATION FEES

341.25 Annual and biennial registration fees. (1) Unless a different fee is prescribed for a particular vehicle by par. (b) or ss. 341.26 to 341.268, the following registration fees shall be paid to the department for the annual registration of each motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer or semitrailer not exempted by s. 341.05 from registration in this state:

(a) For each automobile, a fee of $75, except that an automobile registered in this state prior to September 1, 1947, at a fee of less than $18 shall be registered at such lesser fee plus an additional fee of $2.

(b) For each motorcycle or moped with a curb weight of 1,499 pounds or less, except a specially designed vehicle under s. 341.067, which is designed for the transportation of persons rather than property, and for each low-speed vehicle, a biennial fee of $23.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 145, Wis. admn. code.

(bn) For each specially designed vehicle under s. 341.067, a fee of $5.

(c) For each motor truck or dual purpose motor home, a fee to be determined in accordance with sub. (2) on the basis of the maximum gross weight of the vehicle. Maximum gross weight shall be determined by adding together the weight in pounds of the vehicle when equipped to carry a load as a motor truck and the maximum load in pounds which the applicant proposes to carry on the vehicle when used as a motor truck.

(cm) For each motor truck used in combination with a semitrailer which converts to a trailer, a fee to be determined in accordance with sub. (2) on the basis of the maximum combined gross weight of the motor truck and any semitrailer which the applicant proposes to combine with the motor truck. The maximum combined gross weight shall in every case be determined by adding together the weight in pounds of the combination of vehicles when equipped to carry a load and the maximum load in pounds which the applicant proposes to carry on the combinations of vehicles.

(d) For each road tractor, a fee to be determined in accordance with sub. (2) on the basis of the maximum gross weight of the vehicle.

(e) For each tractor having a gross weight of more than 3,000 pounds but not more than 12,000 pounds designed to be hauled by a motor vehicle other than a truck tractor and not coming within the provisions of par. (gd), (ge), or (gf) of s. 341.264, a fee which is equal to the fee prescribed for a motor truck of the same maximum gross weight. The maximum gross weight shall be determined in the same manner as for a motor truck.

(gd) For each trailer or semitrailer having a gross weight of more than 12,000 pounds but not more than 12,000 pounds designed to be hauled by a motor vehicle other than a truck tractor and not coming within the provisions of s. 341.264, a fee which is one-half of the fee prescribed for a motor truck of the same maximum gross weight. The maximum gross weight shall be determined in the same manner as for a motor truck.

A trailer under this paragraph which is part of a fleet of 100 or more trailers used for hire or rental may be registered under s. 341.308.

(ge) For each trailer or semitrailer having a gross weight of more than 12,000 pounds but not more than 14,000 pounds designed to be hauled by a motor vehicle other than a truck tractor and not coming within the provisions of s. 341.264, a fee that is the average of the fees prescribed under sub. (2) (d) and (e). The maximum gross weight shall be determined in the same manner as for a motor truck.

(gf) For each trailer or semitrailer having a gross weight of more than 14,000 pounds designed to be hauled by a motor vehicle other than a truck tractor and not coming within the provisions of s. 341.264, a fee that is the average of the fees prescribed under sub. (2) (d) and (e).

(gm) 1. Each trailer or temporary undercarriage towed by a motor vehicle registered pursuant to sub. (2) and used solely for transporting a modular housing unit or other portable building used or intended to be used for human occupancy, or operated on the highways of this state without such trailer or temporary undercarriage being registered if it has displayed upon it a valid registration plate issued under this section.

2. Any person may apply to the department for registration as a transporter under this paragraph on such form as the department provides. If the department determines that the person is entitled to be registered, the department shall register the person upon payment of the same fee as prescribed in par. (g), based on the maximum combined gross weight of the building and trailer or temporary undercarriage upon which the plate is displayed. The
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registration and plate are valid only during the calendar year in which they were issued and shall be subject to s. 341.30 (1) (c). Such plate may be used on any trailer or temporary undercarriage owned by the same person and used solely for transporting a modular housing unit or other portable building as referred to above and the return of empty trailers or temporary undercarriages.

(h) For each motor bus a fee to be determined in accordance with sub. (2) on the basis of the maximum gross weight of the vehicle. The maximum gross weight shall be determined by adding together the weight in pounds of the vehicle when equipped ready to carry passengers and the total passenger weight capacity in pounds. The total passenger weight capacity in pounds shall be determined by dividing by 20 the total length in inches of seating space in or on the vehicle, including the driver’s seat, and multiplying this result by 150.

(i) For each recreational vehicle, and for each camping trailer, a fee of $15.

(j) For each motor home, including any vehicle which is converted to be used as a motor home, an annual fee based on gross weight, as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gross weight in pounds</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 4,500</td>
<td>$ 75.00</td>
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<td>Not more than 6,000</td>
<td>$ 84.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 20,000</td>
<td>$356.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 26,000</td>
<td>$475.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 32,000</td>
<td>$609.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 38,000</td>
<td>$772.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 44,000</td>
<td>$921.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 50,000</td>
<td>$1,063.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 54,000</td>
<td>$1,135.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 56,000</td>
<td>$1,209.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 62,000</td>
<td>$1,367.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 68,000</td>
<td>$1,543.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 73,000</td>
<td>$1,755.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 76,000</td>
<td>$2,081.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 80,000</td>
<td>$2,560.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) Upon payment of the fee prescribed by law, a vehicle subject to registration on the basis of gross weight may be registered at a weight in excess of the manufacturer’s maximum gross weight rating, but such registration does not exempt such vehicle from compliance with weight limitations imposed by law or by state or local authorities pursuant to authority of law.

(4) Registration fees apportioned to this state under the international registration plan under s. 341.405 are derived under this section.

341.255 Special transaction fees. (1) The department shall charge a fee to be established by rule for processing applications for registration which have a special handling request for fast service. The fee shall approximate the cost to the department for providing this special handling service to persons so requesting.

(2) The department shall charge the following fees for counter services:

(a) For each transaction relating to a certificate of title, $5.

(b) For each transaction relating to a registration not involving a certificate of title, $5; except that if the registration is solely a renewal of the previous year’s registration the fee shall be $3.

(c) For each transaction which is a combination of a certificate of title and registration for the same vehicle, $5.

(3) In addition to the regular registration fee specified in s. 341.25 (1) (a) or (b) or (2) (a) to (c), the department shall charge a late fee of $10 for each transaction relating to the renewal of a registration under s. 341.25 (1) (a) or (b) or (2) (a) to (c) that is filed after the date of expiration of registration.

341.26 Special registration fees for certain vehicles. (1) SPECIAL MOBILE EQUIPMENT FEE Unless exempted under s. 341.05, a fee of $18 or a fee which is 10 percent of the fee prescribed for a motor truck of the same weight under s. 341.25 (2), whichever is greater, shall be paid to the department for annual registration of the following types of special mobile equipment:

(a) A motor truck or traction well-drilling rig permanently equipped with a well-drilling outfit and used exclusively for well-drilling purposes.

(b) A motor truck or traction sawmill or corn sheller rig permanently equipped with a portable sawmill or corn sheller outfit and used exclusively for sawmill or corn sheller purposes.

(c) A trailer not used for hire and used for transporting any ditching machine which is used exclusively for farm ditching or
for the loading of gravel or other road material and which has a dipper capacity of not to exceed five-eighths of a yard.

(d) A mobile crane or trench hoe used for bridge or building construction, for ditching and excavating, for heavy machinery removal or installation or for loading and handling of heavy articles.

(e) A motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer, if operated empty or transporting the equipment of the owner to or from a certain location, when such operation at the location is any of the following:

1. The performance of work on a contract for the construction or maintenance of highways or airports for the United States, the state or any political subdivision thereof; or
2. The production of agricultural lime; or
3. The clearing of land, building of dikes, or terracing and ditching for the purpose of soil erosion control, farm drainage or forestry.

(f) A motor truck on which is mounted feed grinding and mixing equipment and used exclusively as a portable feed mill.

(g) A motor vehicle not used for hire and used in conjunction with a trailer on which is permanently mounted equipment used for wood chipping and screening.

(h) A trailer on which is permanently mounted equipment used exclusively for wood chipping and screening.

(2) FIVE-DOLLAR FEE FOR 5-YEAR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN VEHICLES. A registration under this subsection expires every 5th year, except that the department may specify the expiration date of initial registration under this subsection. A registration fee of $5 shall be paid to the department for the registration of each of the following vehicles:

(a) A driver education vehicle under s. 341.267.

(b) Any vehicle loaned to this state or to any county or municipality of this state for the duration of any war emergency and operated exclusively for civilian defense purposes by such state, county or municipality.

(d) A school bus owned and operated by a school district and used for the transportation of pupils to or from points designated by the school, including curricular and extracurricular activities and nonpupil transportation under s. 120.13 (27).

(dm) A school bus which is not owned and operated by a school district and which is used to transport pupils to or from points designated by the school, including curricular and extracurricular activities.

(e) A motor bus owned and operated by a charitable corporation and used exclusively for the purposes for which incorporated and not used for hire.

(em) A motor bus owned and operated by a nonprofit corporation and used exclusively for transporting groups participating in parades or other entertainment, including, without limitation war veterans organization and used only for the purpose of advertising the organization.

(f) A motor vehicle operated exclusively by a nonprofit organization, as defined in s. 108.02 (19), as a blood bank vehicle.

(g) A motor vehicle operated exclusively by a nationally chartered war veterans organization and used only for the purpose of advertising the organization.

(h) A motor vehicle used for the urban mass transportation of passengers as defined in s. 71.38.

(i) A motor vehicle owned and operated exclusively by the civil air patrol.

(j) A motor vehicle and semitrailer operated exclusively as a mobile X-ray unit owned and operated by a nonprofit corporation and used exclusively for the purposes for which incorporated and not for hire.

(k) A fire truck or trailer owned and operated exclusively by an incorporated volunteer fire department.

(m) A motor vehicle owned and operated by a voluntary non-profit organization and used exclusively for rescue work. In this paragraph, “rescue work” means the rendering of first aid and emergency transportation to persons in need of immediate medical attention.

(n) A motor vehicle owned by a nonprofit organization and used exclusively for the purpose of dispensing food and drink at the site of a disaster to emergency workers or to persons affected by the disaster.

(2m) PUBLICLY OWNED OR LEASED VEHICLES. (a) In this subsection, “municipality” has the meaning given in s. 345.05 (1) (c), except that the term does not include a county.

(am) A fee of $5 shall be paid to the department for the original issuance of a registration plate for any vehicle owned by this state or by any county or municipality or federally recognized Indian tribe or band in this state or leased to this state or to any county or municipality or federally recognized Indian tribe or band in this state and operated exclusively, except for operation under s. 20.916 (7), in the public service by such state, county, municipality or Indian tribe or band. The registration shall be valid while the vehicle is owned and operated by the registrant or is leased to and operated by this state or by the county, municipality or Indian tribe or band, and the registrant complies with s. 110.20 (6).

(b) If a vehicle is replaced, reassignment of plate to replacement vehicle shall be made with payment of $1.

(3) AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES. In recognition of the relationship of the basic economy of the state to agriculture and the production and marketing of milk, there shall be paid to the department for the registration of the following vehicles the fees prescribed in this subsection:

(a) 1. For each farm truck having a gross weight of 12,000 pounds or less, a biennial fee of $45.
2. For each farm truck having a gross weight of more than 12,000 pounds, an annual fee which is one-fourth of the fee prescribed in s. 341.25 (2) for a motor truck having the same gross weight.

(am) For each dual purpose farm truck having a registered gross weight of 12,000 pounds or less, an annual fee to be determined in accordance with s. 341.25 (2) on the basis of the maximum gross weight of the vehicle. Maximum gross weight shall be determined by adding together the weight in pounds of the vehicle when equipped to carry a load as a motor truck and the maximum load in pounds which the applicant proposes to carry on the vehicle when used as a motor truck. A motor truck registered under this paragraph may be operated at a maximum gross weight of not more than 12,000 pounds when used for the purposes of a farm truck.

(ar) For each farm truck tractor, an annual fee which is 25 percent of the fee under s. 341.25 (2) for a truck tractor having the same gross weight, determined on the basis of the maximum combined gross weight of the farm truck tractor and any trailer or semitrailer which the applicant proposes to combine with the farm truck tractor. Maximum combined gross weight shall be determined by adding together the weight in pounds of the combination of vehicles when equipped to carry a load and the maximum load in pounds which the applicant proposes to carry on the combination of vehicles.

(b) For each farm trailer not coming within the provisions of s. 341.264, an annual fee which is 25 percent of the fee prescribed by s. 341.25 (2) for a motor truck having the same gross weight.

(c) For each motor vehicle used exclusively in the transportation of milk from the point of production to the primary market, and the return of dairy supplies and dairy products from such primary market to the farm, an annual fee to be determined in accordance with par. (g) on the basis of maximum gross weight.

(d) For each motor vehicle used exclusively in the transportation of cheese, butter and powdered milk when such cheese, butter
and powdered milk are transported from plant to plant or to warehouses within this state, an annual fee to be determined in accordance with par. (g) on the basis of maximum gross weight.

(d) For each motor vehicle used exclusively in the transportation of liquid dairy products, an annual fee to be determined in accordance with par. (g) on the basis of maximum gross weight.

(e) A person owning and operating more truck tractors than semitrailers registered by that person within this state and used exclusively for transporting liquid dairy products may register such excess truck tractors at the annual fees specified in par. (g), provided that that person uses such excess truck tractors exclusively with such semitrailers. The fee shall be determined on the basis of weight of the truck tractor only.

(em) For each trailer used exclusively in the transportation of liquid dairy products, an annual fee which is 25 percent of the fee prescribed by s. 341.25 (2) for a motor truck having the same gross weight.

(f) In pars. (da), (e) and (em), “liquid dairy products” means milk and products of milk in liquid form, including without limitation because of enumeration, condensed and sweetened condensed products of milk, both in raw and pasteurized form, whey and liquid whey sugars.

(g) The following schedule shall be used in determining fees for vehicles registered under par. (e), (d), (da) or (e) or sub. (3m), based on gross weight, provided that a surcharge of $18 shall be added to and collected with the fee for each truck tractor:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum gross weight in pounds</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 4,500</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 6,000</td>
<td>36.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 8,000</td>
<td>43.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3m. Not more than 10,000</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 12,000</td>
<td>77.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 16,000</td>
<td>109.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 20,000</td>
<td>142.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 26,000</td>
<td>190.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 32,000</td>
<td>245.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 38,000</td>
<td>309.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 44,000</td>
<td>371.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 50,000</td>
<td>425.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>11m. Not more than 54,000</td>
<td>456.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 56,000</td>
<td>487.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 62,000</td>
<td>551.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 68,000</td>
<td>622.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 73,000</td>
<td>709.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not more than 76,000</td>
<td>838.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not more than 80,000</td>
<td>1,032.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(h) Except as otherwise provided in par. (e), the maximum gross weight of each vehicle under this subsection shall be computed as provided in s. 341.25 for the same type of vehicle.

(3m) Forest products vehicles. In recognition of the relationship of the basic economy of the state to the forest products industry, there shall be paid to the department for the annual registration of a road tractor, motor truck, or truck tractor used exclusively in connection with the transportation of raw forest products, as defined in s. 26.05 (1), or equipment that is owned or leased by the owner of the road tractor, motor truck, or truck tractor and used exclusively in the production of raw forest products, a fee determined in accordance with sub. (3) (g) on the basis of maximum gross weight, except that a trailer used exclusively in connection with the transportation of raw forest products or equipment that is owned or leased by the owner of the trailer and used exclusively in the production of raw forest products may be registered upon payment of a fee that is 25 percent of the fee prescribed by s. 341.25 (2) for a motor truck having the same gross weight. The maximum gross weight of each vehicle registered under this subsection shall be computed in the manner specified in s. 341.25 for the same type of vehicle, except that a person who owns and operates more truck tractors than semitrailers registered by him or her within this state and used exclusively as provided in this subsection may register such an excess truck tractor at a fee specified under sub. (3) (g) determined on the basis of the weight of the truck tractor only.

(4) Grading, ditching, excavating or hauling vehicles. Except for those vehicles that qualify for registration under sub. (1) (a) to (e), any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer, if operated empty, or used exclusively in transporting the equipment of the owner to or from a certain location over the highways, when such operation at the location is exclusively for grading, ditching or excavating or when such equipment is used exclusively for seasonal hauling of carnival rides and equipment, shall be registered at one-fourth of the fee specified in s. 341.25 (2) for vehicles or combinations of vehicles of the same gross weight.

(5) Tour trains. For each tour train, the operation of which is limited in s. 348.08 (1) (c), a single fee for the 3 or less units thereof equal to one-half of the fee prescribed in s. 341.25 (1) (h) for a motor bus of the same maximum gross weight as the aggregate maximum gross weight of all units of the tour train, excluding the propelling motor vehicle, when such gross weight is computed as prescribed in s. 341.25 (1) (h).

(7) Transportation by school buses. (a) A person who uses any school bus, except a school bus registered under sub. (2) (d), a school bus registered under sub. (2) (dm) and used by the owner for private carriage and not for the transportation of students provided in par. (b), to transport persons who are not pupils shall obtain a permit from the department for such transportation. The department shall issue a permit which shall be valid for a period of not more than 72 hours upon application and payment of a $10 permit issuance fee.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 127, Wis. adm. code.

(b) When engaged in passenger-carrying operations other than as provided in par. (a) or sub. (2) (d), a school bus shall be registered as a motor bus at a fee determined under s. 341.25 (2), or as an automobile at the fee provided in s. 341.25 (1) (a). Fees for registration under s. 341.25 (2) may be paid in accordance with ss. 341.30 and 341.31. Fees for part-quarterly registration shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual fee multiplied by the number of months of the current quarter which have not fully expired on the date of the application. If a vehicle was not operated in other than school bus service, a statement of non-operation satisfactory to the department shall be filed with the application.


341.264 Permanent semitrailer registration. (1) Upon application and payment of a fee of $50, the department shall register a semitrailer which is operated in connection with a truck tractor or hauled by a motor vehicle and used with a device which converts the semitrailer to a trailer. Registration under this section is valid without the payment of any additional fee while the registrant is the owner of the semitrailer and, with respect to the sale of a leased semitrailer to the lessee of the semitrailer, while the former lessee is the owner of the semitrailer if the lessee reimbursed the lessor of the semitrailer at the time of registration of the semitrailer for payment of the registration fee under this subsection. The department shall issue a permanent semitrailer registration plate to evidence registration under this subsection.

(2) (a) Upon the sale of a semitrailer registered under this section, the seller shall remove the registration plate and destroy it. The purchaser shall immediately apply for registration and pay the full applicable fee prescribed in sub. (1). This paragraph does not
apply to the sale of a leased semitrailer to a lessee eligible to maintain permanent registration of the semitrailer under sub. (1).

(b) The seller of any semitrailer registered under this section shall receive no credit toward the registration of any other vehicle.


341.265 Antique motor vehicles; registration, plates, use. (1) Any person who is a resident of this state and the owner or subsequent transferee of a motor vehicle which has a model year before 945 or which has not been altered or modified from the original manufacturer’s specifications may upon application register the same as an antique vehicle upon payment of a fee of $5, and be furnished registration plates of a distinctive design, in lieu of the usual registration plates, which shall show in addition to the registration number that the vehicle is an antique. The registration shall be valid while the vehicle is owned by the applicant without the payment of any additional fee. The vehicle shall only be used for special occasions such as display and parade purposes or for necessary testing, maintenance and storage purposes. A motorcycle may be registered as an antique vehicle if all of the requirements for registration specified in this subsection are satisfied.

(1m) Notwithstanding s. 341.15 (1), a person who registers an antique motor vehicle under sub. (1) may furnish and display on the vehicle a historical plate from or representing the model year of the vehicle if the registration and plates issued by the department are simultaneously carried in or, with respect to an antique motorcycle, with the vehicle and are available for inspection.

(2) Unless inconsistent with this section, the provisions applicable to other motor vehicles apply to antique motor vehicles.


341.266 Special interest vehicles; registration, plates, use. (1) In this section:

(a) “Collector” means the owner of one or more special interest vehicles who collects, purchases, acquires, trades or disposes of special interest vehicles or parts thereof for the collector’s own use in order to restore, preserve and maintain a special interest vehicle for historic interest.

(2) Unless inconsistent with this section, the provisions applicable to other vehicles shall apply to special interest vehicles.

(2m) “Former military vehicle” means any of the following:

(a) A high-mobility, all-terrain, 4-wheel or 6-wheel drive vehicle originally manufactured for military use and commonly known by the trade name of “Pinzgauer.”

(b) A vehicle commonly known by the name of “Kaiser Jeep M715.”

(c) A high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle originally manufactured for use by the U.S. military forces and commonly known by the name of “Humvee” that, notwithstanding par. (am) (intro.), is at least 22 years old.

(d) A 6-wheel drive utility vehicle originally manufactured for use by the U.S. military forces during World War II, known by the acronym of “DUKW” and commonly referred to by the name of “Duck.”

(2n) “Parts car” means a motor vehicle generally in nonoperable condition which is owned by the collector to furnish parts which will enable the collector to restore, preserve and maintain a special interest vehicle or antique vehicle.

(c) “Special interest vehicle” means any of the following:

1. A former military vehicle.

2. A motor vehicle of any age, of which the body has not been altered from the original and, because of its historic interest, is being preserved by a collector.

(2) (a) Any person who is the owner of a special interest vehicle that is a former military vehicle, or that is not a former military vehicle and is 20 or more years old at the time of making application for registration or transfer of title of the vehicle, and who, unless the owner is an historical society that is exempt from federal income taxes, owns, has registered in this state, and uses for regular transportation at least one vehicle that has regular registration plates may upon application register the vehicle as a special interest vehicle upon payment of a fee under par. (b).

(b) The fee to register a vehicle under par. (a) is twice the regular annual fee under s. 341.25 for the type of vehicle, except that the fee for a vehicle that has a gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds may be no more than twice the annual fee for a similar vehicle that has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds.

(c) The department shall furnish the owner of the vehicle with registration plates of a distinctive design in lieu of the usual registration plates, and those plates shall show that the vehicle is a special interest vehicle owned by a Wisconsin collector. Upon application, the owner may reregister the vehicle without the payment of any additional fee.

(d) Each collector applying for special interest vehicle registration plates will be issued a collector’s identification number which will appear on each plate. Second and all subsequent registrations under this section by the same collector will bear the same collector’s identification number followed by a suffix letter for vehicle identification.

(e) The vehicle may be used as are other vehicles of the same type except that:

1. Motor vehicles may not transport passengers or property for hire.

2. Motor trucks and truck tractors, except those that are former military vehicles, may not carry material weighing more than 500 pounds, not including the weight of a camper, lid, or cap that is mounted on the motor truck or truck tractor, the weight of a trailer or load drawn by the motor truck or truck tractor, or the weight of any persons or pets riding within the driver’s compartment.

3. Except as provided in s. 341.09 (7), no special interest vehicle may be operated upon any highway of this state during the month of January unless the owner of the vehicle reregisters the vehicle under s. 341.25 and replaces the distinctive registration plates issued under par. (c) with regular registration plates or transfers regular registration plates to the vehicle.

(f) Unless inconsistent with this section, the provisions applicable to other vehicles shall apply to special interest vehicles.

(3) In addition to the fee in sub. (2) (b), there shall be an original (first time only) processing fee of $50 to defray the cost of issuing the original collector’s special interest vehicle registration plates and to ensure that each collector will be issued only one collector’s identification number.

(4) A collector may store unlicensed, operable or inoperable, vehicles and parts cars on the collector’s property provided the vehicles and parts cars and the outdoor storage area are maintained in such a manner that they do not constitute a health hazard and are screened from ordinary public view by means of a fence, rapidly growing trees, shrubbery or other appropriate means.
(5) Any person who violates sub. (2) (e) 3. may be required to forfeit not more than $200.


341.267 Driver education motor vehicles; registration and insurance. (1) In this section:

(a) “Driver education vehicle” means any of the following:
  1. Any motor vehicle loaned to a school by a licensed motor vehicle dealer which is used for the exclusive purpose of behind-the-wheel instruction or for necessary maintenance and storage.
  2. Any motor vehicle owned or leased by a school which is used for behind-the-wheel instruction.

(b) “School” means a public or nonpublic school having an approved driver education program as certified by the department of public instruction or the technical college system board.

(1m) The department of public instruction shall establish uniform marking standards for a motor vehicle which is used as a driver education vehicle. The markings shall be removed when the owned or leased vehicle is being operated for other than behind-the-wheel instruction or necessary maintenance and storage.

(1r) Any person who makes a false statement in an application to register a driver education vehicle or who uses a driver education vehicle which is registered under s. 341.26 (2) (a) except as authorized under this section may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(2) A driver education vehicle shall be registered as provided in s. 341.26 (2). If a driver education vehicle is replaced, reassignment of the plate to a replacement driver education vehicle shall be made by the department on request without payment of an additional fee.

(5) No motor vehicle may be used for driver education unless a policy of bodily injury and property damage liability insurance issued by an insurer authorized to transact business in this state, is maintained thereon. The policy shall provide such coverages in at least such amounts as are specified under s. 344.01 (2) (d). However, the department may require additional coverages and amounts as conditions warrant.

(6) No insurance policy issued under sub. (5) may be terminated or canceled prior to its expiration for any reason unless a notice thereof is filed with the department and with the school at least 30 days prior to the date of termination or cancellation.

(7) No registration shall be issued or remain in force for a driver education vehicle unless a certification of insurance in such form as the department may require is filed with the department by the insurer certifying that a policy of insurance, as required by this section, has been issued and is in effect which covers the owner, operator, instructor, school and any passengers in the vehicle.

History: 1973 c. 200; 1975 c. 215; 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (7) (a), (e); 1981 c. 188; 1987 a. 216; 1993 a. 399; 1995 a. 27 s. 9145 (1); 1997 a. 27.

Cross-reference: See also s. PI 21.03, Wis. adm. code.

341.268 Reconstructed, replica, street modified and homemade vehicles; registration, plates, use. (1) In this section:

(a) “Hobbyist” means the owner of one or more reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicles who collects, purchases, acquires, trades or disposes of reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicles or parts thereof for personal use in order to build, reconstruct, restore, preserve and maintain a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle for historic or hobby interest.

(b) “Homemade vehicle” means any of the following:
  1. A motor vehicle that has been constructed or assembled from new or used parts or both using a body and frame not originating from and not resembling any previously manufactured motor vehicle.
  2. A motorcycle that is a reproduction of a vehicle originally made by another manufacturer and that consists of a reproduction body that is combined with a new, used, or replica frame and drivetrain.

(c) “Parts car” means a motor vehicle generally in nonoperable condition which is owned by the hobbyist to furnish parts which will enable the hobbyist to build, reconstruct, restore, preserve and maintain a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle.

(d) “Reconstructed vehicle” means a motor vehicle of any age which has been substantially altered or modified from original manufacturers specifications to such an extent that it no longer resembles the original manufactured vehicle.

(e) “Replica vehicle” means a motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, that is a reproduction of a vehicle originally made by another manufacturer and that consists of a reproduction body that is combined with a new, used, or replica frame and drivetrain.

(f) “Street modified vehicle” means a motor vehicle of any age which has been modified from original manufacturers specifications, but does not include any reconstructed vehicle as defined under par. (d).

(2) (a) Any person who is the owner of a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle and who owns, has registered in this state and uses for regular transportation at least one vehicle that has regular registration plates may upon application register the vehicle as a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle upon payment of a fee under par. (b), provided that the vehicle is one of the following:

1. A reconstructed vehicle assembled from a vehicle manufactured 20 years or more prior to the time of making application for registration or transfer of title of the vehicle.

2. A replica vehicle which is a reproduction of a vehicle manufactured 20 years or more prior to the time of making application for registration or transfer of title of the replica vehicle.

3. A street modified vehicle which is 20 or more years old at the time of making application for registration or transfer of title of the vehicle.

4. A homemade vehicle under sub. (1) (b) 1.

5. A homemade vehicle under sub. (1) (b) 2. that is a reproduction of a motorcycle manufactured 20 years or more prior to the time of making application for registration or transfer of title of the homemade vehicle.

(b) The fee to register a vehicle under par. (a) is twice the regular annual fee under s. 341.25 for the type of vehicle, except that the fee for a vehicle that has a gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds may be no more than twice the annual fee for a similar vehicle that has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds.

(c) The department shall furnish the owner of the vehicle with registration plates of a distinctive design in lieu of the usual registration plates, and those plates shall show that the vehicle is a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle owned by a Wisconsin hobbyist. Upon application, the owner may reregister the vehicle without the payment of any additional fee.

(d) Each hobbyist applying for reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle registration plates will be issued a hobbyist’s identification number which will appear on each plate. Second and all subsequent registrations under this section by the same hobbyist will bear the same hobbyist’s identification number followed by a suffix letter for vehicle identification.

(e) The vehicle may be used as are other vehicles of the same type except that:

1. Motor vehicles may not transport passengers for hire.
2. Trucks may not haul material weighing more than 500 pounds, not including the weight of a camper, lid or cap that is mounted on the truck or the weight of any persons or pets riding within the driver’s compartment.

Updated 2017-18 Wis. Stats. Published and certified under s. 35.18. May 11, 2019.
3. Except as provided in s. 341.09 (7), no reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle may be operated upon any highway of this state during the month of January unless the owner of the vehicle reregisters the vehicle under s. 341.25 and replaces the distinctive registration plates issued under par. (c) with regular registration plates or transfers regular registration plates to the vehicle.

(f) Unless inconsistent with this section, the provisions of this chapter applicable to other vehicles shall apply to reconstructed, replica, street modified and homemade vehicles.

(3) In addition to the fee in sub. (2) (b), there shall be an original (first time only) processing fee of $50 to defray the cost of issuing the original hobbyist’s reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle registration plates and to ensure that each hobbyist will be issued only one hobbyist’s identification number.

(4) A hobbyist may store unlicensed, operable or inoperable, vehicles and parts cars on the hobbyist’s property provided the vehicles and parts and outdoor storage area are maintained in such a manner that they do not constitute a health hazard and are screened from ordinary public view by means of a fence, rapidly growing trees, shrubbery or other appropriate means.

(4m) A motorcycle registered as a replica vehicle under s. 341.268, 1999 stats., shall be considered a homemade vehicle for purposes of this section and ss. 341.09 (7), 341.27 (3) (a), 341.28 (2), and 341.31 (4) (b), except that the owner of the motorcycle is not required to replace the distinctive registration plates issued under s. 341.268 (2) (c), 1999 stats., showing that the motorcycle is a replica vehicle.

(5) Any person who violates sub. (2) (c) 3. may be required to forfeit not more than $200.


Cross-reference: See also s. Trans 305.006, Wis. adm. code.

341.269 Historic military vehicles; registration, plates, use. (1) In this section:

(a) “Historic military vehicle” means a vehicle, including a trailer but excluding a tracked vehicle, that was manufactured for use in any country’s military forces and is maintained to accurately represent its military design and markings, regardless of the vehicle’s size or weight.

(b) “Parts vehicle” means a vehicle generally in nonoperable condition that is owned to furnish parts which will enable a historic military vehicle owner to restore, preserve, and maintain a historic military vehicle.

(2) (a) Any resident of this state who is the owner of a historic military vehicle that is at least 25 years old at the time of making application for registration and has been imported into the United States from another country, or that is any age and has not been imported into the United States, may upon application register the vehicle under this section as a historic military vehicle upon payment of the fees specified in par. (b). The applicant has the burden of providing evidence satisfactory to the department that the vehicle may be registered under this section, including, if applicable, providing documentation demonstrating that a historic military vehicle which is less than 25 years old was manufactured for U.S. military forces and was never imported.

(b) 1. Except as provided in subd. 3., the fee to register a vehicle under this section is $5. Upon application, the owner may reregister the vehicle under this section without the payment of any additional fee.

2. Except as provided in subd. 3., in addition to the fee under subd. 1., an applicant for initial registration under this section shall pay a one-time processing fee of $25 for the initial costs of production of the special plates under par. (c).

3. The department may not collect any fee under subd. 1. or 2. if, at the time of application for registration under this section, the vehicle is currently registered under another provision of this chapter. The department shall cease collection of the fee under

subd. 2. when the department has collected a total of $11,800 from either, or a combination of both, of the following sources:

a. The fee under subd. 2.

b. Any gift or contribution received by the department for purposes of funding the initial costs of production of the special plates under par. (c).

(c) The department shall furnish the owner of the vehicle registered under this section with registration plates of a distinctive design in lieu of the usual registration plates, and those plates shall show that the vehicle is registered as a historic military vehicle. The department shall specify the design for the registration plates furnished under this paragraph after consulting with a group or organization chartered in this state that is interested in historic military vehicles.

(3) A vehicle registered under this section may only be used for special occasions such as display and parade purposes, club activities, exhibitions, and tours, including traveling to and from such events, for necessary testing, maintenance, and storage purposes, and for occasional personal use, but not for regular transportation.

(4) A motorcycle may be registered under this section if all of the requirements for registration specified in this section are satisfied.

(5) Unless inconsistent with this section or s. 341.10 (6), the provisions applicable to other motor vehicles apply to vehicles registered under this section as historic military vehicles.

(6) The owner of a historic military vehicle may store unregistered, operable or inoperable, historic military vehicles and parts vehicles on the owner’s property if the vehicles and parts vehicles and the outdoor storage area are maintained in such a manner that they do not constitute a health hazard and are screened from ordinary public view by means of a fence, rapidly growing trees, shrubbery, or other appropriate means.

History: 2009 a. 135; 2013 a. 103.

341.27 Registration periods for private automobiles and taxicabs. (1) All automobiles, other than those that may be registered under s. 341.26 (2), 341.265, 341.266, 341.268, or 341.269 or are required by s. 341.29 to be registered on a calendar–year basis, shall be registered by the department according to the system of registration prescribed by this section.

(2) All automobiles subject to the registration system under this section shall be registered by the department for a period of one year except as follows:

(a) If the applicant holds current registration plates that were removed from an automobile that the applicant no longer owns or that has been junked, is no longer used on the highways or has been registered as a special interest vehicle under s. 341.266 (2) (a) or a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle under s. 341.268 (2) (a), and the plates were issued under the system of registration prescribed by this section, the department shall register the automobile which is the subject of the application for the remainder of the unexpired registration period.

(b) If the applicant does not hold current registration plates under the circumstances described in par. (a) and the application is on original rather than renewal application, the department may register the automobile which is the subject of the application for such period or part thereof as the secretary determines will help to equalize the registration and renewal workload of the department.


341.28 When part–year fees payable for private automobiles; computation of part–year fees. (1) The applicant for registration of an automobile under the system of registration prescribed by s. 341.27 shall pay in full the annual registration fee prescribed by law, except as otherwise provided in this section.
2. If the applicant for registration holds current registration plates which were removed from an automobile which the applicant no longer owns or which has been junked, is no longer being used on the highways or has been registered as a special interest vehicle under s. 341.26(2)(a) or a reconstructed, replica, street modified or homemade vehicle under s. 341.26(2)(a), and the plates were issued under the system of registration prescribed by s. 341.27, the applicant is exempt from the payment of a registration fee, except in the following cases:

(a) If the annual fee prescribed for the automobile being registered is higher than the annual fee prescribed for the automobile from which the plates were removed, the applicant shall pay a fee computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual difference between the 2 annual fees multiplied by the number of months for which the automobile which is the subject of the application is being registered. The start of the new registration, for the purpose of computing the fee, shall be determined in accordance with sub. (7).

(b) If the automobile which is the subject of the application was owned by the applicant at any time during the month in which the transfer, termination of the consumer lease, discontinuance of use on the highways, junking or registration under s. 341.26(2)(a) or 341.268(2)(a) of the other automobile occurred and was not currently registered at the time of such transfer, termination of the consumer lease, discontinuance of use on the highways, junking or registration under s. 341.26(2)(a) or 341.268(2)(a), the applicant shall pay a fee to be computed as provided in subs. (3) to (5) but shall receive a credit for the unused portion of the current registration. The credit shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual fee paid for the vehicle from which the plates were removed multiplied by the number of months remaining in the registration period represented by the removed plates, including the month during which the applicant transferred, discontinued to use on the highways, junked or registered under s. 341.26(2)(a) or 341.268(2)(a), the applicant shall pay a fee to be computed as provided in subs. (3) to (5) but shall receive a credit for the unused portion of the current registration. The credit shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual fee paid for the vehicle from which the plates were removed.

3. If the applicant does not hold current registration plates under the circumstances described in sub. (2) and the automobile which is the subject of the application has not previously been registered in this state by the applicant, the fee payable by the applicant shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual fee multiplied by the number of months for which the automobile is being registered, the start of such registration period to be determined in accordance with sub. (7).

4. If the applicant does not hold current registration plates under the circumstances described in sub. (2) but the automobile which is the subject of the application has previously been registered in this state by the applicant, the applicant shall pay a fee covering all the time since the end of the period for which the automobile previously was registered unless:

(a) The automobile in the meantime has been owned by another person or registered in another state; or

(b) At least 12 months have elapsed since the end of the period for which the automobile previously was registered and the applicant filed with the department a statement that the applicant did not during those 12 months operate or consent to the operation of such automobile under circumstances making the automobile subject to registration in this state; or

(c) The automobile is owned by a person who has been in active military service or who is a member of the U.S. foreign service appointed under 22 USC 3942(1) or 3943 who has been in active service and less than 12 months of nonoperation have elapsed since the end of the period for which the automobile was previously registered, provided the applicant files with the department a statement of such nonoperation.

5. Under the circumstances described in sub. (4), the fee payable by the applicant shall be computed as prescribed in sub. (3) for an automobile not previously registered by the applicant in this state, provided that he or she first files with the department a statement of nonoperation if required to do so by sub. (7).

6. If the automobile being registered under the circumstances described in sub. (3) or (4) is a replacement for a registered vehicle which has been junked, the applicant is entitled to a credit to be computed and applied in accordance with s. 341.31(2)(b).

7. For the purpose of computing the registration fee payable upon registration of an automobile under circumstances described in subs. (2) to (4), the beginning of the current registration period shall be determined as follows:

(a) The registration period for an automobile commences when the first operation of the automobile under circumstances making the owner liable for its registration in this state occurs. For purposes of this paragraph, “first operation” means operation of the automobile after it was transferred or leased to the applicant or after it was registered in another state or after an active service refund or after the expiration of 12 months of nonoperation since expiration of the last registration in this state or after it was no longer used on the highways.

(b) In the case of an automobile which has not previously been registered or which has not been registered in this state by the present owner since the owner last acquired ownership of the automobile, the department shall assume that the date of first operation within the meaning of par. (a) is the date of the bill of sale evidencing the transfer of ownership to the applicant or, with respect to a leased vehicle, the date of commencement of the lease by the applicant, unless the applicant files with the department a statement that the automobile was not so operated until a later date, specifying the date of such first operation. In the case of at least 12 months of nonoperation of an automobile previously registered by the applicant, the applicant must file with the department a statement that he or she did not operate or consent to the operation of the automobile under circumstances making it subject to registration in this state during such 12-month period and must specify the date following such period when the automobile was first so operated. The department may refuse to accept a statement which projects the date of first operation into the future.

series system of registration as to distribute the work of registration throughout the calendar year.

(3) All vehicles subject to registration under the monthly series system under this section shall be registered by the department for a period of 12 consecutive calendar months except as follows:

(a) If the applicant holds registration plates which were removed from a vehicle under s. 341.31 (4) (c), 342.15 (4) (a) or 342.34 (1) (c) or (2) (c), and the plates were issued under the monthly series system, the department shall register a replacement vehicle of the same type and gross weight which is the subject of the application for the remainder of the unexpired registration period.

(b) If the applicant does not hold current registration plates under the circumstances described in par. (a) and the application is an original rather than renewal application, the department may register the vehicle which is the subject of the application for such period or part of a period as the secretary determines will help to equalize the registration and renewal workload of the department.

(4) Section 341.31 applies to any vehicles registered according to the monthly series system under this section.

(5) When it initially implements the monthly series registration system under this section, the department may provide for renewal registration periods of not less than 6 months nor more than 18 months. The fees under this subsection shall be assessed according to the length of the registration periods.


341.297 Biennial registration. The following vehicles shall be registered on a biennial basis:

(1) A motorcycle, moped, or low-speed vehicle, as specified in s. 341.25 (1) (b).

(2) A farm truck having a gross weight of 12,000 pounds or less, as specified in s. 341.26 (3) (a) 1.


341.30 Quarterly registration. (1) Any of the following vehicles may be registered on a quarterly basis in lieu of the annual registration specified in s. 341.29:

(a) A motor bus having a registered gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds, except motor buses registered under s. 341.26 (2) (d) and (h).

(b) A motor truck, road tractor or trailer having a registered gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds.

(c) A truck tractor, when the aggregate combined registered gross weight of the truck tractor and any semitrailer operated in conjunction with it is more than 8,000 pounds.

(d) Any of the vehicles subject to registration under s. 341.26 (3) (c), (d) or (e) having a registered gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds.

(e) A motor home having a registered gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds and registered under s. 341.25 (1) (j).

(2) For the purpose of quarterly registration of vehicles, the quarters are January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. A registration made on a quarterly basis expires on the last day of the quarter for which the vehicle is registered.

(3) The quarterly registration fee is 25 percent of the annual fee. The department shall register a vehicle subject to quarterly registration for as many quarters less than a full year as the applicant desires. The fee payable shall be the quarterly registration fee times the number of quarters for which registration is desired plus $5 for each application submitted. If satisfactory evidence is provided that a vehicle was not operated on the highways during any quarter it shall be exempt from the payment of fees for the quarter in which it was not used.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 1441, 1654 (7) (a); 1977 c. 418; 1981 c. 20; 1983 a. 123; 2013 a. 197 s. 51.

341.305 Consecutive monthly registration. (1) In this section, “consecutive monthly registration” means registration for a minimum of 3 consecutive months.

(2) Any of the following vehicles may be registered on a consecutive monthly registration basis in lieu of the annual registration specified in s. 341.29:

(a) A motor truck or a trailer or a truck tractor used exclusively to transport concrete pipe or block and related materials, calcium chloride liquid, a weight transfer machine for purposes associated with truck or tractor pulling competitions or events, recycled metal salvage materials, logs or pulpwood, dirt, fill or aggregates, or fresh milk, or to transport perishable fresh fruits or vegetables for canning, freezing, dehydrating or storage prior to processing, including return of waste, or to transport petroleum products.

(b) A motor truck or a trailer or a truck tractor equipped with a dump, box or other container used exclusively to transport gravel, concrete or cement and bituminous road construction materials or agricultural lime, feed, grain or fertilizer, or equipped with a mechanical mixer used exclusively to mix and deliver concrete.

(bm) A motor truck or truck tractor which is owned by a retail lumberyard and used exclusively to transport building construction materials from that lumberyard to a building construction site.

(c) Any motor vehicle used exclusively for towing operations of stalled or disabled vehicles.

(3) The monthly registration fee is one-twelfth of the annual fee. A consecutive monthly registration period begins on the first day of the first month of the period. The department shall register a vehicle under this section for as many additional consecutive months as the applicant desires, and the fee payable shall be the monthly registration fee times the number of months for which registration is desired plus $15 for each application submitted. If satisfactory evidence is provided that a vehicle was not operated on the highways during any month for which registration is not requested, it shall be exempt from the payment of fees for the month in which it was not used.

(4) One additional month may be added once per calendar year to the registration period of a vehicle registered under this section upon payment of the fee in sub. (3) as provided in ss. 341.185 and 341.19.

(5) Registration under this section precludes registration under s. 341.30 if the consecutive monthly registration period begins during the current annual registration period.


341.307 Optional vehicle fleet registration. (1) The owner of a fleet of vehicles, of a fleet size determined by the department by rule, may register the vehicles for a 3-year period under this section if all of the vehicles are any of the following:

(a) An automobile.

(b) A motor truck which has a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds.

(c) A commercial motor vehicle operated solely in intrastate commerce that has a maximum gross weight of less than 55,000 pounds.

(2) The registration of vehicles under this section shall be valid for a 3-year period. Upon receipt of an application and the initial registration fees under sub. (4), the department shall issue registration plates, insert tags, or decals for all of the vehicles in the fleet, with each vehicle having the same registration expiration date. A vehicle may be registered as part of a fleet under this section regardless of whether, at the time of application for the initial registration of the fleet, the vehicle is currently registered with the department.

(3) After the initial registration of a fleet of vehicles under this section, the owner of the vehicles may register additional vehicles added to the fleet. The registration of vehicles added to the fleet
during the 3−year registration period shall expire on the expiration date of the original fleet registration.

(4) (a) Subject to pars. (b) to (d), the fleet owner shall pay a registration fee for each vehicle registered under this section in an amount equal to 3 times the applicable fee prescribed for the vehicle in s. 341.25 or 341.26.

(b) If a vehicle that is being initially registered as part of a vehicle fleet under this section has more than one month remaining in its current registration period, the department shall prorate the fee under para. (a) to account for the unexpired portion of the vehicle’s current registration period.

(c) For any vehicle added to the fleet after initial registration as provided in sub. (3), the department shall prorate the fee under para. (a) according to the remaining number of months in the fleet’s current registration period.

(d) After the initial registration of a fleet of vehicles, if the applicable registration fee prescribed in s. 341.25 or 341.26 for any vehicle in the fleet increases and at least one year remains in the current registration period for the fleet at the time this increase takes effect, the department may require the owner to pay additional registration fees for the vehicle corresponding to the increase. The department shall calculate these additional registration fees based upon the amount of the increase multiplied by the number of full years remaining in the fleet’s current registration period. Any fees received by the department under authority of this paragraph shall be considered to be received under para. (a).

(e) After the initial registration of a fleet of vehicles, if the owner withdraws any vehicle from the fleet during the vehicle’s registration period, the department shall refund to the owner the unused portion of the fee under para. (a) calculated according to the number of calendar quarters remaining in the vehicle’s registration period. This paragraph applies only if at least one year remains in the current registration period at the time the owner notifies the department that the vehicle is withdrawn from the fleet.

(f) In addition to the fee under para. (a), if the vehicle being registered under this section is subject to a fee under s. 341.25, the department shall collect and remit that fee, as provided under s. 341.35 (6), in an amount sufficient to cover the vehicle’s entire registration period under this section.

(5) The provisions of this section apply notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter related to the period or fees applicable to vehicle registration.

(6) The department shall promulgate rules specifying the minimum number of vehicles that must be in a fleet for the fleet to be eligible for registration under this section and establishing procedures for the registration of vehicle fleets under this section, including provisions imposing any restrictions that the department determines to be appropriate and any provisions deemed necessary for vehicles that require inspection under s. 341.20 (6).

History: 2009 a. 28.

341.308 Optional trailer fleet registration. (1) The owner of a fleet of 100 or more trailers, each having a gross weight of 4,500 pounds or less and used for hire or rental, may register the trailers for a 6−year period under this section.

(2) The registration of trailers under this section shall be valid for a 6−year period. Upon receipt of an application and the initial registration fees under sub. (3), the department shall issue a registration plate for each trailer. The registration of trailers added to the fleet during the 6−year registration period shall expire on the expiration date of the original fleet registration. If trailers are removed from the fleet during the 6−year registration period, the fleet owner shall dispose of the plates in the manner prescribed by the department.

(3) The fleet owner shall pay an initial annual registration fee for each trailer registered under this section and an additional annual fee for each trailer each subsequent year of the 6−year registration period. If the annual registration fee for a trailer is not paid when due, the department shall suspend the registration as provided in s. 341.63. Any fee imposed under this subsection shall be the same fee as prescribed in s. 341.25 (1) (gd) or (ge).

that the vehicle was not so operated until a later date, specifying the date of such first operation. The department may refuse to accept any statement which projects the date of first operation into the future.

(b) For the registration of a replacement vehicle under the conditions set forth in sub. (1) (c) or (cm), the fee shall be computed as for a vehicle not previously registered in this state but a credit shall be allowed for the unused portion of the fee paid for the vehicle being replaced. Such credit shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the difference between the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as previously registered and the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as reregistered or one twenty-fourth of the difference between the biennial fee prescribed for the vehicle as previously registered and the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as reregistered or one twenty-fourth of the difference between the biennial fee prescribed for the vehicle as previously registered and the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as reregistered, multiplied by the number of months of the current registration period which have not fully expired on the date, circumstances making it subject to registration in this state.

(4) (a) The transferee or lessee of a vehicle registered as provided in s. 341.29, 341.295 or 341.30 is not subject to the payment of any registration fee for the remainder of the period for which the vehicle is registered unless, by reason of his or her status or the use to which the vehicle is put, the fee prescribed by law is higher than that paid by the former owner. In such event, the fee shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the difference between the 2 annual fees multiplied by the number of months of the current registration period which have not fully expired on the date, after the vehicle is acquired by the applicant, when such vehicle is first operated by him or her or with his or her consent under circumstances making it subject to registration in this state.

(b) A person retaining a set of plates removed from a vehicle under s. 342.15 (4) (a) or 342.34 (1) (c) or (2) (c) and which was junked, traded, sold or removed from the state. Except for a vehicle registered on a biennal basis, it is not necessary that the replacement vehicle be of the same type as the one being replaced in order for the applicant to take advantage of the credit but the credit may be applied toward registration of the replacement vehicle only up to the date when the registration of the vehicle being replaced would have expired.

(5) This section does not apply to vehicles registered at a fee of $5 under s. 341.26. Such vehicles, whether registered for a full period or part thereof and whether or not previously registered, shall be registered at the full fee. If a person authorized to register a vehicle at a fee of $5 under s. 341.26 transfers the vehicle to a person not so authorized or no longer leases the vehicle, the fee payable by the transferee shall be computed as for a vehicle not previously registered in this state.

341.32 Vehicle to be reregistered if subject to a different fee. (1) Whenever the construction or the use of a registered vehicle is changed in a manner making the vehicle subject to a different registration fee than the fee for which the vehicle currently is registered, the owner shall immediately make application for reregistration. The fee payable upon such reregistration shall be computed as for a vehicle not previously registered in this state but a credit shall be allowed for the unused portion of the fee paid for the previous registration if the registration plates issued upon the previous registration are returned to the department. The credit shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual registration fee or one twenty-fourth of the biennial registration fee prescribed for the vehicle as previously registered multiplied by the number of months of registration which have not fully expired on the date the vehicle became subject to the different fee. The credit may be applied toward the reregistration of the vehicle only up to the date when the previous registration would have expired.

(2) Whenever the owner or other person responsible for registration of a vehicle required to be registered on the basis of gross weight desires to carry a greater load than that permitted under the current registration of such vehicle, he or she shall make application for reregistration of the vehicle at a gross weight sufficiently high to cover the load which he or she desires to carry. The fee payable upon reregistration shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the difference between the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as previously registered and the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as reregistered or one twenty-fourth of the difference between the biennial fee prescribed for the vehicle as previously registered and the annual fee prescribed for the vehicle as reregistered, multiplied by the number of months of the quarter or year for which the vehicle is being reregistered which had not fully expired when the vehicle became subject to the higher fee. This subsection does not apply under the circumstances stated in sub. (3).

(3) A motor truck with a registered gross weight of 10,000 pounds or less and loaded exclusively with fluid milk or cream may, during the months of May, June and July, carry from the point of production of such milk to the primary market therefor 1,500 pounds or less in excess of the gross weight for which such motor truck is registered without a reregistration of such motor truck on account of such excess loading.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 1443, 1654 (7) (a); 1989 a. 31.

341.33 When fees refundable. (1) The department shall not refund a fee paid to it except when expressly authorized or directed by this section or some other provision of the statutes to do so.

(2) The department shall refund the unused portion of a registration fee paid for the registration of a vehicle owned by a person who is entering active service in the naval or military forces of the United States or who is a member of the U.S. foreign service appointed under 22 USC 3942 (a) (1) or 3943 entering active service if the person makes application for such refund upon a form prescribed by the department. The department may refuse a refund when it appears to the department that the person has not fulfilled the conditions for which the refund is made.

(3) Upon request, the department shall refund 50 percent of a registration fee paid for a vehicle registered on a biennial basis if the person who registered the vehicle furnishes such proof as the department may require that the vehicle will not be operated in this state after the beginning of the 2nd year of the period for which the vehicle is registered or that the vehicle will not be operated in this state during the remainder of the period for which the vehicle is registered and returns to the department the certificate of registration and registration plates. The fee shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual registration fee or one twenty-fourth of the biennial registration fee paid for the vehicle, multiplied by the number of full months remaining in the period for which the vehicle is registered when the vehicle ceases to be operated.

(4) When a person registered the vehicle furnishes such proof as the department may require that the vehicle will not be operated in this state during the remainder of the period for which the vehicle is registered and returns to the department the certificate of registration and registration plates. The fee shall be computed on the basis of one-twelfth of the annual registration fee or one twenty-fourth of the biennial registration fee paid for the vehicle, multiplied by the number of full months remaining in the period for which the vehicle is registered when the vehicle ceases to be operated.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 1443, 1654 (7) (a); 1989 a. 31.

341.335 Notice of change of address, name or vehicle color. (1) Whenever any person, after applying for and receiv-
341.335 REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

(8) RULES. The department shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

History: 1971 c. 125 s. 521; 1971 c. 164 s. 83; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1446, 1654 (7) (a); 1977 c. 273; 1979 c. 221; 1983 a. 27; 1987 a. 216; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 80.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 126, Wis. adm. code.

341.36 Fee to reinstate suspended or revoked registration. (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), the department shall charge a fee of $25 to reinstate a registration previously suspended or revoked under this chapter. The fee under this subsection is in addition to any other fee required to complete the registration of the vehicle.

(1m) Except as provided in sub. (2), the department shall charge a fee of $50 to reinstate a registration previously suspended or revoked under ch. 344. The fee under this subsection is in addition to any other fee required to complete the registration of the vehicle.

(2m) Any person who fails to comply with any of the requirements of sub. (1) may be required to forfeit not more than $50.

History: 1973 c. 129; 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (7) (a); 1977 c. 273; 1985 a. 332 a. 251 (4); 1999 a. 90.

341.35 Municipal or county vehicle registration fee. (1) ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE. In this section “municipality” means a town, village or city and “motor vehicle” means an automobile or motor truck registered under s. 341.25 (1) (c) at a gross weight of not more than 8,000 pounds. The governing body of a municipality or county may enact an ordinance imposing an annual flat municipal or county registration fee on all motor vehicles registered in this state which are customarily kept in the municipality or county. A registration fee imposed under this section shall be in addition to state registration fees.

(2) EXEMPTIONS. The following vehicles are exempt from any municipal or county vehicle registration fee:

(a) All vehicles exempted by this chapter from payment of a state vehicle registration fee.

(b) All vehicles registered by the state under s. 341.26 for a fee of $5.

(3m) COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL FEES. If a municipality and the county in which the municipality is located enact ordinances under this section, a motor vehicle customarily kept in the municipality shall be subject to a municipal registration fee and a county registration fee.

(4) NOTICE OF FEES. The governing body of a municipality or county which enacts a municipal or county vehicle registration fee shall notify the department that it has so elected and report the amount of such fee. The municipality or county shall report any change in such amount to the department. The notification shall be made at the time and in the form prescribed by the department.

(5) PAYMENT OF FEES. At the time a motor vehicle is first registered or at the time of registration renewal, the applicant shall pay to the department any fee imposed by a county or municipality under this section in addition to fees required under this chapter.

(6) DEPARTMENT TO REMIT FEES TO MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES. Beginning July 1, 1984, and annually thereafter, the department shall remit those moneys collected under this section, less administrative costs under sub. (6m), to any municipality or county which has imposed a fee under this section. The department may by rule provide that the moneys be remitted at more frequent intervals if the department deems it advisable.

(6m) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. The department shall retain a portion of the moneys collected under this section equal to the actual administrative costs related to the collection of these fees. The department shall establish the method for computing the administrative costs by rule and review the methodology annually to ensure full reimbursement of its expenses.

(6r) USE OF FEES PROCEEDS. Any municipality or county receiving moneys under sub. (6) shall use the moneys only for transportation related purposes.

(7) REPLACEMENTS. No municipal or county vehicle registration fee may be imposed on a motor vehicle which is a replacement for a motor vehicle for which a current municipal or county vehicle registration fee has been paid.

341.40 Exemption of nonresidents and foreign-registered vehicles. (1) Except as to foreign-owned vehicles required by s. 341.07 to be registered in this state, any vehicle that is registered in another jurisdiction is exempt from the laws of this state providing for the registration of the vehicles if all of the following apply:

(a) The vehicle carries a registration plate indicating the registration in the other jurisdiction.

(b) The vehicle is owned by a nonresident.

(c) The jurisdiction in which the vehicle is registered allows vehicles that are registered in Wisconsin to be operated tax free upon its highways under conditions substantially as favorable to residents of Wisconsin as to its own residents.

(d) The vehicle is operated in accordance with rules adopted by the secretary based on the gross weight of the vehicle. The secretary may, by rule, determine the gross weight exemption, giving consideration to reciprocity privileges extended to Wisconsin residents in other jurisdictions.

(1m) Foreign owned or operated vehicles entering Wisconsin to have special equipment or a body constructed or installed or for repair shall be exempt from the registration requirements of this section.

(2) If the owner of any vehicle exempted under sub. (1) or (1m) moves to Wisconsin or if the vehicle is purchased by or leased to a Wisconsin resident, the vehicle immediately becomes subject to the laws of this state providing for the registration of vehicles.

History: 1971 c. 29 s. 1654 (7) (c); 1987 a. 369; 1997 a. 27; 2001 a. 103.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 146, Wis. adm. code.

The language referencing a single plate in sub. (1) (a) is the first of a list of criteria that vehicles registered in a jurisdiction other than Wisconsin must meet in order to be exempt from the registration laws of this state. Having been issued at least one plate is a condition precedent for exemption, not a display requirement. Since sub. (1) (a) does not address how nonresidents are to display license plates, there is no conflict with s. 341.15 (1), State v. Boyd, 2012 WI App 39, 340 Wis. 2d 168, 811 N.W.2d 855, 11–1056.
341.405  International registration plan.  (1) The secretary of transportation, with approval of the governor, shall ratify and do all things necessary to effectuate the international registration plan adopted by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, with such exceptions as are deemed advisable and such changes as are necessary.

(2) In addition to any registration fees under s. 341.25 that are apportioned to this state under the international registration plan, the department shall charge a fee to cover the cost of issuance for each base plate and for each cab card issued under the international registration plan. Registrants for which this state is the base jurisdiction may elect to pay the registration fee apportioned to this state in 4 installments as specified by the department. Registrants shall pay an additional annual fee of not less than $10 for each vehicle under the installment option. The department may require the filing of an adequate bond or letter of credit to secure the payment of fees under the installment plan. Trip permits may be issued for 72-hour periods at a fee of not less than $15, under terms and conditions not inconsistent with the international registration plan.

(3) The department may register semitrailers under the international registration plan. The department may establish a fee for registration under this subsection based on administrative cost.

(3m) Any fee of $2 or less due under this section may be waived by the department.

(3m) (a) If the registration of a motor vehicle registered under this section is suspended under s. 341.63 (1) (f), (1m), or (1r), or if an application for registration is refused under s. 341.10 (16) or (17), the motor vehicle may be registered, subject to all applicable requirements and fees, under any applicable provision of this chapter other than this section.

(b) All of the following apply to a person who registers a motor vehicle under another applicable provision of this chapter as described in par. (a):

1. The person is not entitled to credit for any registration fee previously paid to register the motor vehicle under this section.

2. If the motor vehicle’s registration under this section is reinstated after this registration period has expired, in renewing the motor vehicle’s registration under this section the person is entitled to credit for the registration fee paid to register the motor vehicle as described in par. (a), calculated based upon the unused portion of that registration period.

3. Notwithstanding s. 341.10 (16) and (17), the department may refuse registration of a motor vehicle under this section if the department determines that the motor carrier identified on the motor vehicle’s registration application as the motor carrier responsible for safety of the vehicle is the same or substantially the same business, or that elements of the motor carrier operation are the same or substantially the same business elements, as a motor carrier that has been issued a federal out-of-service order for unsatisfactory safety compliance.

(4) The secretary of transportation, with the approval of the governor and the joint committee on finance, may withdraw from the international registration plan adopted by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators if the secretary deems such action necessary and desirable.

History: 1983 a. 50; 2001 a. 32.

Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 146, Wis. admn. code.

341.409 Reciprocal registration exemption agreements for federally recognized Indian tribes or bands.  (1) The secretary with the approval of the joint committee on finance may enter into a reciprocal registration exemption agreement with the governing body of any federally recognized Indian tribe or band. The reciprocal agreement may exempt designated classes of vehicles registered by the Indian tribe or band from the registration requirements of this state if:

(a) The vehicle carries a registration plate showing valid registration by the Indian tribe or band.

(b) The Indian tribe or band registering the vehicle allows reciprocal privileges to similar classes of vehicles registered in this state under conditions substantially as favorable to this state as to the Indian tribe or band.

(2) The reciprocal agreement may include restrictions, conditions and terms of reciprocal privileges relating to registration, including any proportional registration taxes or fees deemed advisable by the department.

(3) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

History: 1983 a. 50.
of such other jurisdiction the secretary with the approval of the
governor is authorized to impose and collect fees or charges in like
amount and to provide for similar obligations, prohibitions or limi-
tations upon the owner or operator of a vehicle registered in such
other jurisdiction so long as the laws of such other jurisdiction
requiring such imposition remain in effect.

(4) Trailers and semitrailers may be operated in Wisconsin
without the payment of fees or ton mile or flat taxes when such
trailers or semitrailers are operated in exchange for trailers or
semitrailers or are operated in accordance with rules adopted by
the secretary respecting the interchange of equipment. When used
in railroad trailer-on-flat-car service, foreign licensed trailers or
semitrailers may be operated in commerce in Wisconsin without
the payment of permit or registration fees.

(7) Except as to foreign owned vehicles required by s. 341.07
to be registered in this state, vehicles owned or operated by a non-
resident in interstate or intrastate movement may be qualified by
advance purchase of a trip permit which authorizes operation for
a 72–hour period when the vehicle is not eligible for reciprocal
privileges. Unless waived by the secretary, the fee for the trip per-
mit shall be not less than $15. The secretary may, upon determin-
ing that a special transportation need exists, waive the fee for the
trip permit. The secretary shall make rules and regulations for the
issuance and use of the permits. No permit may be issued under
this subsection for any motor vehicle for which the motor carrier
identified on the permit application as the motor carrier responsi-
ble for safety of the vehicle has been issued a federal out−of−ser-
vice order for unsatisfactory safety compliance.

History: 1977 c. 29 ss. 1448, 1654 (7) (a), (c); 1977 c. 273, 418; 1979 c. 221; 1981 c. 21; 1983 a. 192; 1985 a. 332 s. 251 (4); 1987 a. 369; 1991 a. 316; 1999 a. 85; 2011 a. 32, 262.

Cross−reference: See also ch. Trans 146, Wis. adm. code.

341.43 Audits and appeals. (1) The department may con-
duct such audits as it deems necessary to determine the adequacy of
fees paid under the international registration plan or other pro-
portional registration law or agreement and taxes and fees paid
under s. 341.45. Audits shall be conducted during normal busi-
ness hours. Credits shall be given for overpayments and deficien-
cies shall be assessed, with interest. Actual and necessary expen-
ses incurred by an auditor, plus wages, may be assessed against the
person audited.

(2) Any person feeling aggrieved by a notice under this sec-
tion of additional assessment, refund or denial of refund may,
within 30 days after the receipt of the notice, petition the depart-
ment for a redetermination. A person feeling aggrieved by a rede-
determination may appeal to the tax appeals commission in the
manner prescribed by the department.

History: 1977 c. 29; 1987 a. 27; 1995 a. 113; 1999 a. 145.

Cross−reference: See also ch. Trans 146, Wis. adm. code.

341.45 Importation in vehicle tanks regulated; taxes;
fee; permits. (1) In this section:

(a) “Alternate fuels” has the meaning given in s. 78.39 (1).
(n) “Motor vehicle fuel” has the meaning given in s. 78.005
(13).

(am) “Qualified motor vehicle” means a qualified motor vehi-
cle as defined in the international fuel tax agreement or any of
the following motor vehicles used, designed or maintained for the
transportation of persons or property:

1. A motor vehicle having 2 axles and a gross vehicle weight
exceeding 26,000 pounds.

2. A motor vehicle having 2 axles and registered at a gross
vehicle weight exceeding 26,000 pounds.

3. A motor vehicle having 3 or more axles, regardless of

4. A motor vehicle used in combination with another vehicle
when the combined registered weight or gross vehicle weight of
the combination exceeds 26,000 pounds.

(1g) (a) Except as provided in subs. (3) and (4g), every person
who purchases or obtains motor vehicle fuel or an alternate fuel
outside of this state and operates any qualified motor vehicle into
this state upon a highway and transports that fuel in an attached
or unattached fuel supply tank for the sole purpose of operating the
qualified motor vehicle shall pay the Wisconsin motor vehicle fuel
or alternate fuels tax and the oil inspection fee under s. 168.12 on
the gallons consumed by the qualified motor vehicle while oper-
ated on the highways of this state. The person shall pay the tax and
fee by purchasing motor vehicle fuel or alternate fuels within this
state in an amount that is equivalent to the gallonage consumed
while operating the qualified motor vehicle on the highways of
this state, or by remitting the tax and fee directly to the department
or to another jurisdiction that is a party to the international fuel tax
agreement.

(b) The department may require any person required to pay
under par. (a) to report on forms prescribed by it, to display evi-
dence of compliance with par. (a) and to pay taxes and the fee in
the manner specified by the department.

(c) The department shall require any person convicted of evad-
ing the tax or fee due under par. (a) to report on forms and in the
manner prescribed by the department.

(2) Every person regularly or habitually operating qualified
motor vehicles upon the highways of any other state and using in
those qualified motor vehicles motor vehicle fuel or an alternate fuel
purchased or obtained in this state shall be allowed a credit or ref-
und equal to the tax on the motor vehicle fuel or alternate fuel actu-
ally paid to the state in which it is used, but not to exceed the tax and fee imposed on motor vehicle
fuel or alternate fuels by this state.

(3) The department may enter into reciprocal agreements with
the appropriate officials of any other state under which it may
waive all or any part of the requirements imposed by this section
upon those who use motor vehicle fuel or alternate fuels upon
which the tax and fee have been paid to another state if the officials
of the other state grant equivalent privileges with respect to motor
vehicle fuel or alternate fuels used in that state but upon which the
tax and fee have been paid to Wisconsin.

(4) The secretary may ratify and effectuate the international
fuel tax agreement or other fuel tax agreement.

(4g) The department may issue trip permits for 72–hour peri-
ods to persons who would otherwise be required to pay the Wis-
consin motor vehicle fuel or alternate fuels tax under sub. (1g).

The department shall charge a fee of not less than $15 for each per-
mit issued under this subsection. A person who has obtained a per-
mit under this subsection is exempt from the purchasing require-
ment of sub. (1g) (a).

(4m) All oil inspection fees paid to the department of trans-
portation under sub. (1g) (a) in excess of oil inspection fee credits
or refunds under sub. (2) shall be deposited in the petroleum
inspection fund. All oil inspection fees credited or refunded by the
department of transportation under sub. (2) in excess of oil inspec-
tion fees paid to the department of transportation under sub. (1g)
shall be paid from the petroleum inspection fund.

(5) The department shall promulgate rules under ch. 227 nec-
essary to administer this section. The rules shall include provi-
sions relating to the issuance and use of the permits authorized
under sub. (4g). The rules may include provisions relating to the
payment of interest on late payments of motor vehicle fuel and
alternate fuels taxes and oil inspection fees, and fees for the late
payment or underpayment of motor vehicle fuel and alternate
fuels taxes and oil inspection fees.

(5g) The department may issue and require the display of a
decal or other identification to indicate compliance with sub. (1g).
The department may charge a fee to cover the cost of issuing the decal or other identification.

(5m) The department may suspend or refuse any registration, certificate or permit issued under the authority of the department of a person who fails to report under sub. (1g) (b) when required to do so or who fails to pay in full the taxes under sub. (1g) (a) as specified by the department. A registration, certificate or permit suspended or refused under this subsection shall remain suspended or refused until the reason for the suspension or refusal has been removed.

(6) (a) Any person who uses a false or fictitious name or gives a false or fictitious address in any application or form required by this section or otherwise commits a fraud in any application, record, report or claim for refund under this section may be fined not more than $500 or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both.

(b) Any person who fails or refuses to make a report or payment as provided in this section may be fined not more than $5,000 or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one year or both.

(c) A person who fails to display the decal or other identification under sub. (5g) as prescribed by the department may be required to forfeit not more than $500.

(d) Whenever a person is convicted of evading the tax required to be paid under sub. (1g), the clerk of the court shall, as provided in s. 345.48, forward to the department the record of conviction and notice of any appeal.

Cross-reference: See also chs. Trans 146 and 152, Wis. adm. code.

Sub. (1g) (a) imposes a tax on fuel consumed while operating on a highway. That the fuel is consumed while the vehicle is idling and not while it is being propelled does not render the fuel tax exempt. Roehl Transport v. Division of Hearings and Appeals, 219 Wis. 2d 452, 2017−18 Wis. Statutes updated through 2019 Wis. Act 5 and through all Supreme Court and Controlled Substances Board Orders filed before and in effect on April 21, 2019. Published and certified under s. 35.18. Changes effective after May 11, 2019, are designated by NOTES. (Published 5–11–19)
may file with the department a duly acknowledged application for registration which shall contain:

(a) The name under which the applicant is transacting business within the state.

(am) Except as provided in par. (an), if the applicant is an individual, the social security number of the individual.

(an) If the applicant is an individual who does not have a social security number, a statement made or subscribed under oath or affirmation that the applicant does not have a social security number. The form of the statement shall be prescribed by the department of children and families. A registration that is issued under this sec- tion in reliance on a statement submitted under this para- graph is invalid if the statement is false.

(ar) If the applicant is not an individual, the person’s federal employer identification number.

(b) If the applicant is a partnership, the names and addresses of the several persons constituting the partnership.

(bl) If the applicant is a limited liability company, the names and addresses of the members.

(c) If the applicant is a corporation, the corporate name under which it is authorized to transact business and the names and addresses of its principal officers, resident general agent and attorney in fact.

(d) The place or places of business of the applicant which, in the case of a dealer, distributor or manufacturer, must be an established place of business.

(e) If the applicant is a dealer, distributor or manufacturer, whether engaged in wholesale or retail selling or both.

(4g) (a) The department shall deny an application for the issuance or renewal of registration if an individual has not included the information required under sub. (4) (am) or (ar) in the application.

(b) The department of transportation may not disclose any information obtained under sub. (4) (am) or (ar) to any person except to the department of children and families for the sole pur- pose of administering s. 49.22, the department of revenue for the sole purpose of requesting certifications under s. 73.0301, and the department of workforce development for the sole purposes of enforcing or administering s. 108.22 and requesting certifications under. 108.227.

(4m) (a) A registration shall be denied, restricted, limited or suspended if the applicant or licensee is an individual who is delinquent in making court−ordered payments of child or family sup- port, maintenance, birth expenses, medical expenses or other expenses related to the support of a child or former spouse, or who fails to comply, after appropriate notice, with a subpoena or war- rant issued by the department of children and families or a county liable for delinquent taxes. A registrant whose registration is sus- pended under this paragraph for delinquent unemployment insur- ance contributions is entitled to a notice under s. 108.227 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 108.227 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(c) A registration shall be suspended or revoked if the depart- ment of workforce development certifies under s. 108.227 that the registrant is liable for delinquent unemployment insurance contribu- tions. A registrant whose registration is suspended or revoked under this paragraph for delinquent unemployment insurance contributions is entitled to a notice under s. 108.227 (2) (b) 1. b. and hearing under s. 108.227 (5) (a) but is not entitled to any other notice or hearing under this section.

(5) Except as provided in sub. (6), any dealer, distributor or manufacturer engaged in business in this state who fails to apply for registration or fails to apply for separate registrations for each Wisconsin municipality in which the dealer, distributor or manu- facturer has an established place of business may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(6) (a) A person licensed under ss. 218.0101 to 218.0163 or 218.41 as a dealer, distributor or manufacturer of only mopeds may, but need not, apply for registration under this section.

(b) Notwithstanding sub. (1), a motor vehicle salvage pool licensed as a wholesaler under ss. 218.0101 to 218.0163 may, but need not, apply for registration under this section.


Cross-reference: See also ch. Trans 138, Wis. adm. code.

341.52 Design of registration plates. Registration plates for dealers, distributors, manufacturers, and transporters are sub- ject to the provisions of s. 341.12 (2) and (3) except s. 341.12 (3) (c). In addition, each plate may have displayed upon it a decal or sticker displaying letters that is approved by the department and that is capable of distinguishing the plate from any other plate which may be issued to the same dealer, distributor, manufacturer, or transporter. If such a decal or sticker is displayed on a plate, the decal or sticker shall be affixed on the right side of the plate directly to the right of, and in line with, the numbers or letters of each of the number plates required under s. 341.12 (3) (a).

History: 1999 a. 31; 2011 a. 32, 90.

341.53 Expiration of registration; transferability of plates. Certificate of registration and registration plates issued to dealers, distributors, manufacturers, or transporters shall be issued for the calendar year and are valid only during the calendar year for which issued. Notwithstanding s. 341.13 (3), the department may renew registration plates issued to dealers, distributors, manufacturers, or transporters without issuing new plates or insert tags, decals, or other evidence of registration. Registration plates are transferable from one motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer to another motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer from one recreational vehicle to another.

History: 1999 a. 9; 2011 a. 32.

341.55 Penalty for misuse of plates. Any of the following may be required to forfeit not more than $200:

(1) A dealer, distributor or manufacturer or any employee of any of them who operates or consents to the operation of a vehicle under purported authority of a registration plate issued to the dealer, distributor or manufacturer pursuant to s. 341.51 when such vehicle is not owned or being repossessed by, or consigned for sale to, the dealer, distributor or manufacturer or, even though owned or being repossessed by, or consigned for sale to, the dealer, distributor or manufacturer, does not come within any of the exceptions listed in s. 341.47 (1) (a) to (d) or is not in compliance with s. 341.51 (2m);

(2) Any person who operates a vehicle under purported authority of a registration plate issued to a dealer, distributor or manufacturer under s. 341.51, knowing that the vehicle is not owned or being repossessed by, or consigned for sale to, a dealer, distributor or manufacturer or does not come within any of the exceptions listed in s. 341.47 (1) (a) to (d) or is not in compliance with s. 341.51 (2m);

(3) Any transporter who operates a vehicle under purported authority of a registration plate issued to the transporter pursuant to s. 341.51 for any purpose other than that authorized by s. 341.47 (3);

(4) Any person not registered as a transporter who operates a vehicle under purported authority of a registration plate issued pursuant to s. 341.51 to a transporter.


341.57 Registration of finance companies and financial institutions. (1) Any motor vehicle owned or being repos- sessed by a finance company licensed under ss. 138.09 or 138.10, or...
218.0101 to 218.0163, by a credit union licensed under ch. 186, by a savings bank organized under ch. 214, by a savings and loan association organized under ch. 215 or by a state bank or a national bank with offices in this state, may be operated on the highways of this state for any necessary purpose in repossessing, reconditioning or reselling such vehicle without such vehicle being registered if the vehicle has displayed upon it a valid registration plate issued to such licensee pursuant to this section.

(2) A finance company licensed under ss. 138.09 or 218.0101 to 218.0163, a credit union licensed under ch. 186, a savings bank organized under ch. 214, a savings and loan association organized under ch. 215 or a state bank or a national bank with offices in this state may apply to the department for registration on such form as the department provides. Upon receipt of the application together with a registration fee of $75, the department shall register the applicant and shall issue one registration plate containing the registration number assigned to the applicant. The department, upon receiving a fee of $5 for each additional plate desired by the applicant, shall issue additional plates as the applicant directs. Section 341.52 applies to the design of the plates. The registration and plates are valid only during the calendar year for which issued. Notwithstanding s. 341.13 (3), the department may renew registration plates issued under this subsection without issuing new plates or insert tags, decals, or other evidence of registration. A plate is transferable from one motor vehicle to another. The department may charge a fee of $2 per plate for replacing lost, damaged or illegible plates issued under this subsection.

(3) Any of the following may be required to forfeit not more than $200:

(a) Any person who makes a false statement in an application for registration under this section.

(b) Any person who uses a plate issued pursuant to this section otherwise than as authorized by this section.

(c) Any person other than the registered owner thereof who uses a plate issued pursuant to this section.

(4) Upon conviction of a licensee under sub. (3), the department may revoke or suspend the registration of the licensee and require surrender of the licensee’s registration plates issued pursuant to this section.

History: 1973 c. 278; 1973 c. 246; 1977 c. 29 a. 1654 (7) (a); 1979 c. 221; 1983 a. 156; 1985 a. 29; 1991 a. 221; 1999 a. 31; 2011 a. 32.

SUBCHAPTER V

Penalty for Fraudulent Practices

341.60 Fraudulent application for registration or license. Any person who does any of the following may be fined not more than $200 or imprisoned not more than 6 months or both:

(1) Provides a false or fictitious name, address, or location where a vehicle is customarily kept in an application for license or registration.

(2) Applies for a license or registration in the name of a person other than the true owner, or true owner and lessee.

(3) Submits in an application for registration evidence of inspection under s. 110.20 (6) from an inspection that involved a violation of s. 110.20 (11) (c) if the person was aware of the violation at the time the person submitted evidence of the inspection in an application for registration.


341.605 Unlawful transfer of evidence of registration.

(1) Except as authorized by the department, no person may transfer to another person or offer for sale a counterfeit, forged or fictitious registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration.

(2) No person may transfer to another person or offer for sale a counterfeit, forged or fictitious registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration.

(3) Whoever violates sub. (1) or (2) is guilty of a Class H felony.


341.61 Improper use of evidence of registration. Any person who does any of the following may be required to forfeit not more than $500:

(1) Lends to another a registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration for display upon a vehicle for which the plate, tag, decal or other evidence of registration has not been issued.

(2) Displays upon a vehicle a registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration not issued for such vehicle or not otherwise authorized by law to be used thereon.

(3) Willfully twists, paints, alters or adds to or cuts off any portion of a registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration; or who places or deposits, or causes to be placed or deposited on such plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration any substance to hinder the normal reading of such plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration; or who defaces, disfigures, covers, obstructs, changes or attempts to change any letter or figure thereon; or who causes such plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration to appear to be a different color.

(4) Possesses a fraudulently or unlawfully obtained registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration.

(5) Possesses a counterfeit registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration.


341.615 Reproducing evidence of registration prohibited. Except as authorized by the department, any person who reproduces, by any means whatever, a registration plate, insert tag, decal or other evidence of registration shall forfeit not less than $200 nor more than $500.

History: 1995 a. 128.

341.62 False evidence of registration. Whoever operates or possesses a motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, trailer or semitrailer having attached thereto any plate or similar device fashioned in imitation or facsimile of or altered so as to resemble a registration plate issued by the department may be required to forfeit not more than $500.


341.625 Special registration plates. (1) Any person who fraudulently procures or uses special registration plates issued under s. 341.14 (1), (1a), (1e), (1m), or (1q) shall forfeit not less than $200 nor more than $500.

(2) (b) A member of a disabled parking enforcement assistance council under s. 349.145 who observes a violation of this section may prepare a written report indicating that a violation has occurred. The report shall contain, if applicable, the time and location at which the violation occurred, and other relevant information relating to the violation.

(c) Within 24 hours after observing the violation, the member may deliver the report to a traffic officer of the political subdivision in which the violation occurred. A report which does not contain all of the information in par. (b) shall nevertheless be delivered and shall be maintained by the political subdivision for statistical purposes.

(d) 1. Within 48 hours after receiving a report containing all of the information in par. (b) and after conducting an investigation, the traffic officer may prepare a uniform traffic citation under s. 345.11 for the violation and may personally serve it upon the person.
341.625 REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES

2. If with reasonable diligence the person cannot be served under subd. 1, or if the person lives outside of the jurisdiction of the issuing authority, service may be made by certified mail addressed to the person's last-known address.

History: 1993 a. 256; 2009 a. 246.

341.63 When registration to be suspended. (1) The department shall suspend the registration of a vehicle when:

(a) The registration was completed through fraud or error and the person who registered the vehicle does not or cannot register the vehicle properly.

(b) The required fee has not been paid and the same is not paid upon reasonable notice and demand.

(c) Suspension of registration is specified by an authority under s. 345.28 (4) (a) 2.

(d) The applicant fails, upon reasonable notice and demand, to furnish proof of payment, in the form prescribed by the U.S. secretary of the treasury, that the federal heavy vehicle use tax imposed by section 4481 of the internal revenue code has been paid.

(e) The licensee of a vehicle registered in a county identified under s. 110.20 (5) has not complied with the inspection requirements of s. 110.20 (6).

(f) The motor vehicle is registered under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405 and the motor vehicle has been identified by the federal motor carrier safety administration as having been assigned for safety to a motor carrier whose business is operated, managed, or otherwise controlled or affiliated with a person that has been issued a federal out-of-service order for unsatisfactory safety compliance.

(1r) The department may suspend the registration of a motor vehicle registered under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405 if the department determines that the motor carrier identified on the motor vehicle’s registration application as the motor carrier responsible for the safety of the vehicle.

(b) The motor vehicle is registered under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405.

(1) The department may suspend the registration of a motor vehicle registered under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405 if the department determines that the motor carrier identified on the motor vehicle’s registration application as the motor carrier responsible for safety of the vehicle is the same or substantially the same business, or that elements of the motor carrier operation are the same or substantially the same business elements, as a motor carrier that has been issued a federal out-of-service order for unsatisfactory safety compliance.

(2) Any registration suspended under this section or ch. 344 continues to be suspended until reinstated by the department. The department shall reinstate the registration when the reason for the suspension has been removed.

(3) (a) Whenever the registration of a vehicle is suspended under this section or ch. 344, the department may order the owner or person in possession of the registration plates to return them to the department. Any person who fails to return the plates when ordered to do so by the department may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(b) In addition to or in lieu of ordering the return of registration plates under par. (a), the department may seize and destroy the registration plates of any motor vehicle for which all of the following apply:

1. The motor carrier identified on the motor vehicle’s registration application as the motor carrier responsible for safety of the vehicle has been issued a federal out-of-service order for unsatisfactory safety compliance.

2. The motor vehicle is registered under the international registration plan specified in s. 341.405 or under a similar international registration plan under the law of another jurisdiction.

History: 1971 c. 278; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1451, 1645 (7) (a), (c); 1981 c. 165; 1983 a. 78, 180, 330, 538; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27, 369; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 64, 288, 491; 1997 a. 84; 2011 a. 32.

341.64 Transfer of vehicle ownership while registration is suspended. (1) No owner may transfer the ownership or registration of any vehicle whose registration is suspended under s. 341.63 (1) (c) until the registration is reinstated under s. 341.63 (2) or until the secretary is satisfied that such transfer is proposed in good faith and not for the purpose or with the effect of defeating the purposes of s. 341.63 (1) (c).

(2) Any person violating this section may be required to forfeit not more than $200.

(3) This section does not apply to or affect the registration of any vehicle sold by a person who, pursuant to the terms or conditions of any written instrument giving a right of repossession, has exercised such right and has repossessed such vehicle from a person whose registration has been suspended under s. 341.63 (1) (c).

History: 1981 c. 165.

341.65 Unregistered motor vehicles prohibited; immobilization; removal; disposal. (1) In this section:

(a) “Immobilization device” means a device or mechanism that immobilizes a motor vehicle by doing any of the following:

1. Locking around a wheel, thereby making the motor vehicle inoperable.

2. Being placed upon the front windshield to obstruct the driver’s view through the windshield.

(b) “Unregistered motor vehicle” means any motor vehicle that is located upon a highway and that is not displaying valid registration plates, a temporary operation plate, or other evidence of registration.

(2) (a) Any municipality or county may enact ordinances prohibiting any unregistered motor vehicle from being located upon a highway and governing the immobilization, removal and disposal of unregistered motor vehicles and provide a forfeiture in addition to providing for the recovery by the municipality or county of the cost of immobilizing the motor vehicle with an immobilization device or removed to a suitable place of impoundment.

(b) Any “owner” has the meaning given in s. 341.63 (1) (c) and, with respect to a vehicle that is registered, or required to be registered, by a lessee of the vehicle under this chapter, includes the lessee of the vehicle.

(c) “Parking enforcer” means a person who enforces non-moving traffic violations and who is employed by any municipality or county or by the state.

(d) “Unregistered motor vehicle” means any motor vehicle that is located upon a highway and that is not displaying valid registration plates, a temporary operation plate, or other evidence of registration as provided under s. 341.18 (1) for the vehicle’s current registration period or for a registration period for the vehicle that expired within the immediately preceding 31 days.

(2) (a) Any municipality or county may enact ordinances prohibiting any unregistered motor vehicle from being located upon a highway and governing the immobilization, removal and disposal of unregistered motor vehicles and provide a forfeiture in addition to providing for the recovery by the municipality or county of the cost of immobilizing the motor vehicle with an immobilization device or impounding and disposing of the motor vehicle or both. Any ordinance permitting immobilization of a motor vehicle may prohibit any person from removing, disconnecting, tampering with or otherwise circumventing the operation of an immobilization device except upon release of the motor vehicle to the owner or to make necessary repairs to a malfunctioning immobilization device.

(b) Any municipal or university police officer, sheriff’s deputy, county traffic patrolman, state traffic officer, conservation warden, parking enforcer, or other person authorized under par. (c) who discovers any unregistered motor vehicle located upon any highway may cause the motor vehicle to be immobilized with an immobilization device or removed to a suitable place of impoundment. Upon immobilization or removal of the motor vehicle, the officer, warden, parking enforcer, or authorized person shall notify the sheriff or chief of police of the location of the immobilized or impounded motor vehicle and the reason for the immobilization or removal.

History: 1971 c. 278; 1977 c. 29 ss. 1451, 1645 (7) (a), (c); 1981 c. 165; 1983 a. 78, 180, 330, 538; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 27, 369; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 64, 288, 491; 1997 a. 84; 2011 a. 32.
immobilization or impoundment. Upon causing the removal of the motor vehicle by a towing service, the officer, warden, parking enforcer, or authorized person shall, within 24 hours of ordering the removal, notify the towing service of the name and last-known address of the registered owner and all lienholders of record of the vehicle, unless the officer or parking enforcer is employed by a municipality or county that has entered into a towing services agreement which requires the municipality or county to provide notice to such owner and lienholders of the towing.

(c) A county, municipality, or university may enter into a contract with a person that authorizes the person to conduct placement and removal of immobilization devices as provided in par. (b). A contract entered into under this paragraph may allow for remote unlocking and removal of an immobilization device.

(d) The owner of any unregistered motor vehicle is responsible for all costs of immobilizing, impounding and disposing of the motor vehicle. Costs not recovered from the sale of the motor vehicle may be recovered in a civil action by the municipality against the owner. Whether or not the municipality recovers the cost of towing and enforcement, the municipality shall be responsible to the towing service for requisitional towing service and reasonable charges for impoundment.

(e) Notwithstanding par. (g), the owner of an unregistered motor vehicle that is immobilized with an immobilization device or impounded under this subsection may secure release of the motor vehicle by paying any forfeiture imposed for violation of the municipal or county ordinance and the reasonable costs of immobilizing or impounding the motor vehicle or both, and providing satisfactory evidence of one of the following:

1m. That the motor vehicle is currently registered in this state.
2m. That a complete application for registration for the motor vehicle, including evidence of inspection under s. 110.20 when required, accompanied by the required fee has been delivered to the department or deposited in the mail properly addressed with postage prepaid.
3m. That the motor vehicle is exempt from registration under this chapter.

(f) Any motor vehicle in violation of this section may be immobilized with an immobilization device or impounded until lawfully claimed or disposed of under par. (g) except that if it is deemed by a duly authorized municipal or county representative that the cost of towing and storage charges for the impoundment would exceed the value of the vehicle, the motor vehicle may be junked or sold by the municipality or county prior to expiration of the impoundment period upon determination by the chief of police or sheriff having jurisdiction that the motor vehicle is not stolen or otherwise wanted for evidence or other reason. All substantially complete motor vehicles in excess of 19 model years of age shall be disposed of in accordance with par. (g).

(g) Any motor vehicle which is impounded and not disposed of under par. (f) shall be retained in storage for a minimum period of 10 days after certified mail notice has been sent to the owner and lienholders of record, if known or readily ascertainable, to permit reclamation of the motor vehicle after payment of accrued charges and, for reclamation of the motor vehicle by the owner, compliance with par. (e). Such notice shall set forth the year, make, model, and serial number of the motor vehicle and the place where the motor vehicle is being held, and shall inform the owner and any lienholders of their right to reclaim the motor vehicle. The notice shall state that the failure of the owner or lienholders to exercise their rights to reclaim the motor vehicle under this section shall be considered a waiver of all right, title and interest in the motor vehicle and a consent to the sale of the motor vehicle. Each retained motor vehicle not reclaimed by its owner or lienholder may be sold. The municipality or county may dispose of the motor vehicle by sealed bid or auction sale as provided by ordinance. At such sale the highest bid for any such motor vehicle shall be accepted unless the same is considered inadequate by a duly authorized municipal or county representative, in which event all bids may be rejected. If all bids are rejected or no bid is received, the municipality or county may either readvertise the sale, adjourn the sale to a definite date, sell the motor vehicle at a private sale or junk the motor vehicle. Any interested person may offer bids on each motor vehicle to be sold. If municipal or county ordinances do not state the procedure to be followed in advertising or providing public notice of the sale, a public notice shall be posted at the office of the municipal police department or the office of the county sheriff. The posting of the notice at the police or sheriff’s department shall be in the same form as the certified mail notice sent to the owner or lienholders of record. Upon sale of a motor vehicle, the municipality or county shall supply the purchaser with a completed form designed by the department enabling the purchaser to obtain a regular certificate of title for the motor vehicle. The purchaser shall have 10 days to remove the motor vehicle from the storage area, but shall pay a reasonable storage fee established by the municipality or county for each day that the motor vehicle remains in storage after the 2nd business day subsequent to the sale date. Ten days after the sale, the purchaser shall forfeit all interest in the motor vehicle and the motor vehicle shall be considered to be abandoned and may be sold again. Any listing of motor vehicles to be sold by any municipality or county shall be made available to any interested person or organization which makes a written request for such list. The municipality or county may charge a fee for the list.

(h) Within 5 days after the sale or disposal of a motor vehicle as provided in this subsection, the municipality or county shall advise the department of the sale or disposition on a form supplied by the department.