



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

PROCEDURE:	SUBJECT:
RS-17	DISABLED VETERAN LICENSE PLATES & WHEELCHAIR LICENSE PLATES

DESCRIPTION: This procedure provides information and instructions to guide employees of the Tax Collector, Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and License Plate Agents in the issuance of disabled veteran license plates and disabled veteran wheelchair license plates.

PROVISIONS OF LAW:

This procedure is governed by:

[Section 316.1955\(1\), Florida Statutes](#) - Enforcement of parking requirements for persons who have disabilities.

[Section 316.1964, Florida Statutes](#) - Exemption of vehicles transporting certain persons who have disabilities from payment of parking fees and penalties.

[Section 320.084, Florida Statutes](#) - Free motor vehicle license plates to certain disabled veterans.

[Section 320.0848, Florida Statutes](#) - Persons who have disabilities; issuance of disabled parking permits; temporary permits; permits for certain providers of transportation services to persons who have disabilities.

[Section 320.0842\(2\)\(b\), Florida Statutes](#) - Free motor vehicle license plates to veterans who use wheelchairs.

[Section 222.17\(1\), \(2\), and \(3\), Florida Statutes](#) - Manifesting and evidencing domicile in Florida.

[Section 295.17\(1\)\(a\), Florida Statutes](#), gives the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs authority to issue an identification card to any veteran who is a permanent resident of the state and who has been determined by the US. Department of Veterans Affairs to have a 100-percent, service-connected permanent and total disability rating for compensation, or who has been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States Armed Services. The identification card may be used by the veteran as proof of eligibility for any benefit provided by state law.

Revision(s) to this Procedure: On Page 5, added language referencing identification cards issued by the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs per Section 295.17, Florida Statute. Added sample of the ID card as exhibit B.

EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE	PAGE #
Immediately	01/30/20	RS-17-01

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DOCUMENTATION AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Former Procedures RS-17 and RS-18 were combined with revised RS-17 which now covers:

- disabled veteran license plates
- disabled veteran wheelchair license plates

PROCEDURES:

The procedures listed below are used in the transactions described in this procedure:

[Procedure RS-36](#) Insurance Verification

[Procedure RS-06](#) Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit

FORMS:

The forms listed below are used in the transactions described in this procedure:

Form HSMV 82041 Florida Title Receipt

Form [HSMV 83140](#) License Plate Rate Chart

Form [HSMV 83007](#) Application for a Disabled, Disabled Veteran or Motorcycle International Wheelchair Symbol License Plate

Form [HSMV 83146](#) Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit

Form [HSMV 83039](#) Application for Disabled Person Parking Permit

FEE CHART:

The fee chart listed below is used in the transactions described in this procedure:

[Motor Vehicle/Mobile Home Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart](#)

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- Link to legal opinion issued in 1999 by the department's Office of General Counsel

Exhibits

- A. Summary of Benefits letter issued by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- B. **Disabled Veteran's Identification Card**

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

- A. Only one tax-free Disabled Veteran Wheelchair or Disabled Veteran license plate can be issued to each disabled veteran with a 100% service-connected disability. Additional Disabled Veteran Wheelchair license plate(s) may be issued by charging the regular registration tax and applicable fees.
- B. The disabled veteran must have received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces.
- C. The DV license plate or DV Wheelchair license plate must be issued in the disabled veteran's name as owner, co-owner or lessee.
- D. Under the circumstances listed below, a customer must return a DV license plate or DV Wheelchair license plate to a county Tax Collector office or license plate agency for cancellation. The customer may apply for and purchase a different license plate for which he/she is eligible if applicable.
 - 1. Death of the disabled veteran co-owner(s) must purchase a new license plate.
 - 2. The disability of the veteran is reduced below 100%.
 - 3. The veteran no longer owns a motor vehicle.
 - 4. The veteran is no longer a resident of the state of Florida.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

DV license plates and DV Wheelchair license plates may be issued in a county Tax Collector office or license plate agency. These license plates can be issued on all vehicles except mobile homes, commercial vehicles and trucks over 26,000 lbs. GVW. The following must be submitted for processing:

- A. **PROOF OF FLORIDA RESIDENCY** (one of the following):
 - 1. An affidavit stating the customer has been a resident of the state of Florida continuously for the preceding five years.
 - 2. A photocopy of the customer's Declaration of Domicile, which has been properly filed with the Clerk of the Court.
 - 3. A copy of the customer's Florida Voter Registration Card.
 - 4. A Florida Driver License or Identification Card.

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B. PROOF OF DV ELIGIBILITY:

A valid identification card issued by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs in accordance with section 295.17, Florida Statutes, or a "Summary of Benefits" letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs stating the veteran has a service-connected disability rating of 100%, accompanied by proof that:

1. A vehicle was initially acquired through financial assistance by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor specifically for the purchase of an automobile;
or
2. The customer has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the predecessor to have a service-connected 100% disability rating for compensation;
or
3. The customer has been determined to have a service-connected disability rating of 100% and is in receipt of disability retirement pay from any branch of the United States Armed Forces.

C. FORMS (These forms apply to processing disabled wheelchair license plates only):

1. Form [HSMV 83007](#), Application for a Disabled, Disabled Veteran or Motorcycle International Wheelchair Symbol License Plate, accurately completed.
or,
2. Form [HSMV 83039](#), Application for Disabled Person Parking Permit, accurately completed.

D. FEES:

1. The first DV license plate OR DV Wheelchair license plate is tax-free and not subject to the annual use tax. However, the following fees are applicable:
 - Reflectorization
 - Decal on Demand
 - Service fee
 - Add Branch fee if applying through a county Tax Collector office or license plate agency.
2. Refer to the Motor Vehicle/Mobile Home Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart for all applicable fees. For military, enter MI in the REG USE field.

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2. For an additional DV license plate or additional DV Wheelchair license plate(s) (Example: license plate issued to an additional vehicle owned by the disabled veteran), submit the following:
 - annual use tax shown in the Tax Due and Credit Manual using the appropriate class codes,
 - Original License Plate fee
 - Decal on Demand fee
 - Service fee
 - Add Branch fee, when applicable.
3. Refer to the Motor Vehicle/Mobile Home Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart and the License Plate Rate Chart (HSMV 83140) for all applicable fees.

E. PROOF OF OWNERSHIP:

Proof of ownership of the vehicle may be shown by submitting one of the following:

1. A copy of the current Florida Vehicle Registration. If the vehicle is a registration only, then this is not proof of ownership. This information is within FRVIS, so if a customer presents a registration receipt that shows registration only in FRVIS, the clerk would ask for the title or title application receipt to process.
2. A copy of the Florida Certificate of Title.
3. A copy of a title application receipt (form HSMV 82041), showing that a Florida title has been applied for.

F. PROOF OF INSURANCE:

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

- G.** If the vehicle is leased, a copy of the lease agreement is required.

RENEWALS AND TRANSFERS OF DV LICENSE PLATES AND DV WHEELCHAIR LICENSE PLATES:

Renewals and transfers may be processed by any county Tax Collector office or license plate agency.

- A. For renewals, a verbal or written statement certifying continued eligibility must be obtained.
- B. Transfers must be processed in the disabled veteran's name as owner, co-owner or lessee.

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REPLACEMENT LICENSE PLATES:

Replacement license plates may be issued by any county Tax Collector office or license plate agent.

- A. For replacement of lost license plates, submit the following:
1. Form [HSMV 83146](#), Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, accurately completed.
 2. Fees: Reflectorization fee, Decal on Demand fee, Service fee (add Branch fee if applying through a county Tax Collector office or license plate agent). Refer to the [Motor Vehicle/Mobile Home Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart](#) for all applicable fees.
- B. If replacing an additional DV license plate or DV Wheelchair license plate that was lost (Example: license plate issued to an additional vehicle owned by the disabled veteran), submit all applicable replacement fees and branch fee, when applicable. Refer to the [Motor Vehicle/Mobile Home Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart](#) for all applicable fees.
- C. For replacement of stolen license plates, submit the following:
Form [HSMV 83146](#), Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, accurately completed.
When a customer provides the police report or police card with case number, no fee should be charged for the replacement license plate or decal. See RS-06 for more information.
- D. The first tax-free DV license plate or DV Wheelchair license plate must be replaced every 10 years.
The disabled veteran is not charged the advanced license plate replacement fee.
If a DV license plate or DV Wheelchair license plate becomes defaced, faded or damaged, follow the steps below to assist disabled veterans with obtaining a replacement license plate:
1. The customer must turn in the defaced, faded or damaged license plate to the local county Tax Collector office or license plate agency for cancellation.
 2. The customer must accurately complete and submit form [HSMV 83146](#), Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit, with appropriate fees.

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- E. An additional DV license plate or DV Wheelchair license plate(s) is subject to the regular registration tax, fees and the advanced license plate replacement fee for the 10-year license plate replacement program.

MISCELLANEOUS:

A legal opinion was issued in 1999 by the Florida Attorney General's Office concerning metered parking for disabled veteran license plates. That legal opinion is located at:

[Florida Office of the Attorney General's Advisory Legal Opinion - AGO 99-67](#)

Historical Revisions:

12/18/18 Removed sample letters that Department of Veterans Affairs no longer issues, and inserted a Summary of Benefits letter, which can be provided to show eligibility.

08/28/18 Added information to page 5 to clarify that forms only are needed when processing veteran wheelchair license plates.

07/18/18 Statutory review and added links to statutes. Combined procedures RS-17 and RS-18 so that one procedure covers both DV license plates and DV wheelchair license plates. Links to forms and additional procedures. Added Historical Revisions.

05/17/16: Added Sections 316.1964(7) and (8), Florida Statutes, exempting some parking fees for disabled veterans, removed Statute information no longer valid, and reformatted procedure.

EXHIBIT A

Summary of Benefits Letter



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
810 Vermont Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20420

September 24, 2018

In Reply Refer to:

Tallahassee, FL 32312

27/eBenefits

Dear Mr.

This letter is a summary of benefits you currently receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). We are providing this letter to disabled Veterans to use in applying for benefits such as state or local property or vehicle tax relief, civil service preference, to obtain housing entitlements, free or reduced state park annual memberships, or any other program or entitlement in which verification of VA benefits is required. Please safeguard this important document. This letter is considered an official record of your VA entitlement.

Our records contain the following information:

Personal Claim Information

Your VA claim number is: xxx-xx

You are the Veteran.

Military Information

Your most recent, verified periods of service (up to three) include:

Branch of Service	Character of Service	Entered Active Duty	Released/Discharged
Navy	Honorable	August	March
Navy	Honorable	November	September
Navy	Honorable	September	December

(There may be additional periods of service not listed above.)

VA Benefit Information

You have one or more service-connected disabilities: Yes

Your combined service-connected evaluation is:

Your current monthly award amount is:

The effective date of the last change to your current award was: December 01, 2017

You are considered to be totally and permanently disabled due solely to your service-connected disabilities: No

You are in receipt of special monthly compensation due to the type and severity of your service-connected disabilities: Yes

You should contact your state or local office of Veterans' affairs for information on any tax, license, or fee-related benefits for which you may be eligible. State offices of Veterans' affairs are available at <http://www.va.gov/statedva.htm>.

How You Can Contact Us

EXHIBIT A (Page 2)
Summary of Benefits Letter

- If you need general information about benefits and eligibility, please visit us at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov> or <http://www.va.gov>.
- Call us at 1-800-827-1000. If you use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), the number is 1-800-829-4833.
- Ask a question on the Internet at <https://iris.custhelp.va.gov>.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Frueh
Executive Director
Benefits Assistance Service

EXHIBIT B

Disabled Veteran's Identification Card

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

FDVA

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Honoring those who served U.S.

HT: WT: DOB:

100% Service-Connected Permanently and
Totally Disabled Veteran

X _____
SIGNATURE OF VETERAN

X _____
DIRECTOR BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE DIVISION

Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs
9500 Bay Pines Boulevard, Room 214
Bay Pines, Florida 33744

www.FloridaVets.org

It is unlawful for any person other than the veteran to whom this is issued to use this identification card