

**Department of Highway Safety  
and Motor Vehicles**  
*Division of Motorist Services*

<p>PROCEDURE  RS-07</p>	<p>SUBJECT:  NON-RESIDENT <u>U.S. ARMED FORCES</u> EXEMPTION</p>
<p>DESCRIPTION AND USE: THIS PROCEDURE IS PROVIDED TO ASSIST TAX COLLECTOR EMPLOYEES, LICENSE PLATE AGENTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES IN PROVIDING INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NONRESIDENT <b>U.S. ARMED FORCES</b> EXEMPTION.</p>	
<p>I. PROVISIONS OF LAW:</p> <p><a href="#">Section 320.10, Florida Statutes</a>, provides an exemption from the registration tax imposed by section 320.08, Florida Statutes, for any motor vehicle or mobile home owned by, and operated exclusively for the personal use of, any member of the U.S. Armed Forces who is not a resident of this state and who is stationed in the state while in compliance with military or naval orders.</p> <p><b><u>The U.S. Armed Forces member exemption in s.320.10, F.S., does not include motor vehicles or mobile homes owned exclusively by the spouse and/or dependent child.</u></b></p> <p><b><u><a href="#">Section 320.072, Florida Statutes</a>, provides an exemption from the Initial Registration fee for any nonresident U.S. Armed Forces member, their spouse or dependent child, who is not a resident of Florida. (see RS-30 for additional information).</u></b></p> <p>II. GENERAL INFORMATION:</p> <p>A. <b><u>A nonresident U.S Armed Forces member may place children in the public schools of this state. The spouse or any member of immediate family of a nonresident U.S. Armed Forces member may become employed. These actions do not make their motor vehicles subject to Florida registration.</u></b> Under the <a href="#">Servicemembers Civil Relief Act</a>, the service member may display a current license plate from their home state, or from the state he or she is stationed in.</p> <p>B. When a nonresident <a href="#">U.S. Armed Forces</a> member, whose motor vehicles currently are registered in his or her home state, is stationed in Florida and is shipped overseas from Florida and the member's immediate family remains in Florida, it is not necessary that the spouse register his/her motor vehicle(s) in Florida even though the spouse may be employed or place children in the public schools. However, if the U.S. Armed Forces member returns from overseas to a state other than Florida, the motor vehicles must be registered in Florida if they are operated in this state.</p> <p>For the purposes of these procedures, the term "immediate family" means the spouse of any U.S. Armed Forces member and any natural, adoptive or step child of the member.</p> <p>C. Vehicles used for business purposes by a nonresident U.S. Armed Forces member stationed in Florida are not eligible for the exemption.</p>	
<p><b><i>Revision(s) to this procedure: Changed military references to U.S. Armed Forces to match Florida Statute.</i></b></p>	
<p>EFFECTIVE DATE  Immediately</p>	<p>REVISION DATE  1/7/19</p>
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III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The following must be submitted to the county tax collector or license plate agency:

A. EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY:

A copy of the U.S. Armed Forces member's military orders (which shows their assignment to a Florida military duty station) and their out-of-state driver license.

B. PROOF OF OWNERSHIP:

The five branches **that compose the U.S. Armed Forces** include:

1. Air Force
2. Army
3. Coast Guard
4. Marines
5. Navy

**Florida Statute only refers to the [U.S. Armed Forces](#), therefore this procedure and its constraints and benefits do not apply to other uniformed services.**

The Federal Soldiers and Sailors Act allows a non-resident member of the U.S. Armed Forces to choose one of the following:

1. Follow [Procedures RS-04](#) for issuing a license plate on a registration only basis;  
**or;**
2. Apply for a Florida title pursuant to provisions of Chapter 319, Florida Statutes.

If a non-resident **U.S. Armed Forces** member purchases a motor vehicle out of the country and brings it to Florida with the out of country proof, (requesting a Florida "registration only"), they must first obtain a title for the motor vehicle in their home state. However, the out-of-country proof would be acceptable, if the member is applying for a Florida Certificate of Title.

C. FORM:

Form [HSMV 82002](#) (Rev. 11/18 or later), Initial Registration Fee Exemption Affidavit, accurately completed and signed by the service member.

D. PROOF OF INSURANCE:

Proof of Florida insurance is required. Refer to [Procedure RS-36](#) for additional insurance requirements.

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**IV. ISSUANCE OF LICENSE PLATES:**

A regular series license plate will be issued whether the nonresident member applies for a title or registers the vehicle on a registration only basis. A specialty license plate may be issued at the applicant's request. Mobile homes must be issued a regular mobile home validation sticker using class code 50.

**V. RENEWALS AND TRANSFERS OF NONRESIDENT MILITARY EXEMPTION PLATES:**

If an out-of-state lien exists, the “renewal notice” will be printed with the following message: R/O NONRESIDENT MILITARY

**Renewals and transfers may be processed by the county license plate agency.**

The following is required:

- A. A copy of the current military orders verifying the applicant is assigned to a Florida military duty station.
- B. A copy of the applicant’s out-of-state driver license.

**VI. REPLACEMENT LICENSE PLATES:**

Applications for replacement license plates may be processed by the county license plate agency.

The following is required:

- A. Form [HSMV 83146](#), Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, accurately completed.
- B. A copy of the vehicle registration certificate.

Refer to [Procedure RS-06](#) for additional information and fees.

**Historical Revisions:**

4/30/18 - Reviewed statutes and added links  
2/1/08 - Removed fees and referred to fee chart on page 3.