

## **Definitions**

**Classic Car.** Any motor vehicle manufactured between and including the years 1925 and 1948, and designated by the commissioner as a classic car because of its fine design, high engineering standards, and superior workmanship, and owned and operated solely as a collector's item. No commercial vehicles such as hearses, ambulances, or trucks are considered to be classic cars. To fall under the definition of "classic car" a vehicle must be built between 1925 and 1948 and be identified on a list of classic cars contained in the Minnesota statutes.

**Collector Military Vehicle.** A motor vehicle, including a truck, so long as:

- (1) It is at least 20 years old,
- (2) Its first owner following its manufacture was a branch of the armed forces of the United States and it presently conforms to the vehicle specifications required during the time of military ownership, or it has been restored and presently conforms to the specifications required by a branch of the armed forces for the model year that the restored vehicle could have been owned by that branch of the armed forces, and
- (3) It is owned by a nonprofit organization and operated solely as a collector's vehicle. For purposes of this subdivision, "nonprofit organization" means a corporation, society, association, foundation, or institution organized and operated exclusively for historical or educational purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of a private individual

**Collector Vehicle.** A self-propelled motor vehicle, including any truck:

- (1) That is (i) at least 20 model years old, or (ii) at least ten model years old and with a body or engine style of which not more than 500 were manufactured in or imported into the United States in any model year,
- (2) That was manufactured after 1935, and
- (3) That is owned and operated solely as a collector's vehicle

**Essential Parts.** All integral and body parts of a vehicle of a type for which a certificate of title is required hereunder, the removal, alteration, or substitution of which would tend to conceal the identity of the vehicle or substantially alter its appearance, model, type or mode of operation.

**Identifying Number.** The numbers, and letters, if any, on a vehicle designated by the department for the purpose of identifying the vehicle.

**Older Model Vehicle.** A vehicle manufactured in the sixth model year immediately preceding the current model year or earlier that is not a high-value vehicle.

**Pioneer Vehicle.** Any motor vehicle manufactured prior to 1936 and owned and operated solely as a collector's item.

**Previously Registered Vehicle.** A vehicle registered in this state on October 1, 1972 or a vehicle whose last registration before October 1, 1972 was in this state.

**Reconstructed Vehicle.** A vehicle of a type for which a certificate of title is required hereunder materially altered from its original construction by the removal, addition, or substitution of essential parts, new or used.

**Specially Constructed Vehicle.** Every vehicle of a type for which a certificate of title is required hereunder not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model, or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and not materially altered from its original construction.

**Street Rod.** Any modernized motor vehicle manufactured prior to the year 1949 or designed and manufactured to resemble such vehicle.

## **Titling & Registration**

### **From Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services Division:**

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#### **Reconstructed & Specially Constructed Vehicles**

The word "RECONST" is stamped on the face of titles issued to reconstructed vehicles. All future titles issued to the reconstructed vehicle will also be stamped "RECONST."

You must not remove any vehicle identification numbers during the reconstruction. Your application for title may be denied if an identification number appears to have been tampered with or has been removed. If you are doing a reconstruction that requires the removal of a vehicle identification number (such as cutting the neckpiece on a motorcycle for a custom rake), you must contact DVS before beginning the reconstruction and we will provide you with additional assistance.

Vehicles that have been reconstructed, or specially constructed, are subject to a motor vehicle inspection. Before the vehicle can be inspected, you must apply for a Minnesota certificate of title.

#### **To apply for title:**

1. Complete an Application to Title and/or Register a Motor Vehicle (PS2000).
2. Complete an Affidavit of Reconstruction (PS2015) and provide details about the alterations or reconstruction done to the vehicle.
3. Submit proof of ownership for all major parts used in the reconstruction. If you cannot provide minimum proof of ownership, DVS may require that you obtain a surety bond for the vehicle before issuing a certificate of title. You will also need to submit the following if you cannot meet the minimum proof of ownership requirements:
  - A statement of facts, written and signed by the seller of the vehicle or part. This statement must give as much information as possible regarding the history of the vehicle and indicate why there is no documentary proof of ownership.
  - A signed statement from purchaser that s/he agrees to defend and protect the state of Minnesota against any and all future claims of ownership.
4. You may submit your application by mail to DVS or in person at your local deputy registrar office. DVS will mail information to you on how to arrange for a vehicle inspection and what you will need to bring with you to the inspection.

## Minimum Proof of Ownership Requirements

Under M.S. 168A.07 - the department may require that the applicant obtain a surety bond to protect the State against any possible claim of ownership when minimum proof of ownership cannot be provided.

Parts	Minimum Proof of Ownership Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used truck cab</li> <li>• Used car body</li> <li>• Front clip, if the clip includes public identification number</li> <li>• Used motorcycle frame</li> </ul>	<p><b>A certificate of title</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used car or truck frame</li> <li>• Used motorcycle engine</li> </ul>	<p><b>A copy of the title</b> to the vehicle from which the parts came. A bill of sale from the owner listed on the title must also accompany the application.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kit car</li> <li>• New aftermarket motorcycle frame</li> <li>• New aftermarket motorcycle motor or motor cases</li> </ul>	<p><b>Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used car body or truck cab, if purchased from a Minnesota licensed parts dealer. A copy of the dealers junk report may also be required.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Original Letterhead Receipt</b> - The receipt must include the vehicle identification number the vehicle from which the parts came.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car or truck door, fender, quarter panel, bumper, engine, transmission, rear clip, front clip (if the clip includes public identification number, a title is required), other miscellaneous parts.</li> <li>• Motorcycle transmission assembly, engine assembly, front fork assembly and handle bars, front wheel assembly, rear wheel assembly, seat, and gas tank.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Original Letterhead Receipts</b> from the vendor who sold the parts.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement cab or frame purchased directly from a manufacturer.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Factory Invoice</b> The invoice must be from the manufacturer to the dealer who is selling the part. The dealer must also provide a letterhead receipt to the retail customer. Both items must be surrendered a the time of application for title.</p>

**From Minnesota Statutes:**

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TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168A VEHICLE TITLES

Minn. Stat. § 168A.15 (2016)

168A.15 RECONSTRUCTED, SCRAPPED, DISMANTLED, OR DESTROYED VEHICLES

Subdivision 1.

[Repealed by amendment, 1988 c 496 s 18]

Subd. 2. Certain unconventional vehicles; requirements to obtain certificate. — If a vehicle is altered so as to become a reconstructed vehicle or restored pioneer vehicle, the owner shall apply for a certificate of title in the manner provided in section 168A.04, and any existing certificate of title to the vehicle shall be surrendered for cancellation.

Subd. 3. Title; scrapped, dismantled, or destroyed vehicle. — A dealer who purchases a vehicle as scrap or to be dismantled or destroyed shall maintain the certificate of title on the vehicle for three years before destroying the title as prescribed by the commissioner. A certificate of title for the vehicle shall not again be issued.

Subd. 4. Motorcycle with new engine.

(a) If the commissioner does not require that a new or amended title be issued and stamped as reconstructed or otherwise under this chapter for an automobile being operated with an engine that is not its original engine, then the commissioner shall not require that title issued for a motorcycle being operated with an engine that is not its original engine be stamped or otherwise labeled as reconstructed or otherwise.

(b) This subdivision does not prevent the commissioner from requiring that a new application be completed according to section 168A.04 and be filed with the commissioner. Upon receipt of the completed application and the old title, and subject to section 168A.05, subdivision 1, the commissioner shall issue another certificate of title, which must list the engine number, for the motorcycle with the nonoriginal engine.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168A VEHICLE TITLES

**Minn. Stat. § 168A.04** (2016)

**168A.04** FORM AND CONTENT OF APPLICATION

**Subdivision 1. Contents.** — The application for the first certificate of title of a vehicle or manufactured home in this state, or for reissuance of a certificate of title for a manufactured home under section 168A.142, shall be made by the owner to the department on the form prescribed by the department and shall contain:

- **(1)** the first, middle, and last names, the dates of birth, and addresses of all owners who are natural persons, the full names and addresses of all other owners;
- **(2)** a description of the vehicle or manufactured home including, so far as the following data exists, its make, model, year, identifying number in the case of a vehicle or serial number in the case of a manufactured home, type of body, and whether new or used;
- **(3)** the date of purchase by applicant, the name and address of the person from whom the vehicle or manufactured home was acquired, the names and addresses of any secured parties in the order of their priority, and the dates of their respective security agreements;
- **(4)** with respect to motor vehicles subject to the provisions of section 325E.15, the true cumulative mileage registered on the odometer or that the actual mileage is unknown if the odometer reading is known by the owner to be different from the true mileage;
- **(5)** with respect to vehicles subject to section 325F.6641, whether the vehicle sustained damage by collision or other occurrence which exceeded 70 percent of the actual cash value; and
- **(6)** any further information the department reasonably requires to identify the vehicle or manufactured home and to enable it to determine whether the owner is entitled to a certificate of title, and the existence or nonexistence and priority of any security interest in the vehicle or manufactured home.

**Subd. 2. Secured party.** — If the application refers to a vehicle purchased from a dealer it shall contain the name and address of any secured party holding a security interest created or reserved at the time of the sale and the date of the security agreement and be signed by the dealer as well as the owner, and the dealer shall within ten days mail or deliver the application and appropriate taxes to the department.

**Subd. 2a. Alternate mailing address.** — If the United States Postal Service will not deliver mail to the residence address of a registered owner who is an individual as listed on the title application, then the registered owner must provide verification from the United States Postal Service that mail will not be delivered to the registered owner's residence address and that mail will be delivered to a specified alternate mailing address. When an applicant provides an alternate mailing address under this subdivision, the commissioner shall use the alternate mailing address in lieu of the residence address for all notices and mailings to the registered owner.

**Subd. 3. New vehicle; certificate of origin.** — If the application refers to a new vehicle it shall be accompanied by a manufacturer's or importer's certificate of origin.

**Subd. 4. Vehicle last registered out of state.** — If the application refers to a vehicle last previously registered in another state or country, the application shall contain or be accompanied by:

- **(1)** any certificate of title issued by the other state or country;
- **(2)** any other information and documents the department reasonably requires to establish the ownership of the vehicle and the existence or nonexistence and priority of any security interest in it;
- **(3)** the certificate of a person authorized by the department that the identifying number of the vehicle has been inspected and found to conform to the description given in the application, or any other proof of the identity of the vehicle the department reasonably requires; and
- **(4)** with respect to vehicles subject to section 325F.6641, whether the vehicle sustained damage by collision or other occurrence which exceeded 70 percent of actual cash value. Damage, for the purpose of this calculation, does not include the actual cost incurred to

repair, replace, or reinstall inflatable safety restraints and other vehicle components that must be replaced due to the deployment of the inflatable safety restraints.

**Subd. 5. *Certain unconventional vehicles; additional information; identifying number.***

- **(a)** Except as provided in subdivision 6, if the application refers to a specially constructed vehicle, a reconstructed vehicle, or a restored pioneer vehicle, the application shall so state and shall contain or be accompanied by:
  - **(1)** any information and documents the department reasonably requires to establish the ownership of the vehicle and the existence or nonexistence and priority of security interests in it;
  - **(2)** the certificate of a person authorized by the department that the identifying number of the vehicle has been inspected and found to conform to the description given in the application, or any other proof of the identity of the vehicle the department reasonably requires; and
  - **(3)** at the time of application, a written certification to the department that the vehicle to be titled meets the requirements of chapter 169 for vehicles in its class regarding safety and acceptability to operate on public roads and highways.
- **(b)** As part of the application for certificate of title on a restored pioneer vehicle, the applicant shall supply evidence of the manufacturer's year, make, model, and identifying number of the vehicle. A manufacturer's identifying number is valid under this paragraph if it matches a number permanently affixed, stamped, or otherwise assigned to at least one essential part of the motor vehicle, including but not limited to the engine block or the vehicle body. In the case of an insufficient application, the commissioner may require additional documentation to confirm the manufacturer's identifying number on the vehicle, including but not limited to photographic proof, copies of original vehicle catalogs, or certification letters from antique car collector organizations.

**Subd. 6. *Assembled motorcycles.***

- **(a)** If the application refers to an assembled motorcycle, the application must so state and be accompanied by:
  - **(1)** a manufacturer's statement or certificate of origin from a recognized motorcycle manufacturer for the frame, complete engine or engine cases, provided that if a statement or certificate of origin is submitted for engine cases it must also be accompanied by copies of original documentation for cylinder heads, cylinders, flywheels, and piston and rod assemblies; and
  - **(2)** vendor receipts or copies of the receipts from suppliers on the transmission assembly, engine assembly, fork assembly, and front and rear wheel assemblies. If the applicant is a motorcycle assembler, the applicant must also provide copies of original vendor receipts for the assemblies listed in this clause.
- **(b)** An assembled motorcycle for which the documentation required under paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), has been submitted is not subject to the filing requirement of section 168A.07, subdivision 1, clause (2).

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168A VEHICLE TITLES

**Minn. Stat. § 168A.07** (2016)

**168A.07** CONDITIONAL REGISTRATION

Subdivision 1. Ownership at issue; certificate withheld or bond filed. — In the event application is made in this state for a certificate of title on a vehicle and the department is not satisfied as to the ownership of the vehicle or the existence of security interests therein, the vehicle may be registered but the department, subject to subdivision 1a, shall either:

- (1) withhold issuance of a certificate of title until the applicant shall present documents reasonably sufficient to satisfy the department of the applicant's ownership of the vehicle and as to any security interest therein; or
- (2) as a condition to issuing a certificate of title, require the applicant to file a bond in the form and amount provided in subdivision 1b.

Subd. 1a. Ownership at issue; requirements for certificate issuance.

(a) In the event application is made in this state for a certificate of title on a vehicle with a model year designated by the manufacturer of more than five years prior to the year in which application is made, and the applicant is unable to establish sole ownership of the vehicle because one or more owners, prior owners, or lienholders cannot be found, the department shall issue a certificate of title to the applicant if the applicant submits:

- (1) the application;
- (2) a bond in the form and amount provided in subdivision 1b;
- (3) an affidavit that identifies the make, model year, and vehicle identification number of the vehicle, and includes a statement that:
  - (i) the applicant is an owner of the vehicle;
  - (ii) the applicant has physical possession of the vehicle; and
  - (iii) in attempting to transfer interest in the vehicle or obtain a certificate of title or lien release, the applicant was unable after using due diligence to (A) determine the names or locations of one or more owners, prior owners, or lienholders; or (B) successfully contact one or more owners, prior owners, or lienholders known to the applicant; and
- (4) payment for required taxes and fees.

(b) Unless the department has been notified of the pendency of an action to recover the bond under paragraph (a), clause (2), the department shall allow it to expire at the end of three years.

Subd. 1b. Bond requirements. — A bond filed under this section must be in the form prescribed by the department and executed by the applicant, and either accompanied by the deposit of cash or executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, in an amount equal to 1- 1/2 times the value of the vehicle as determined by the department. The bond shall be conditioned to indemnify any prior owner and secured party and any subsequent purchaser of the vehicle or person acquiring any security interest therein, or the successor in interest of any said person, against any expense, loss, or damage, including reasonable attorneys' fees, by reason of the issuance of the certificate of title to the vehicle or on account of any defect in or undisclosed security interest upon the right, title and interest of the applicant in and to the vehicle. Any such interested person shall have a right of action to recover on such bond for any breach of its conditions, but the aggregate liability of the surety to all such persons shall in no event exceed the amount of the bond. Unless the department has been notified of the pendency of an action to recover on the bond and if all questions as to ownership and outstanding security interests have been resolved to the satisfaction of the department, such bond, and any deposit accompanying it, shall be returned at the end of three years or prior thereto in the event the vehicle is no longer registered in this state and the currently valid certificate of title is surrendered.

Subd. 2. Nontransferable certificate. — In the event the issuance of a certificate of title is withheld in accordance with subdivision 1, or because the applicant is unable to surrender an existing certificate of title to the vehicle issued by another state, the department, upon payment of the same fee as for issuing a certificate of title, may issue to the applicant a nontransferable certificate in form designated by the department certifying that the applicant has applied for a certificate of title; provided that such certificate shall not be issued if the department has reasonable grounds to believe the applicant is not the owner or that the application contains a false or fraudulent statement.

Subd. 3. Fees. — The filing fee to create a conditional registration shall conform with the fee provided in section 168.33, subdivision 7, paragraph (a), clause (3). A subsequent removal and clearing of a

conditional registration is considered a separate transaction and requires payment of an additional filing fee of the same amount, provided the removal and clearing was initiated by a motor vehicle dealer licensed under section 168.27.

TRADE REGULATIONS, CONSUMER PROTECTION  
CHAPTER 325F CONSUMER PROTECTION; PRODUCTS AND SALES  
MOTOR VEHICLE DAMAGE DISCLOSURES AND TITLE BRANDING

Minn. Stat. § 325F.6642 (2016)

325F.6642 TITLE BRANDING

Subdivision 1. Flood damage.

If the application for title and registration indicates that the vehicle has been classified as a total loss vehicle because of water or flood damage, the registrar of motor vehicles shall record the term "flood damaged" on the certificate of title and all subsequent certificates of title issued for that vehicle.

Subd. 2. Total loss vehicles.

Upon transfer and application for title to all total loss vehicles, the registrar of motor vehicles shall record the term "prior salvage" on the first Minnesota certificate of title and all subsequent Minnesota certificates of title used for that vehicle.

Subd. 3. Out-of-state vehicles.

(a) Upon transfer and application for title of all repaired vehicles with out-of-state titles that bear the term "damaged," "salvage," "rebuilt," "reconditioned," or any similar term, the registrar of motor vehicles shall record the term "prior salvage" on the first Minnesota certificate of title and all subsequent Minnesota certificates of title used for that vehicle.

(b) The registrar shall mark "prior salvage" on the first Minnesota certificate of title and all subsequent certificates of title issued for any vehicle which came into the state unrepaired and for which a salvage certificate of title was issued.

(c) For vehicles with out-of-state titles which bear the term "flood damaged," the registrar of motor vehicles shall record the term "flood damaged" on the first Minnesota certificate of title and all subsequent Minnesota certificates of title issued for that vehicle.

(d) The registrar shall mark "prior salvage" on the first Minnesota certificate of title and all subsequent certificates of title issued for any vehicle that had a salvage certificate of title issued at any time in the vehicle's history by any other jurisdiction.

Subd. 4. **Reconstructed vehicles.**

For **vehicles that are reconstructed** within the meaning of section 168A.15, the registrar shall record the term "reconstructed" on the certificate of title and all subsequent certificates of title.

Subd. 5. Manner of branding.

The designation of "flood damaged," "rebuilt," "prior salvage," or "reconstructed" on a certificate of title shall be made by the registrar of motor vehicles in a clear and conspicuous manner, in a color different from all other writing on the certificate of title.

Subd. 6. Total loss vehicle; definition.

For the purposes of this section, "total loss vehicle" means a vehicle damaged by collision or other occurrence, for which a salvage certificate of title has been issued. Total loss vehicle does not include a stolen and recovered vehicle verified by the insurer who declared the vehicle to be a total loss vehicle unless there is more than minimal damage to the vehicle as determined by the registrar.

Subd. 7. Dealer disclosure.

If a licensed motor vehicle dealer offers for sale a vehicle with a branded title, the dealer shall orally disclose the existence of the brand in the course of the sales presentation.

Subd. 8. Flood damage; dealer lots.

If a motor vehicle, which is part of a licensed motor vehicle dealer's inventory, has been submerged or flooded above the bottom of the dashboard while parked on the dealer's lot, the dealer must disclose that fact in writing to any buyer and must orally disclose that fact in the course of a sales presentation to any prospective buyer. The buyer must also disclose the existence of the flood damage in writing to any subsequent buyer.

TRADE REGULATIONS, CONSUMER PROTECTION  
CHAPTER 325F CONSUMER PROTECTION; PRODUCTS AND SALES  
MOTOR VEHICLE DAMAGE DISCLOSURES AND TITLE BRANDING

Minn. Stat. § 325F.6644 (2016)

325F.6644 APPLICATION

Subdivision 1. Damage disclosure. — Section 325F.6641 does not apply to commercial motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 16,000 pounds or more or to motorcycles.

Subd. 2. Title branding. — Section 325F.6642 does not apply to (1) commercial motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 16,000 pounds or more or to motorcycles, other than reconstructed vehicles, as defined in section 168A.01, subdivision 16; and (2) restored pioneer vehicles, as defined in section 168A.01, subdivision 16a.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

Minn. Stat. § 169.79 (2016)

Subdivision 1. Registration required. — No person shall operate, drive, or park a motor vehicle on any highway unless the vehicle is registered in accordance with the laws of this state and has the number plates or permit confirming that valid registration or operating authority has been obtained, except as provided in sections 168.10 and 168.12, subdivision 2f, as assigned to it by the commissioner of public safety, conspicuously displayed thereon in a manner that the view of any plate or permit is not obstructed. A plate issued under section 168.27 or a permit issued under chapter 168 may be displayed on a vehicle in conjunction with expired registration whether or not it displays the license plate to which the last registration was issued.

Subd. 2. Semitrailer. — If the vehicle is a semitrailer, the number plate displayed must be assigned to the registered owner and correlate to the documentation on file with the department.

Subd. 3. Rear display of single plate. — If the vehicle is a motorcycle, motor scooter, motorized bicycle, motorcycle sidecar, trailer registered at greater than 3,000 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW), semitrailer, or vehicle displaying a dealer plate, then one license plate must be displayed horizontally or vertically, for a motorcycle issued vertical license plates under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, with the identifying numbers and letters facing outward from the vehicle and must be mounted on the rear of the vehicle.

Subd. 3a. Small trailer. — If the vehicle is a trailer with 3,000 pounds or less GVW with lifetime registration, the numbered plate or sticker must be adhered to the side of the trailer frame tongue near the hitch.

Subd. 4. Collector's vehicle. — If the vehicle is (1) a collector's vehicle with a pioneer, classic car, collector, or street rod license; (2) a vehicle that meets the requirements of a pioneer, classic, or street rod vehicle except that the vehicle is used for general transportation purposes; or (3) a vehicle that is of model year 1972 or earlier, not registered under section 168.10, subdivision 1c, and is used for general transportation purposes, then one plate must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle, or one plate on the front and one on the rear, at the discretion of the owner.

Subd. 5. Truck-tractor, road-tractor, or farm truck. — If the vehicle is a truck-tractor, road-tractor, or farm truck, as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 8, but excluding from that definition semitrailers and trailers, then one plate must be displayed on the front of the vehicle.

Subd. 6. Other motor vehicles. — If the motor vehicle is any kind of motor vehicle other than those provided for in subdivisions 2 to 4, one plate must be displayed on the front and one on the rear of the vehicle.

Subd. 7. Plate fastened and visible. — All plates must be (1) securely fastened so as to prevent them from swinging, (2) displayed horizontally with the identifying numbers and letters facing outward from the vehicle, and (3) mounted in the upright position. The person driving the motor vehicle shall keep the plate legible and unobstructed and free from grease, dust, or other blurring material so that the lettering is plainly visible at all times. It is unlawful to cover any assigned letters and numbers or the name of the state of origin of a license plate with any material whatever, including any clear or colorless material that affects the plate's visibility or reflectivity.

Subd. 8. Plate registration stickers. — As viewed facing the plates:

(a) License plates issued to vehicles registered under section 168.017 must display the month of expiration in the lower left corner of each plate and the year of expiration in the lower right corner of each plate.

(b) License plates issued to vehicles registered under section 168.127 must display either fleet registration validation stickers in the lower right corner of each plate or distinctive license plates, issued by the registrar, with "FLEET REG" displayed on the bottom center portion of each plate.

(c) License plates issued after July 1, 2008, requiring validation must display the month of expiration in the lower left corner of each plate and the year of expiration in the lower right corner of the plate.

Subd. 9. Tax-exempt vehicle marking. — Vehicles displaying tax-exempt plates issued under section 16B.581 or 168.012 must have vehicle markings that comply with section 168.012, subdivision 1.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168 VEHICLE REGISTRATION, TAXATION, SALE

Minn. Stat. § 168.09 (2016)

168.09 REGISTRATION; REREGISTRATION

Subdivision 1. Registration required.

No trailer or motor vehicle, except as is exempted by section 168.012, may be used or operated upon the public streets or highways of the state in any calendar year until it is registered as provided in this section, the motor vehicle tax and fees as provided in this chapter are paid, and the number plates issued for the trailer or motor vehicle are displayed on it. No trailer or motor vehicle, except as provided by section 168.012, which for any reason is not subject to taxation as provided in this chapter, may be used or operated upon the public streets or highways of this state until it is registered as provided in this section and displays number plates as required by this chapter, except that the purchaser of a new trailer or motor vehicle may operate it without plates if the permit authorized by section 168.091 or 168.092 is displayed.

Subd. 2. Reregistration.

When a motor vehicle registered in Minnesota, has during the calendar year for which it is so registered, been reregistered for the following year, the display on such motor vehicle of the plates issued for such motor vehicle on its reregistration for the following year shall on and after November 15 of the calendar year in which it was so reregistered constitute compliance with subdivision 1 requiring display of plates except as provided in subdivisions 3 and 4.

Subd. 3. Proratable vehicles; other vehicles.

(a) Plates or other insignia issued for a motor vehicle registered under section 168.187 for a calendar year shall be displayed on the motor vehicle not later than 12:01 a.m. on March 2 of the year unless extended by the registrar for the period of time required for the issuance of the new plates or insignia. The registration year for vehicles registered under section 168.187, as provided in this section, is from March 1 to the last day of February for 1995 and succeeding years.

(b) Except for a motor vehicle registered under section 168.017 or 168.187, plates or other insignia issued for a self-propelled motor vehicle registered for over 27,000 pounds shall be displayed on the vehicle not later than 12:01 a.m. on March 2 of the year, and, except for recreational equipment, not earlier than 12:01 a.m. on February 15 of the year, unless otherwise extended by the registrar for the period of time required for issuing the new plates or insignia.

(c) Except for a motor vehicle registered under section 168.017 or 168.187, plates or other insignia issued for a self-propelled vehicle registered for 27,000 pounds or less and all other motor vehicles shall be displayed not later than 12:01 a.m. on March 2 of the year, and, except for recreational equipment, not earlier than January 1 of the year unless otherwise extended by the registrar for the period of time required for issuing the new plates or insignia. The registration year for all vehicles as provided in this paragraph and paragraph (b) is from March 1 to the last day of February for 1979 and succeeding years.

Subd. 4. Display.

A vehicle registered under the monthly series system of registration shall display the plates and insignia issued within ten days of the first day of the month which commences the registration period.

Subd. 5. Defenses to failure to renew.

No person may be charged with violating this section by reason of failure to renew the registration of a previously registered motor vehicle, except those vehicles registered under section 168.187, if:

(1) the person produces a statement from the registrar to the effect that the person was not notified by the registrar of the annual renewal for the registration of the vehicle to which a citation was issued; and

(2) the person renews the registration and pays the motor vehicle tax and fees due within ten days of being cited for the violation.

Subd. 6. Semitrailer.

For a semitrailer, as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 30, a number plate must be assigned to the registered owner as identification for the vehicle. This number plate must not display a year designator. The registration card must indicate the number plate for the number plate to be valid.

**Subd. 7. Display of temporary permit.**

(a) A vehicle that displays a Minnesota plate issued under this chapter may display a temporary permit in conjunction with expired registration if:

- (1) the current registration tax and all other fees and taxes have been paid in full; and
- (2) the plate has been applied for.

**(b) A vehicle may display a temporary permit in conjunction with expired registration, with or without a registration plate, if:**

- (1) the plates have been applied for;
- (2) the registration tax and other fees and taxes have been paid in full; and

**(3) either the vehicle is used solely as a collector vehicle while displaying the temporary permit and not used for general transportation purposes or the vehicle was issued a 21-day permit under section 168.092, subdivision 1.**

(c) The permit is valid for a period of 60 days. The permit must be in a format prescribed by the commissioner and whenever practicable must be posted upon the driver's side of the rear window on the inside of the vehicle. The permit is valid only for the vehicle for which it was issued to allow a reasonable time for the new plates to be manufactured and delivered to the applicant. The permit may be issued only by the commissioner or by a deputy registrar under section 168.33.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168 VEHICLE REGISTRATION, TAXATION, SALE

Minn. Stat. § 168.10 (2016)

**168.10 REGISTRATION; COLLECTOR VEHICLE**

Subdivision 1. Application.

Subdivision 1. Application.

(a) Except as provided in subdivisions 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1g, and 1h, every owner of any motor vehicle in this state, not exempted by section 168.012 or 168.26, shall as soon as registered ownership of a motor vehicle is acquired and annually thereafter during the period provided in section 168.31, file with the commissioner of public safety on a blank provided by the commissioner a listing for taxation and application for the registration of such vehicle, stating the first, middle and last names, the date of birth, and the address of the primary residence of each registered owner thereof who is a natural person or mailing address if the address of the primary residence has been classified as private data under this chapter, the full name and address of any other registered owner, the name and address of the person from whom purchased, make of motor vehicle, year and number of the model, manufacturer's identification number or serial number, type of body, the weight of the vehicle in pounds, for trailers only, its rated load carrying capacity and for buses only, its seating capacity, and such other information as the commissioner may require. Any false statement willfully and knowingly made in regard thereto shall be deemed perjury and punished accordingly. The listing and application for registration by dealers or manufacturers' agents within the state, of motor vehicles received for sale or use within the state shall be accepted as compliance with the requirements of this chapter, imposed upon the manufacturer.

(b) Registration shall be refused a motor vehicle if the original identification or serial number has been destroyed, removed, altered, covered, or defaced. However, if the commissioner is satisfied on the sworn statements of the registered owner or registered owners or such other persons as the commissioner may deem advisable that the applicant is the legal owner, a special identification number in the form prescribed by the commissioner shall be assigned to the motor vehicle. When it has been determined that the number had been affixed to such vehicle in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, the vehicle may thereafter be registered in the same manner as other motor vehicles. In the case of a new or rebuilt motor vehicle manufactured or assembled without an identification or serial number, the commissioner may assign an identification number to the motor vehicle in the same manner as prescribed heretofore.

Subd. 1a. Collector's vehicle, pioneer plate.

(a) Any motor vehicle that: (1) was manufactured prior to 1936 or is a restored pioneer vehicle, as defined in section 168A.01, subdivision 16a; and (2) is owned and operated solely as a collector's item, shall be listed for taxation and registration as provided by paragraph (b).

(b) An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the owner, the name and address of the person from whom purchased, the make of the motor vehicle, year and number of the model, the manufacturer's identification number and that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the commissioner is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$ 25 tax and the plate fee authorized under section 168.12, the commissioner shall list such vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue a single number plate.

(c) The number plate so issued shall bear the inscription "Pioneer," "Minnesota" and the registration number or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, but no date. The number plate is valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence in Minnesota. The commissioner has the power to revoke said plate for failure to comply with this subdivision.

Subd. 1b. Collector's vehicle, classic car plate.

(a) Any motor vehicle manufactured between and including the years 1925 and 1948, and designated as a full classic car because of its fine design, high engineering standards, and superior workmanship, and owned and operated solely as a collector's item shall be listed for taxation and registration as follows: An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the owner, the name and address of the person from whom purchased, the make of the motor vehicle, year and number of the model, the manufacturer's identification number, verification of the vehicle's full classic car status from nationally published standards and guides as determined by the registrar, and that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the commissioner is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and that the motor vehicle qualifies to be classified as a classic car, and the owner pays a \$ 25 tax and the plate fee authorized under section 168.12, the commissioner shall list such vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue a single number plate.

(b) The number plate so issued shall bear the inscription "Classic Car," "Minnesota," and the registration number or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, but no date. The number plate is valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence in Minnesota. The commissioner has the power to revoke said plate for failure to comply with this subdivision.

(c) No commercial vehicles such as hearses, ambulances, or trucks are considered to be classic cars.

Subd. 1c. Collector's vehicle, collector plate.

(a) The owner of any self-propelled motor vehicle, including any truck, (1) that is (i) at least 20 model years old, or (ii) at least ten model years old and with a body or engine style of which not more than 500 were manufactured in or imported into the United States in any model year, (2) that was manufactured after 1935, and (3) that is owned and operated solely as a collector's vehicle, shall list the vehicle for taxation and registration as provided in paragraph (b).

(b) The owner shall execute an affidavit stating (1) the name and address of the person from whom purchased and of the new owner, (2) the make of the motor vehicle, (3) the year and number of the model, (4) the manufacturer's identification number, (5) in the case of a vehicle described in paragraph (a), clause (1)(ii), that the vehicle has a body or engine style of which not more than 500 were manufactured or imported into the United States in any model year, and (6) that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes.

(c) The owner shall provide a statement of the manufacturer or importer regarding the number of vehicles manufactured or imported during the model year.

(d) The owner shall also prove that the owner also has one or more vehicles with regular license plates.

(e) If the commissioner is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$ 25 tax and the plate fee authorized under section 168.12, the commissioner shall list the vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue a single number plate.

(f) The number plate issued shall bear the inscription "Collector," "Minnesota," and the registration number or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, but no date. The number plate is valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence in Minnesota. The commissioner has the power to revoke the plate for failure to comply with this subdivision.

Subd. 1d. Collector's vehicle, street rod plate. — Any modernized motor vehicle manufactured prior to the year 1949 or designed and manufactured to resemble such vehicle shall be listed for taxation and registration as follows:

An affidavit shall be executed stating the name and address of the person from whom purchased and of the new owner, the make of the motor vehicle, year number of model, and the manufacturer's identification number. The affidavit shall further state that the vehicle is owned and operated solely as a street rod and not for general transportation purposes. The owner must also prove that the owner has one or more vehicles with regular license plates. If the commissioner is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$ 25 tax and the plate fee authorized under section 168.12, the commissioner shall list such vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue a single number plate.

The number plate issued shall bear the inscription "Street Rod," "Minnesota," and the registration number or other combination of characters authorized under section 168.12, subdivision 2a, but no date. The number plate is valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence in Minnesota. The commissioner has the power to revoke such plate for failure to comply with this subdivision.

Subd. 1e. Outdoor storage. — Pioneer, classic, collector vehicles, collector military vehicles, or street rods, licensed or unlicensed, operable or inoperable, may be stored in compliance with local government zoning and ordinances on their owners' property, provided that the vehicles and any outdoor storage areas they may require are maintained in such a manner that they do not constitute a health or environmental hazard and are screened from ordinary public view by means of a fence, shrubbery, rapidly growing trees or other appropriate means. The appropriate local agency or authority may inform an owner of the owner's failure to comply with these requirements, and may order the vehicles removed from the outdoor storage area if the owner fails to comply with these requirements within 20 days after the warning.

Subd. 1f. Equipment. — Any pioneer, classic, collector vehicle, collector military vehicle, or street rod shall have all equipment, in operating condition, which was specifically required by law as a condition for its first sale after manufacture.

No law requiring any particular equipment or specifying any standards to be met by motor vehicles shall apply to pioneer, classic, collector vehicles, collector military vehicles, or street rods unless it specifically so states.

Subd. 1g. Original plates. — A vehicle registered pursuant to subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c or 1d may in lieu of being issued number plates by the commissioner display original Minnesota number plates issued in the same year as the model year of the car on which they are displayed. The number of the original plates must be provided to the commissioner. The original plates must be in good condition. Original Minnesota number plates shall not be used if the number on the original plate is identical to a number on any current plate or any other plate in a numbering system used by the commissioner without written authorization from the commissioner. Any person currently using plates issued pursuant to subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c or 1d shall return those plates to the commissioner before substituting original plates. The commissioner shall charge a fee of \$ 10 for registering the number on original plates.

Subd. 1h. Collector military vehicle.

(a) A motor vehicle, including a truck, shall be listed and registered under this section if it meets the following conditions:

(1) it is at least 20 years old;

(2) its first owner following its manufacture was a branch of the armed forces of the United States and it presently conforms to the vehicle specifications required during the time of military ownership, or it has been restored and presently conforms to the specifications required by a branch of the armed forces for the model year that the restored vehicle could have been owned by that branch of the armed forces; and

(3) it is owned by a nonprofit organization and operated solely as a collector's vehicle. For purposes of this subdivision, "nonprofit organization" means a corporation, society, association, foundation, or institution organized and operated exclusively for historical or educational purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of a private individual.

(b) The owner of the vehicle shall execute an affidavit stating the name and address of the person from whom purchased and of the new owner; the make, year, and model number of the motor vehicle; the manufacturer's identification number; and the collector military vehicle identification number, if any, located on the exterior of the vehicle. The affidavit must affirm that the vehicle is owned by a nonprofit organization and is operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the commissioner is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct and the owner pays a \$ 25 tax and the plate fee authorized under section 168.12, the commissioner shall list the vehicle for taxation and registration and shall issue number plates. The number plates shall bear the inscriptions "Collector" and "Minnesota" and the registration number, but no date. The number plates are valid without renewal as long as the vehicle is in existence in Minnesota. The commissioner may revoke the plates for failure to comply with this subdivision.

(c) Notwithstanding section 168.09, 168.12, or other law to the contrary, the owner of a registered collector military vehicle is not required to display registration plates on the exterior of the vehicle if the vehicle has an exterior number identification that conforms to the identifying system for military vehicles in effect when the vehicle was last owned by the branch of the armed forces of the United States or in effect in the year to which the collector military vehicle has been restored. However, the state registration plates must be carried in or on the collector military vehicle at all times.

(d) The owner of a registered collector military vehicle that is not required to display registration plates under paragraph (c) may tow a registered trailer behind it. The trailer is not required to display registration plates if the trailer:

- (1) does not exceed a gross weight of 15,000 pounds;
- (2) otherwise conforms to registration, licensing, and safety laws and specifications;
- (3) conforms to military specifications for appearance and identification;
- (4) is intended to represent and does represent a military trailer; and
- (5) carries registration plates on or in the trailer or the collector military vehicle towing the trailer.

Subd. 1i. Collector plate transfer. — Notwithstanding section 168.12, subdivision 1, on payment of a transfer fee of \$ 5, plates issued under this section may be transferred to another vehicle owned or jointly owned by the person to whom the special plates were issued or the plate may be assigned to another owner. In addition to the transfer fee a new owner must pay the \$ 25 tax and any fee required by section 168.12, subdivision 2a. The \$ 5 fee must be paid into the state treasury and credited to the vehicle services operating account under section 299A.705, subdivision 1. License plates issued under this section may not be transferred to a vehicle not eligible for the collector's vehicle license plates.

Subd. 2. New body; application. — Upon the installation of a new body or the addition to or change of type of any body in or upon any registered motor vehicle, the owner shall file with the registrar a new

application setting forth such change, together with the payment of any additional tax to which the motor vehicle by such change has become subject, and shall apply for a revision of the registration made.

Subd. 3. Offenses. — It shall be unlawful for any person:

- (1) to display or cause to be displayed or to possess any canceled, revoked, suspended or fraudulently obtained or stolen registration plates;
- (2) to lend the person's registration plates to another or knowingly to permit the use thereof by another;
- (3) to display or represent as the person's own any registration plates not issued to that person; provided, however, this shall not apply to any legal change of ownership of the motor vehicle to which the plates are attached, nor shall this apply to any transfer of collector plates under subdivision 1i;
- (4) to fail or refuse to surrender to the department upon its lawful demand any registration plates which have been revoked, canceled, or suspended by proper authority;
- (5) to use a false or fictitious name or address or description of the motor vehicle, identification number, or serial number in any application for registration of a motor vehicle or to knowingly make a false statement or to knowingly conceal a material fact or otherwise commit a fraud in any such application;
- (6) to destroy, alter, remove, cover or deface the identification or serial number of any motor vehicle or to knowingly operate any motor vehicle the identification or serial number of which has been destroyed, altered, removed, covered or defaced without first making application for assignment of a special identification number as provided by law.

Subd. 4. Violation. — It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this chapter unless such violation is by this chapter or other laws of this state declared to be a felony or gross misdemeanor.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168 VEHICLE REGISTRATION, TAXATION, SALE

Minn. Stat. § 168.12 (2016)

Subdivision 1. Plates; design, visibility, periods of issuance.

(a) The commissioner, upon approval and payment, shall issue to the applicant the plates required by this chapter, bearing the state name and an assigned vehicle registration number. The number assigned by the commissioner may be a combination of a letter or sign with figures. The color of the plates and the color of the abbreviation of the state name and the number assigned must be in marked contrast. The plates must be lettered, spaced, or distinguished to suitably indicate the registration of the vehicle according to the rules of the commissioner.

(b) When a vehicle is registered on the basis of total gross weight, the plates issued must clearly indicate by letters or other suitable insignia the maximum gross weight for which the tax has been paid.

(c) Plates issued to a noncommercial vehicle must bear the inscription "noncommercial" unless the vehicle is displaying a special plate authorized and issued under this chapter.

(d) A one-ton pickup truck that is used for commercial purposes and is subject to section 168.185, is eligible to display special plates as authorized and issued under this chapter.

(e) The plates must be so treated as to be at least 100 times brighter than the conventional painted number plates. When properly mounted on an unlighted vehicle, the plates, when viewed from a vehicle equipped with standard headlights, must be visible for a distance of not less than 1,500 feet and readable for a distance of not less than 110 feet.

(f) The commissioner shall issue plates for the following periods:

(1) New plates issued pursuant to section 168.012, subdivision 1, must be issued to a vehicle for as long as the vehicle is owned by the exempt agency and the plate shall not be transferable from one vehicle to another but the plate may be transferred with the vehicle from one tax-exempt agency to another.

(2) Plates issued for passenger automobiles must be issued for a seven-year period. All plates issued under this paragraph must be replaced if they are seven years old or older at the time of registration renewal or will become so during the registration period.

(3) Plates issued under sections 168.053 and 168.27, subdivisions 16 and 17, must be for a seven-year period.

(4) Plates issued under subdivisions 2c and 2d and section 168.123 must be issued for the life of the veteran under section 169.79.

(5) Plates for any vehicle not specified in clauses (1) to (3) must be issued for the life of the vehicle.

(g) In a year in which plates are not issued, the commissioner shall issue for each registration a sticker to designate the year of registration. This sticker must show the year or years for which the sticker is issued, and is valid only for that period. The plates and stickers issued for a vehicle may not be transferred to another vehicle during the period for which the sticker is issued, except when issued for a vehicle registered under section 168.187.

(h) Despite any other provision of this subdivision, plates issued to a vehicle used for behind-the-wheel instruction in a driver education course in a public school may be transferred to another vehicle used for the same purpose without payment of any additional fee. The public school shall notify the commissioner of each transfer of plates under this paragraph. The commissioner may prescribe a format for notification.

Subd. 2. Amateur radio licensee; special plates, rules.

(a) The commissioner shall issue amateur radio plates to an applicant who:

(1) is an owner of a passenger automobile or recreational vehicle;

(2) is a resident of this state;

(3) holds an official amateur radio station license or a citizens radio service class D license, in good standing, issued by the Federal Communications Commission;

(4) pays the registration tax required under section 168.013;

(5) pays a fee of \$ 10 for each set of special plates and any other fees required by this chapter; and

(6) complies with this chapter and rules governing the registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers;

(b) In lieu of the registration number required for identification under subdivision 1, the plates must indicate the official amateur call letters of the applicant, as assigned by the Federal Communications Commission, and the words "AMATEUR RADIO."

(c) This provision for the issue of special plates applies only if the applicant's motor vehicle is already registered in Minnesota so that the applicant has valid regular Minnesota plates issued for that motor

vehicle under which to operate it during the time that it will take to have the necessary special plates made.

(d) If owning more than one motor vehicle of the type specified in this subdivision, the applicant may apply for special plates for each motor vehicle and, if each application complies with this subdivision, the commissioner shall furnish the applicant with the special plates, indicating the official amateur call letters and other distinguishing information as the commissioner considers necessary, for each of the motor vehicles.

(e) The commissioner may make reasonable rules governing the use of the special plates as will assure the full compliance by the owner of the special plates, with all existing laws governing the registration of motor vehicles and the transfer and use of the plates.

(f) Despite any contrary provision of subdivision 1, the special plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred by an owner to another motor vehicle listed in paragraph (a) and registered to the same owner, upon the payment of a fee of \$ 5. The commissioner must be notified before the transfer and may prescribe a format for the notification.

Subd. 2a. Personalized plates; rules.

(a) The commissioner may issue personalized plates or, if requested for special plates issued under section 168.123 for veterans, 168.124 for medal of honor recipients, or 168.125 for former prisoners of war, applicable personalized special veterans plates, to an applicant who:

(1) is an owner of a passenger automobile including a passenger automobile registered as a classic car, pioneer car, collector car, or street rod; any truck with a manufacturer's nominal rated capacity of one ton or less and resembling a pickup truck; a motorcycle, including a classic motorcycle; a motorized bicycle; a commuter van as defined in section 168.126; or a recreational vehicle;

(2) pays a onetime fee of \$ 100 and any other fees required by this chapter;

(3) pays the registration tax required by this chapter for the motor vehicle; and

(4) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.

(b) The commissioner shall charge a replacement fee for personalized license plates and personalized special veterans plates issued under section 168.123 as specified in subdivision 5. This fee must be paid by the applicant whenever the personalized plates are required to be replaced by law, except that as provided in section 168.124, subdivision 3, and 168.125, subdivision 1b, no fee may be charged to replace plates issued under those sections.

(c) In lieu of the registration number assigned as provided in subdivision 1, personalized plates and personalized special veterans plates must have imprinted on them a series of not more than seven numbers and letters, or five numbers and letters for personalized special veterans plates, in any combination and, as applicable, satisfy the design requirements of section 168.123, 168.124, or 168.125. When an applicant has once obtained personalized plates or personalized special veterans plates, the applicant shall have a prior claim for similar personalized plates or personalized special veterans plates in the next succeeding year as long as current motor vehicle registration is maintained.

(d) The commissioner shall adopt rules in the manner provided by chapter 14, regulating the issuance and transfer of personalized plates and personalized special veterans plates. No words or combination of letters placed on these plates may be used for commercial advertising, be of an obscene, indecent, or immoral nature, or be of a nature that would offend public morals or decency. The call signals or letters of a radio or television station are not commercial advertising for the purposes of this subdivision.

(e) Despite the provisions of subdivision 1, personalized plates and personalized special veterans plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle listed in paragraph (a) and owned by the applicant, upon the payment of a fee of \$ 5.

(f) The commissioner may by rule specify the format for notification.

(g) A personalized plate or personalized special veterans plate issued for a classic car, pioneer car, collector car, street rod, or classic motorcycle may not be transferred to a vehicle not eligible for such a plate.

(h) Despite any law to the contrary, if the personalized license plates are lost, stolen, or destroyed, the applicant may apply and must be issued duplicate license plates bearing the same combination of letters and numbers and the same design as (1) the former personalized plates or personalized special veterans plates under section 168.123 upon the payment of the fee required by section 168.29 or (2) the former personalized special veterans plates issued under section 168.124 or 168.125, without charge.

(i) A personalized vertical motorcycle plate may be issued upon payment of an additional payment of \$ 100. The vertical plate must have not more than four identification characters, cannot be a duplication of any current or reserved license plate, and must meet the requirements in paragraph (d).

Subd. 2b. Firefighters; special plates, rules.

(a) The commissioner shall issue special plates, or a single license plate in the case of a motorcycle plate, to any applicant who:

(1) is a member of a fire department receiving state aid under chapter 69, has a letter from the fire chief, and is an owner of a passenger automobile, a one-ton pickup truck, or a motorcycle;

(2) pays a fee of \$ 10 and any other fees required by this chapter;

(3) pays the registration tax required by this chapter for the motor vehicle; and

(4) complies with this chapter and rules governing the registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.

(b) In lieu of the identification required under subdivision 1, the special plates must bear an emblem of a Maltese Cross together with any numbers or characters prescribed by the commissioner.

(c) Special plates issued under this subdivision may only be used during the period that the owner of the motor vehicle is a member of a fire department as specified in this subdivision. When the individual to whom the special plates were issued is no longer a member of a fire department or when the motor vehicle ownership is transferred, the owner shall remove the special plates from the motor vehicle. If the commissioner receives written notification that an individual is no longer qualified for these special plates, the commissioner shall invalidate the plates and notify the individual of this action. The individual may retain the plate only upon demonstrating compliance with the qualifications of this subdivision. Upon removal or invalidation of the special plates or special motorcycle plate, the owner or purchaser of the motor vehicle shall obtain regular plates, a regular motorcycle plate, or special plates for the proper registration classification for the motor vehicle.

(d) A special motorcycle license plate issued under this subdivision must be the same size as a standard motorcycle license plate.

(e) Upon payment of a fee of \$ 5, plates issued under this subdivision for a passenger automobile or truck may be transferred to another passenger automobile or truck owned or jointly owned by the person to whom the plates were issued. On payment of a fee of \$ 5, a plate issued under this subdivision for a motorcycle may be transferred to another motorcycle owned or jointly owned by the person to whom the plate was issued.

(f) The commissioner may adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act, sections 14.001 to 14.69, to govern the issuance and use of the special plates authorized in this subdivision.

Subd. 2c. National Guard; special plates, rules.

(a) The commissioner shall issue special plates to any applicant who:

(1) is a regularly enlisted, commissioned, or retired member of the Minnesota National Guard, other than an inactive member who is not a retired member, and is an owner of a passenger automobile;

(2) pays a fee of \$ 10 and any other fees required by this chapter;

(3) pays the registration tax required by this chapter; and

(4) complies with this chapter and rules governing the registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.

(b) The adjutant general shall design the emblem for these special plates subject to the approval of the commissioner.

(c) Special plates issued under this subdivision may only be used during the period that the owner of the motor vehicle is an active or retired member of the Minnesota National Guard as specified in this subdivision. When the individual to whom the special plates were issued is no longer an active or retired member of the Minnesota National Guard, the special plates must be removed from the vehicle by the owner. If the commissioner receives written notification that an individual is no longer qualified for these special plates, the commissioner shall invalidate the plates and notify the individual of this action. The individual may retain the plate only upon demonstrating compliance with the qualifications of this subdivision. Upon removal or invalidation of the special plates, either the owner or purchaser of the motor vehicle shall obtain regular plates for the motor vehicle.

(d) While the person is an active or retired member of the Minnesota National Guard, plates issued pursuant to this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned by that individual upon payment of a fee of \$ 5.

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, "retired member" means an individual placed on the roll of retired officers or roll of retired enlisted members in the Office of the Adjutant General under section 192.18 and who is not deceased.

(f) The commissioner may adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act to govern the issuance and use of the special plates authorized by this subdivision.

Subd. 2d. Ready Reserve; special plates, rules.

(a) The commissioner shall issue special plates to an applicant who:

(1) is not eligible for special National Guard plates under subdivision 2c, is a member of the United States armed forces ready reserve as described in United States Code, title 10, section 10142 or 10143, or a retired reserve as described in United States Code, title 10, section 10154, and is an owner of a passenger automobile;

(2) pays a fee of \$ 10 and any other fees required by this chapter;

(3) pays the registration tax required by this chapter; and

(4) complies with this chapter and rules governing the registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.

(b) The commissioner of veterans affairs shall design the emblem for these special plates subject to the approval of the commissioner.

(c) Special plates issued under this subdivision may only be used during the period that the owner of the motor vehicle is a member of the ready reserve. When the owner is no longer a member, the special plates must be removed from the motor vehicle by the owner. If the commissioner receives written notification that an individual is no longer qualified for these special plates, the commissioner shall invalidate the plates and notify the individual of this action. The individual may retain the plate only upon demonstrating compliance with the qualifications of this subdivision. On removal or invalidation of the special plates, either the owner or purchaser of the motor vehicle shall obtain regular plates for the motor vehicle. While the owner is a member of the ready reserve, plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned by that individual on paying a fee of \$ 5.

(d) The commissioner may adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act to govern the issuance and use of the special plates authorized by this subdivision.

Subd. 2e. Volunteer ambulance attendants; special plates.

(a) The commissioner shall issue special license plates to an applicant who:

(1) is a volunteer ambulance attendant as defined in section 144E.001, subdivision 15, and owns a motor vehicle taxed as a passenger automobile;

(2) pays the registration tax required by this chapter for the motor vehicle;

(3) pays a fee of \$ 10 and any other fees required by this chapter; and

(4) complies with this chapter and rules governing the registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.

(b) An individual may use special plates issued under this subdivision only during the period that the individual is a volunteer ambulance attendant. When the individual to whom the special plates were issued ceases to be a volunteer ambulance attendant, the individual shall remove each set of special plates issued. If the commissioner receives written notification that an individual is no longer qualified for these special plates, the commissioner shall invalidate the plates and notify the individual of this action. The individual may retain the plate only upon demonstrating compliance with the qualifications of this subdivision. When ownership of the motor vehicle is transferred, the individual shall remove the special plates from that motor vehicle. On removal or invalidation of the special plates, the owner or purchaser of the motor vehicle shall obtain regular plates for the motor vehicle. Special plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another motor vehicle owned by the volunteer ambulance attendant on payment of a fee of \$ 5.

(c) The commissioner may adopt rules governing the design, issuance, and sale of the special plates authorized by this subdivision.

Subd. 2f. Original license plates.

(a) On application of the owner and in lieu of issuing plates under subdivision 1 to a motor vehicle registered and taxed as a passenger automobile, the commissioner may assign to the motor vehicle original Minnesota registration plates issued in the same year as the model year of the motor vehicle, if (1) the original plates are at least 20 years old, (2) the owner of the motor vehicle has the original plates in possession at the time of the application, and (3) the owner provides the plate number to the commissioner.

(b) Plates displayed under this subdivision, including stickers applied to the plates, must be clearly legible and must be displayed on the motor vehicle.

(c) The commissioner shall not assign the registration number on the original plates to the motor vehicle if the commissioner determines that the number on the original plate is identical to the number on any plate in the current or reserved numbering system used by the commissioner.

(d) Despite subdivision 1, an original plate whose number has been assigned under this subdivision may be displayed for as long as the plates, including tabs and stickers on the plates, are clearly legible and the number is not subsequently used by the commissioner as a plate number in a registration numbering system.

(e) Despite subdivision 1, original plates assigned under this subdivision need not bear a tab or sticker to indicate the month or year of registration if the motor vehicle carries the registration certificate issued under section 168.11 at all times when the motor vehicle is operated on the public highways.

(f) The commissioner may charge a fee for receiving an application and assigning original plate numbers.  
Subd. 2g. Retired firefighters; special plates.

(a) The commissioner shall issue special retired firefighters plates to an applicant who:

(1) is a retired member of a fire department as defined in section 299N.01, subdivision 2, has a letter from the fire chief affirming that the applicant is a retired firefighter who served ten or more years and separated in good standing, and is a registered owner of a passenger automobile, a one-ton pickup truck, a recreational vehicle, or a motorcycle;

(2) pays a fee of \$ 10 for each set of license plates applied for along with any other fees required by this chapter; and

(3) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers.

(b) The commissioner shall design the special plate emblem so that it is distinguishable from the emblem on firefighter special plates issued under subdivision 2b.

(c) On payment of a transfer fee of \$ 5, plates issued under this subdivision may be transferred to another passenger automobile, one-ton pickup truck, recreational vehicle, or motorcycle registered to the individual to whom the special plates were issued.

(d) Fees collected under this subdivision must be credited to the vehicle services operating account in the special revenue fund.

(e) This subdivision is exempt from section 168.1293.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1990 c 497 s 13]

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1990 c 497 s 13]

Subd. 5. Additional fee.

(a) In addition to any fee otherwise authorized or any tax otherwise imposed upon any vehicle, the payment of which is required as a condition to the issuance of any plate or plates, the commissioner shall impose the fee specified in paragraph (b) that is calculated to cover the cost of manufacturing and issuing the plate or plates, except for plates issued to disabled veterans as defined in section 168.031 and plates issued pursuant to section 168.124, 168.125, or 168.27, subdivisions 16 and 17, for passenger automobiles. The commissioner shall issue graphic design plates only for vehicles registered pursuant to section 168.017 and recreational vehicles registered pursuant to section 168.013, subdivision 1g.

(b) Unless otherwise specified or exempted by statute, the following plate and validation sticker fees apply for the original, duplicate, or replacement issuance of a plate in a plate year:

License Plate	Single	Double	Regular and Disability	\$ 4.50	\$ Special	\$ 8.50	\$ Personalized (Replacement)	\$	
			10.00	\$ Collector Category	\$ 13.50	\$ Emergency Vehicle Display	\$ 3.00	\$ Utility Trailer Self-Adhesive	\$
			2.50	Vertical Motorcycle Plate	\$ 100.00	Stickers Duplicate year	\$ 1.00	\$ International Fuel Tax Agreement	\$
			2.50						
			6.00						
			10.00						
			14.00						
			15.00						
			6.00						

NA

1.00

(c) For vehicles that require two of the categories above, the registrar shall only charge the higher of the two fees and not a combined total.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 168 VEHICLE REGISTRATION, TAXATION, SALE

Minn. Stat. § 168.013 (2016)

168.013 VEHICLE REGISTRATION TAXES

Subdivision 1. Imposition. — Motor vehicles, except as set forth in section 168.012, using the public streets or highways in the state shall be taxed in lieu of all other taxes thereon, except wheelage taxes, so-called, which may be imposed by any city as provided by law, and except gross earnings taxes paid by companies subject or made subject thereto, and shall be privileged to use the public streets and highways, on the basis and at the rate for each calendar year as hereinafter provided.

Subd. 1a. MS 1971 [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

Subd. 1a. Passenger automobile; hearse.

(a) On passenger automobiles as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 24, and hearses, except as otherwise provided, the tax shall be \$ 10 plus an additional tax equal to 1.25 percent of the base value.

(b) Subject to the classification provisions herein, "base value" means the manufacturer's suggested retail price of the vehicle including destination charge using list price information published by the manufacturer or determined by the registrar if no suggested retail price exists, and shall not include the cost of each accessory or item of optional equipment separately added to the vehicle and the suggested retail price.

(c) If the manufacturer's list price information contains a single vehicle identification number followed by various descriptions and suggested retail prices, the registrar shall select from those listings only the lowest price for determining base value.

(d) If unable to determine the base value because the vehicle is specially constructed, or for any other reason, the registrar may establish such value upon the cost price to the purchaser or owner as evidenced by a certificate of cost but not including Minnesota sales or use tax or any local sales or other local tax.

(e) The registrar shall classify every vehicle in its proper base value class as follows:

FROM TO \$ 0 \$ 199.99 \$ 200 \$ 399.99

and thereafter a series of classes successively set in brackets having a spread of \$ 200 consisting of such number of classes as will permit classification of all vehicles.

(f) The base value for purposes of this section shall be the middle point between the extremes of its class.

(g) The registrar shall establish the base value, when new, of every passenger automobile and hearse registered prior to the effective date of Extra Session Laws 1971, chapter 31, using list price information published by the manufacturer or any nationally recognized firm or association compiling such data for the automotive industry. If unable to ascertain the base value of any registered vehicle in the foregoing manner, the registrar may use any other available source or method. The registrar shall calculate tax using base value information available to dealers and deputy registrars at the time the application for registration is submitted. The tax on all previously registered vehicles shall be computed upon the base value thus determined taking into account the depreciation provisions of paragraph (h).

(h) The annual additional tax must be computed upon a percentage of the base value as follows: during the first year of vehicle life, upon 100 percent of the base value; for the second year, 90 percent of such value; for the third year, 80 percent of such value; for the fourth year, 70 percent of such value; for the fifth year, 60 percent of such value; for the sixth year, 50 percent of such value; for the seventh year, 40 percent of such value; for the eighth year, 30 percent of such value; for the ninth year, 20 percent of such value; for the tenth year, ten percent of such value; for the 11th and each succeeding year, the sum of \$ 25.

(i) In no event shall the annual additional tax be less than \$ 25.

(j) For any vehicle previously registered in Minnesota, the annual additional tax due under this subdivision must not exceed the smallest amount of annual additional tax previously paid or due on the vehicle.

Subd. 1b. Motorcycle. — On motorcycles the tax is \$ 10, which includes the surtax provided for in subdivision 14.

Subd. 1c. Farm truck.

(a) On farm trucks having a gross weight of not more than 57,000 pounds, the tax shall be based on total gross weight and shall be 45 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by subdivision 1e during each

of the first eight years of vehicle life, but in no event less than \$ 35, and during the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life the tax shall be 27 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by subdivision 1e, but in no event less than \$ 21.

(b) On farm trucks having a gross weight of more than 57,000 pounds, the tax shall be 60 percent of the Minnesota base rate during each of the first eight years of vehicle life and 36 percent of the Minnesota base rate during the ninth and succeeding years.

Subd. 1d. Trailer.

(a) On trailers registered at a gross vehicle weight of greater than 3,000 pounds, the annual tax is based on total gross weight and is 30 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e, when the gross weight is 15,000 pounds or less, and when the gross weight of a trailer is more than 15,000 pounds, the tax for the first eight years of vehicle life is 100 percent of the tax imposed in the Minnesota base rate schedule, and during the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life the tax is 75 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by subdivision 1e. A trailer registered at a gross vehicle weight greater than 3,000 pounds but no greater than 7,200 pounds may be taxed either: (1) annually as provided in this paragraph; or (2) once every three years on the basis of total gross weight and is 90 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e, provided that the filing fee under section 168.33, subdivision 7, paragraph (a), is multiplied by three, with funds collected by the commissioner allocated proportionally in the same manner as provided in section 168.33, subdivision 7, paragraph (e).

(b) Farm trailers with a gross weight in excess of 10,000 pounds and as described in section 168.002, subdivision 8, are taxed as farm trucks as prescribed in subdivision 1c.

(c) Effective on and after July 1, 2001, trailers registered at a gross vehicle weight of 3,000 pounds or less must display a distinctive plate. The registration on the license plate is valid for the life of the trailer only if it remains registered at the same gross vehicle weight. The onetime registration tax for trailers registered for the first time in Minnesota is \$55. For trailers registered in Minnesota before July 1, 2001, and for which:

(1) registration is desired for the remaining life of the trailer, the registration tax is \$25; or

(2) permanent registration is not desired, the biennial registration tax is \$10 for the first renewal if registration is renewed between and including July 1, 2001, and June 30, 2003. These trailers must be issued permanent registration at the first renewal on or after July 1, 2003, and the registration tax is \$20. For trailers registered at a gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less before July 1, 2001, but not renewed until on or after July 1, 2003, the registration tax is \$20 and permanent registration must be issued.

Subd. 1e. Truck; tractor; combination; exceptions.

(a) On trucks and tractors except those in this chapter defined as farm trucks, on truck-tractor and semitrailer combinations except those defined as farm combinations, and on commercial zone vehicles, the tax based on total gross weight shall be graduated according to the Minnesota base rate schedule prescribed in this subdivision, but in no event less than \$ 120.

Minnesota Base Rate Schedule Scheduled taxes include five percent surtax provided for in subdivision 14

TOTAL GROSS WEIGHT IN POUNDS	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
\$ 1,500	B1,501-3,000	C3,001-4,500	D4,501-6,000	E6,001-10,000	F10,001-12,000	G12,001-15,000	H15,001-18,000	I18,001-21,000	J21,001-26,000	K26,001-33,000	L33,001-39,000	M39,001-45,000	N45,001-51,000	O51,001-57,000	P57,001-63,000	Q63,001-69,000	R69,001-73,280	S73,281-78,000	T78,001-80,000	1760

TAX  
\$ 15  
20  
25  
35  
45  
70  
105  
145  
190  
270  
360  
475  
595  
715  
865

1015  
1185  
1325  
1595

(b) For purposes of the Minnesota base rate schedule, for vehicles with six or more axles in the "S" and "T" categories, the base rates are \$ 1,520 and \$ 1,620 respectively.

(c) For each vehicle with a gross weight in excess of 80,000 pounds an additional tax of \$ 50 is imposed for each ton or fraction thereof in excess of 80,000 pounds, subject to subdivision 12 or section 169.86, subdivision 5a, as applicable.

(d) For purposes of registration identification, for vehicles registered in the "O" category, the owner must declare at the time of registration whether the vehicle will carry a weight of 55,000 pounds or more and therefore be subject to the federal heavy vehicle use tax. For those owners who declare a weight less than 55,000 pounds, a distinctive weight sticker must be issued and the owner is restricted to a gross vehicle weight of less than 55,000 pounds.

(e) Truck-tractors except those herein defined as farm and commercial zone vehicles shall be taxed in accord with the foregoing gross weight tax schedule on the basis of the combined gross weight of the truck-tractor and any semitrailer or semitrailers which the applicant proposes to combine with the truck-tractor.

(f) Commercial zone trucks include only trucks, truck-tractors, and semitrailer combinations which are operated by an interstate carrier registered under section 221.60, or by a carrier receiving operating authority under chapter 221, and operated solely within a zone exempt from regulation pursuant to United States Code, title 49, section 13506.

(g) The license plates issued for commercial zone vehicles shall be plainly marked. A person operating a commercial zone vehicle outside the zone or area in which its operation is authorized is guilty of a misdemeanor and, in addition to the misdemeanor penalty, the registrar shall revoke the registration of the vehicle as a commercial zone vehicle and shall require that the vehicle be registered at 100 percent of the full annual tax prescribed in the Minnesota base rate schedule, and no part of this tax may be refunded during the balance of the registration year.

(h) On commercial zone trucks the tax shall be based on the total gross weight of the vehicle and during each of the first eight years of vehicle life is 75 percent of the Minnesota base rate schedule. During the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life the tax is 50 percent of the Minnesota base rate schedule.

(i) On trucks, truck-tractors and semitrailer combinations, except those defined as farm trucks and farm combinations, and except for those commercial zone vehicles specifically provided for in this subdivision, the tax for each of the first eight years of vehicle life is 100 percent of the tax imposed in the Minnesota base rate schedule, and during the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life, the tax is 75 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed by this subdivision.

(j) For the purpose of registration, trailers coupled with a truck-tractor, semitrailer combination are semitrailers.

Subd. 1f. Bus; commuter van.

(a) Gross Weight of Vehicle 30,001 and over.....550 On all intercity buses, the tax during each the first two years of vehicle life shall be based on the gross weight of the vehicle and graduated according to the following schedule:

Tax	
Under 6,000 lbs.....	\$ 125
6,000 to 8,000 lbs., incl.....	125
8,001 to 10,000 lbs., incl.....	125
10,001 to 12,000 lbs., incl.....	150
12,001 to 14,000 lbs., incl.....	190
14,001 to 16,000 lbs., incl.....	210
16,001 to 18,000 lbs., incl.....	225
18,001 to 20,000 lbs., incl.....	260
20,001 to 22,000 lbs., incl.....	300
22,001 to 24,000 lbs., incl.....	350
24,001 to 26,000 lbs., incl.....	400
26,001 to 28,000 lbs., incl.....	450
28,001 to 30,000 lbs., incl.....	500

(b) During each of the third and fourth years of vehicle life, the tax shall be 75 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; during the fifth year of vehicle life, the tax shall be 50 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; during the sixth year of vehicle life, the tax shall be 37- 1/2 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax;

and during the seventh and each succeeding year of vehicle life, the tax shall be 25 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax; provided that the annual tax paid in any year of its life for an intercity bus shall be not less than \$ 175 for a vehicle of over 25-passenger seating capacity and not less than \$ 125 for a vehicle of 25-passenger and less seating capacity.

(c) On all intracity buses operated by an auto transportation company in the business of transporting persons for compensation as a common carrier and operating within the limits of cities, the tax during each year of the vehicle life of each such bus shall be \$ 2.

(d) On all other buses and commuter vans, as defined in section 168.126, the tax during each of the first three years of the vehicle life shall be based on the gross weight of the vehicle and graduated according to the following schedule: Where the gross weight of the vehicle is 6,000 pounds or less, \$ 25. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 6,000 pounds, and not more than 8,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$ 25 plus an additional tax of \$ 5 per ton for the ton or major portion in excess of 6,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 8,000 pounds, and not more than 20,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$ 30 plus an additional tax of \$ 10 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 8,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 20,000 pounds and not more than 24,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$ 90 plus an additional tax of \$ 15 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 20,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 24,000 pounds and not more than 28,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$ 120 plus an additional tax of \$ 25 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 24,000 pounds. Where the gross weight of the vehicle is more than 28,000 pounds, the tax shall be \$ 170 plus an additional tax of \$ 30 per ton for each ton or major portion in excess of 28,000 pounds.

(e) During the fourth and succeeding years of vehicle life, the tax shall be 80 percent of the foregoing scheduled tax but in no event less than \$ 20 per vehicle.

Subd. 1g. Recreational vehicle.

(a) Self-propelled recreational vehicles must be separately licensed and taxed annually on the basis of total gross weight . The tax must be graduated according to the Minnesota base rate schedule prescribed in subdivision 1e, but in no event less than \$20, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision.

(b) For all self-propelled recreational vehicles, the tax for the ninth and succeeding years of vehicle life is 75 percent of the tax imposed in the Minnesota base rate schedule.

(c) Towed recreational vehicles must be separately licensed and taxed under either one of the following, as determined by the vehicle owner: (1) annually on the basis of total gross weight at 30 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e ; or (2) once every three years on the basis of total gross weight at 90 percent of the Minnesota base rate prescribed in subdivision 1e, provided that the filing fee under section 168.33, subdivision 7, paragraph (a), is multiplied by three, with funds collected by the commissioner allocated proportionally in the same manner as provided in section 168.33, subdivision 7, paragraph (e). In no event is the tax under this paragraph less than \$5.

(d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all trailers and semitrailers taxed pursuant to this section are exempt from any wheelage tax now or hereafter imposed by any political subdivision or political subdivisions.

Subd. 1h. Motorized bicycle. — On motorized bicycles the tax is \$ 6, which includes the surtax provided for in subdivision 14.

Subd. 1i. [Repealed, 1985 c 291 s 27]

Subd. 1j. [Repealed, 1995 c 264 art 3 s 51]

Subd. 1k. Commuter van. — A commuter van, as defined in section 168.126, must be separately licensed and taxed annually on the basis of total gross weight and the tax must be graduated according to the schedule prescribed in subdivision 1f.

Subd. 1l. Concrete pumps and street-sweeping vehicles. — The tax on vehicle-mounted concrete pumps and street-sweeping vehicles that are not registered under section 168.187 is 15 percent of the Minnesota base rate schedule. Vehicles registered under this subdivision must display plates from a distinctive series.

Subd. 2. Prorated fees. — When a motor vehicle first becomes subject to taxation during the registration period for which the tax is paid, or when a vehicle becomes subject to taxation upon transfer from a motor vehicle dealer, the tax shall be for the remainder of the period prorated on a monthly basis, 1/12 of the annual tax for each calendar month or fraction thereof; provided, however, that for a vehicle having an annual tax of \$ 10 or less there shall be no reduction until on and after September 1 when the annual tax shall be reduced one-half.

Subd. 3. Application; cancellation; excessive gross weight forbidden.

(a) The applicant for all licenses based on gross weight shall state the unloaded weight of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer and the maximum load the applicant proposes to carry on it, the sum of which constitutes the gross weight upon which the license tax must be paid. However, the declared gross

weight upon which the tax is paid must not be less than 1- 1/4 times the declared unloaded weight of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer to be registered, except recreational vehicles taxed under subdivision 1g, school buses taxed under subdivision 18, and tow trucks or towing vehicles defined in section 169.011, subdivision 83. The gross weight of a tow truck or towing vehicle is the actual weight of the tow truck or towing vehicle fully equipped, but does not include the weight of a wrecked or disabled vehicle towed or drawn by the tow truck or towing vehicle.

(b) Except as provided by special permit issued under section 169.86, the gross weight of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer must not exceed the gross weight upon which the license tax has been paid by more than four percent or 1,000 pounds, whichever is greater; provided that, a vehicle transporting unfinished forest products on a highway, other than a highway that is part of the system of interstate and defense highways, unless a federal exemption is granted, in accordance with paragraph (d)(3):

(1) shall not exceed its gross vehicle weight upon which the license tax has been paid, or gross axle weight on any axle, by more than five percent and, notwithstanding other law to the contrary, is not subject to any fee, fine, or other assessment or penalty for exceeding a gross vehicle or axle weight by up to five percent; and

(2) between the dates set by the commissioner in accordance with section 169.826, subdivision 1, is not subject to any provision of paragraph (d) or chapter 169 limiting the gross axle weight of any individual axle unless the entire vehicle also exceeds its gross vehicle weight plus its weight allowance allowed in clause (1) and plus any weight allowance permitted under section 169.826, in which case the vehicle is subject to all applicable penalties for excess weight violations.

(c) The gross weight of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer for which the license tax is paid must be indicated by a distinctive character on the license plate or plates except as provided in subdivision 12 or section 169.86, subdivision 5a, as applicable, and the plate or plates must be kept clean and clearly visible at all times.

(d) The owner, driver, or user of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which it was registered or for operating a vehicle with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load weight, is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to increased registration or reregistration according to the following schedule:

(1) Upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is registered by more than the allowance set forth in paragraph (b) but less than 25 percent, or for operating or using a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load as provided in sections 169.822 to 169.829 by more than the allowance set forth in paragraph (b) but less than 25 percent, the owner, driver, or user of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer used to commit the violation, in addition to any penalty imposed for the misdemeanor, shall apply to the registrar to increase the authorized gross weight to be carried on the vehicle to a weight equal to or greater than the gross weight the owner, driver, or user was convicted of carrying. The increase is computed for the balance of the calendar year on the basis of 1/12 of the annual tax for each month remaining in the calendar year beginning with the first day of the month in which the violation occurred. If the additional registration tax computed upon that weight, plus the tax already paid, amounts to more than the regular tax for the maximum gross weight permitted for the vehicle under sections 169.822 to 169.829, that additional amount must nevertheless be paid into the highway fund, but the additional tax thus paid does not authorize or permit any person to operate the vehicle with a gross weight in excess of the maximum legal weight as provided by sections 169.822 to 169.829. Unless the owner within 30 days after a conviction applies to increase the authorized weight and pays the additional tax as provided in this section, the registrar shall revoke the registration on the vehicle and demand the return of the registration card and plates issued on that registration.

(2) Upon conviction of an owner, driver, or user of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which the motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer was registered by 25 percent or more or for operating or using the vehicle or trailer with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load as provided in sections 169.822 to 169.829 by 25 percent or more, and in addition to any penalty imposed for the misdemeanor, the registrar shall either (i) cancel the reciprocity privileges on the vehicle involved if the vehicle is being operated under reciprocity or (ii) if the vehicle is not being operated under reciprocity, cancel the certificate of registration on the vehicle operated and demand the return of the registration certificate and registration plates. The registrar may not cancel the registration or reciprocity privileges for any vehicle found in violation of seasonal load restrictions imposed under section 169.87 unless the axle weight exceeds the year-round weight limit for the highway on which the violation occurred. The registrar may investigate any allegation of gross weight violations and demand that the operator show cause why all future operating privileges in the state should not be revoked unless the additional tax assessed is paid.

(3) Clause (1) does not apply to the first haul of unprocessed or raw farm products or unfinished forest products, when the registered gross weight is not exceeded by more than ten percent. For purposes of this clause, "first haul" means (i) the first, continuous transportation of unprocessed or raw farm products from the place of production or on-farm storage site to any other location within 100 miles of the place of production or on-farm storage site, or (ii) the continuous or noncontinuous transportation of unfinished forest products from the place of production to the place of final processing or manufacture located within 200 miles of the place of production.

(4) When the registration on a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is revoked by the registrar according to this section, the vehicle must not be operated on the highways of the state until it is registered or reregistered, as the case may be, and new plates issued, and the registration fee is the annual tax for the total gross weight of the vehicle at the time of violation. The reregistration pursuant to this subdivision of any vehicle operating under reciprocity agreements pursuant to section 168.181 or 168.187 must be at the full annual registration fee without regard to the percentage of vehicle miles traveled in this state.

Subd. 4. Gross earnings tax system. — Motor vehicles using the public streets and highways of this state, and owned by companies paying taxes under gross earnings system of taxation, shall be registered and taxed as provided for the registration and taxation of motor vehicles by this chapter, notwithstanding the fact that earnings from such vehicles may be included in the earnings of such companies upon which such gross earnings taxes are computed, and all provisions of this chapter are hereby made applicable to the enforcement and collection of the tax herein provided for.

Subd. 5. Certain vehicles subject to personal property tax. — Motor vehicles not subject to taxation as provided in section 168.012, but subject to taxation as personal property within the state under section 273.36 or 273.37, subdivision 1, have a class rate as provided in section 273.13, subdivision 24, provided, that if the person against whom any tax has been levied on the ad valorem basis because of any motor vehicle shall, during the calendar year for which such tax is levied, be also taxed under the provisions of this chapter, then and in that event, upon proper showing, the commissioner of revenue shall grant to the person against whom said ad valorem tax was levied, such reduction or abatement of net tax capacity or taxes as was occasioned by the so-called ad valorem tax imposed, and provided further that, if said ad valorem tax upon any motor vehicle has been assessed against a dealer in new and unused motor vehicles, and the tax imposed by this chapter for the required period is thereafter paid by the owner, then and in that event, upon proper showing, the commissioner of revenue, upon the application of said dealer, shall grant to such dealer against whom said ad valorem tax was levied such reduction or abatement of net tax capacity or taxes as was occasioned by the so-called ad valorem tax imposed. If such motor vehicle be registered and taxed under this chapter for a fractional part of the calendar year only, then such ad valorem tax shall be reduced in the percentage which such fractional part of the years bears to a full year.

Subd. 6. Listing by dealers. — The owner of every motor vehicle not exempted by section 168.012 or 168.28, shall, so long as it is subject to taxation within the state, list and register the same and pay the tax herein provided annually; provided, however, that any dealer in motor vehicles, to whom dealer's plates have been issued as provided in this chapter, coming into the possession of any such motor vehicle to be held solely for the purpose of sale or demonstration or both, shall be entitled to withhold the tax becoming due on such vehicle for the following year. When, thereafter, such vehicle is otherwise used or is sold, leased, or rented to another person, firm, corporation, or association, the tax for the remainder of the year, prorated on a monthly basis, shall become payable immediately.

Subd. 7. Agent. — Any act required herein of a registered owner may be performed in the registered owner's behalf by a duly authorized agent. Any person having a lien upon, or claim to, any motor vehicle may pay any tax due thereon to prevent the penalty for delayed registration from accruing, but the registration certificate and number plates shall not be issued until legal ownership is definitely determined.

Subd. 8. Tax proceeds to highway user fund; fee proceeds to vehicle services account.

(a) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, the net proceeds of the registration tax imposed under this chapter must be collected by the commissioner, paid into the state treasury, and credited to the highway user tax distribution fund.

(b) All fees collected under this chapter, unless otherwise specified, must be deposited in the vehicle services operating account in the special revenue fund under section 299A.705.

Subd. 9. Municipality not to impose tax; exceptions. — No city shall impose any tax or license fee or bond of any kind for the operation of any motor vehicle on its streets if the person or company owning or operating such vehicle holds a certificate or permit to operate such vehicle issued in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, chapter 221, provided, that this section shall not apply to vehicles transporting persons for hire which are operated exclusively within any city or contiguous cities.

Subd. 10. [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

Subd. 11. [Obsolete, 1951 c 123 s 2]

Subd. 12. Additional tax for excessive gross weight.

(a) Whenever an owner has registered a vehicle and paid the tax as provided in subdivisions 1 to 1g, on the basis of a selected gross weight of the vehicle and thereafter such owner desires to operate such vehicle with a greater gross weight than that for which the tax has been paid, such owner shall be permitted to reregister such vehicle by paying the additional tax due thereon for the remainder of the calendar year for which such vehicle has been reregistered, the additional tax computed pro rata by the month, 1/12 of the annual tax due for each month of the year remaining in the calendar year, beginning with the first day of the month in which such owner desires to operate the vehicle with the greater weight. In computing the additional tax as aforesaid, the owner shall be given credit for the unused portion of the tax previously paid computed pro rata by the month, 1/12 of the annual tax paid for each month of the year remaining in the calendar year beginning with the first day of the month in which such owner desires to operate the vehicle with the greater weight. An owner will be permitted one reduction of gross weight or change of registration per year, which will result in a refund. This refund will be prorated monthly beginning with the first day of the month after such owner applies to amend the registration. The application for amendment shall be accompanied by a fee of \$ 3, and all fees shall be deposited in the highway user tax distribution fund. Provided, however, the owner of a vehicle may reregister the vehicle for a weight of more than 81,000 pounds for one or more 30-day periods. For each 30-day period, the additional tax shall be equal to 1/12 of the difference between the annual tax for the weight at which the vehicle is registered and reregistered.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to the owner of a vehicle who pays the additional tax for excessive gross weight under section 169.86, subdivision 5a, when buying a permit to operate with the greater gross weight.

Subd. 13. [Repealed, 1973 c 218 s 9]

Subd. 14. Increase of tax rate. — Beginning in and for the first calendar year following the issuance and sale of bonds of the state of Minnesota under the provisions of the Constitution of the state of Minnesota, article 14, section 4, and after July 1, 1957, under the provisions of the Constitution of the state of Minnesota, article 14, section 11, the proceeds of the sale of which are to be used in the construction of bridges and approaches thereto forming a part of the trunk highway system, all motor vehicle taxes imposed by section 168.013, subdivisions 1 to 1g shall be increased by 5 percent; such increased rate of tax shall remain in effect until and including the calendar year following the year in which all principal and interest on all of any such bonds shall be paid in full. Immediately upon the payment in full of all interest and principal on all of any such bonds, the commissioner of management and budget shall certify that fact to the registrar of motor vehicles and the registrar shall, for the second calendar year and thereafter following receipt of such certification, cease to collect motor vehicle taxes at the increased rate prescribed by this subdivision.

Subd. 15. Adjustment of tax. — Whenever the tax on any vehicle as computed under the provisions of this section is found to be indivisible by \$ 1, the registrar is authorized to adjust such tax to the nearest even dollar.

Subd. 16. Repair and servicing permit. — Upon the written application of the owner of a motor vehicle registered and taxed as a commercial zone truck, a truck-tractor, a semitrailer, or any combination thereof in accordance with this section, the registrar may grant permission in writing to such owner to operate such vehicle to and from a repair shop or service station outside of its licensed zone of operation for the limited purpose of repair or servicing. The application and any permit issued under this subdivision shall state the location of the repair or servicing facility, together with such other information and subject to such conditions as the registrar may specify. Any motor vehicle operated under such a permit shall carry no load.

Subd. 17. [Repealed, 1981 c 363 s 58]

Subd. 18. School buses. — Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1, school buses used exclusively for the transportation of students under contract with a school district, used in connection with transportation for nonprofit educational institutions, or used as provided under section 169.4475, shall be taxed during each year of the vehicle life of such bus the amount of \$ 25.

Subd. 19. Limited rental of farm truck to governmental unit. — A motor vehicle licensed as a farm truck may be rented to any governmental unit for use in snow removal, flood, tornado, fire or other emergency or disaster situation without affecting its license status.

Subd. 20. Federal heavy vehicle use tax; proof of payment. — No person may register a motor vehicle that, along with the trailers and semitrailers customarily used with the same type of motor vehicle, has a taxable gross weight of at least 55,000 pounds and is subject to the use tax imposed by the Internal

Revenue Code of 1954, section 4481, unless proof of payment of the use tax, if required and in a form as may be prescribed by the secretary of the treasury, is presented.

Subd. 21. Technology surcharge. — For every vehicle registration renewal required under this chapter, the commissioner shall collect a surcharge of: (1) \$ 1.75 until June 30, 2012; and (2) \$ 1 from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2016. Surcharges collected under this subdivision must be credited to the driver and vehicle services technology account in the special revenue fund under section 299A.705.

Subd. 22. Optional donation for education on anatomical gifts. — As part of procedures for payment of the vehicle registration tax under this section, the commissioner shall allow a vehicle owner to add to the tax a \$ 2 donation for the purposes of public information and education on anatomical gifts under section 171.075, for in-person transactions conducted by a deputy registrar appointed under section 168.33, subdivision 2. This subdivision applies to annual renewal registrations only, and does not apply to registrations authorized under sections 168.053 to 168.057, 168.127, 168.187, and 168.27.

EXCISE AND SALES TAXES  
CHAPTER 297B SALES TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES

Minn. Stat. § 297B.02 (2016)

297B.02 TAX IMPOSED

Subdivision 1. Rate. — There is imposed an excise tax of 6.5 percent on the purchase price of any motor vehicle purchased or acquired, either in or outside of the state of Minnesota, which is required to be registered under the laws of this state.

The excise tax is also imposed on the purchase price of motor vehicles purchased or acquired on Indian reservations when the tribal council has entered into a sales tax on motor vehicles refund agreement with the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. In lieu tax for older passenger automobile. — In lieu of the tax imposed in subdivision 1, there is imposed a tax of \$ 10 on the purchase price of any passenger automobile described in section 297B.025, subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. In lieu tax for collector vehicle. — In lieu of the tax imposed in subdivision 1, there is imposed a tax of \$ 150 on the purchase price of a passenger automobile or a fire truck described in section 297B.025, subdivision 2.

EXCISE AND SALES TAXES  
CHAPTER 297B SALES TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES

Minn. Stat. § 297B.025 (2016)

297B.025 OLDER PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE

Subdivision 1. Noncollector vehicle.

Purchase or use of a passenger automobile as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 24, shall be taxed pursuant to section 297B.02, subdivision 2, if the passenger automobile (1) is in the tenth or subsequent year of vehicle life, and (2) does not have a resale value of \$3,000 or more, as determined using nationally recognized sources of information on automobile resale values, as designated by the registrar of motor **vehicles**.

Subd. 2. **Collector vehicle.**

A passenger automobile that is registered under section 168.10, subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, or 1h, or a fire truck registered under section 168.10, subdivision 1c, shall be taxed under section 297B.02, subdivision 3. If the vehicle is subsequently registered in another class not under section 168.10, subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, or 1h, within one year of the date of registration under those subdivisions, it shall be subject to the full excise tax imposed under subdivision 1.

## Equipment Exemptions

### From Minnesota Statutes:

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TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, SAFETY

Minn. Stat. § 169.57 (2016)

#### 169.57 VEHICLE SIGNALS

##### Subdivision 1. Stoplights.

(a) Any vehicle may be equipped and when required under this chapter, shall be equipped with at least two stop lamps on the rear which shall emit a red or yellow light and which shall be actuated upon application of the service (foot) brake and which may, but need not be, incorporated with the taillamps and which shall be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 100 feet to the rear during normal sunlight and at night.

(b) No person shall sell or offer for sale or operate on the highways any motor vehicle registered in this state and manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1960, unless it is equipped with at least two stop lamps meeting the requirements of this subdivision, except that a motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, or **truck**-tractor manufactured or **assembled** after said date shall be equipped with at least one stop lamp meeting the requirements of this subdivision.

##### Subd. 2. Turn signal.

(a) Any vehicle may be equipped, and when required under this chapter shall be equipped, with a lamp or lamps or mechanical signal device of such color as may be approved by the commissioner of public safety and capable of clearly indicating any intention to turn either to the right or to the left and shall be visible and understandable during both daytime and nighttime from a distance of 100 feet both to the front and rear.

(b) On or after July 1, 1949, it shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale any new motor vehicle, excepting motorcycles, motor scooters, and bicycles with motor attached, unless it is equipped with turn signals meeting the requirements of this chapter.

##### Subd. 3. Maintenance.

(a) When a vehicle is equipped with stop lamps or signal lamps, such lamps shall at all times be maintained in good working condition.

(b) No stop lamps or signal lamp shall project a glaring or dazzling light.

(c) All mechanical signal devices shall be self-illuminated when in use at the times when lighted lamps on vehicles are required.

##### Subd. 4. Alteration of stop lamp prohibited.

On a vehicle that must be equipped with a single center high-mounted stop lamp under federal motor vehicle safety standards, and on any other vehicle equipped with a similar stop lamp, a person may not alter the stop lamp by the addition of an overlay or other device, or install a replacement lens, if the alteration or installation alters or obscures any portion of the lamp or affects the intensity of light emitted.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES  
CHAPTER 239 WEIGHTS, MEASURES  
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DIVISION

Minn. Stat. § 239.051 (2016)

239.051 DEFINITIONS

**Subdivision 1. Scope.** — The terms used in this chapter have the meanings given them in this section.

**Subd. 1a. Advanced biofuel.** — “Advanced biofuel” has the meaning given in Public Law 110-140, title 2, subtitle A, section 201.

**Subd. 2. Airport.** — “Airport” has the meaning given it in section 360.013, subdivision 39.

**Subd. 3. ASTM.** — “ASTM” means the American Society for Testing and Materials, a private organization that utilizes committees of industry representatives and regulators to develop product quality standards and test methods to be used by industries, regulatory agencies, and purchasing agents.

**Subd. 4. ASTM specification.** — “ASTM specification” means a standard quality specification developed and published by the American Society for Testing and Materials. Each specification includes references to standard test methods, also developed and published by ASTM.

**Subd. 5. Automotive fuel.** — For the purpose of enforcing the gasoline octane requirements in section 239.792, “automotive fuel” has the meaning given it in [Code of Federal Regulations, title 16, section 306.0](#).

**Subd. 5a. Biofuel.** — “Biofuel” means a renewable fuel with an approved pathway under authority of the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, as amended by the federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Public Law 110&8211;140, and approved for sale by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The term “biofuel” includes both advanced and conventional biofuels.

**Subd. 6. Collector vehicle.** — “Collector vehicle” means a motor vehicle for which the commissioner of public safety has issued a pioneer license, classic car license, collector license, or street rod license under section 168.10, or a motor vehicle registered as a collector vehicle in another state.

**Subd. 7. Commissioner.** — “Commissioner” means the commissioner of the Department of Commerce.

**Subd. 7a. Conventional biofuel.** — “Conventional biofuel” means ethanol derived from cornstarch, as defined in Public Law 110-140, title 2, subtitle A, section 201.

**Subd. 8. Correct.** — “Correct,” when used in connection with weights and measures, means conformance with the applicable requirements of this chapter, and rules adopted under the authority granted by this chapter.

**Subd. 9. Department.** — “Department” means the Department of Commerce.

**Subd. 10. Director.** — “Director” means the director of the Division of Weights and Measures of the Department of Commerce.

**Subd. 11. Dispenser.** — “Dispenser” means a device designed to measure and deliver liquid petroleum products used as fuel.

**Subd. 12. Distributor.** — “Distributor” means a person who is licensed by the Department of Revenue, under the requirements of section 296A.03, to manufacture, refine, receive, distribute, sell, or use petroleum products in Minnesota.

**Subd. 13. Division.** — “Division” means the Division of Weights and Measures of the Department of Commerce.

**Subd. 14. EPA.** — “EPA” means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**Subd. 15. Ethanol blender.** — “Ethanol blender” means a person who blends and distributes, transports, sells, or offers to sell gasoline containing ethanol.

**Subd. 16. Gasoline.** — “Gasoline” has the meaning given it in section 296A.01, subdivision 23.

**Subd. 17. Marina.** — “Marina” has the meaning given it in section 86A.20, subdivision 5.

**Subd. 18. Metrology.** — “Metrology” means the science and practice of precise measurement, including measurement of mass, length, volume, and temperature.

**Subd. 19. Mooring facility.** — “Mooring facility” has the meaning given it in section 86A.20, subdivision 3.

**Subd. 20. Motorcycle.** — “Motorcycle” has the meaning given it in section 168.002, subdivision 19.

**Subd. 21. *Net weight.*** — “Net weight” means the weight of a commodity excluding materials, substances, or items not considered to be part of the commodity. Materials, substances, or items not considered to be part of the commodity include, but are not limited to, containers, conveyances, bags, wrappers, packaging materials, labels, individual piece coverings, decorative accompaniments, and coupons.

**Subd. 22. *Oxygenate.*** — “Oxygenate” means agriculturally derived, denatured ethanol, ETBE, MTBE, or other alcohol or ether, approved as an oxygenate by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**Subd. 23. *Oxygenated gasoline.*** — “Oxygenated gasoline” means gasoline that has been blended with agriculturally derived denatured ethanol or with another oxygenate approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**Subd. 24. *Package.*** — “Package” means a commodity put up or packaged in advance of sale in units suitable for either wholesale or retail sale.

**Subd. 25. *Person.*** — “Person,” means person or persons, corporation, partnership, stock company, society, association, or the agent or employee thereof.

**Subd. 26. *Person responsible for the product.*** — “Person responsible for the product” means a person or persons, corporation, partnership, stock company, society, association, or its agent or employee who processes, blends, holds, stores, imports, transfers, distributes, offers for sale or use, or sells petroleum products in Minnesota and who possesses petroleum products at the time they are sampled or inspected by the director.

**Subd. 27. *Petroleum product, product.*** — “Petroleum product” and “product” mean all of the products defined in section 296A.01, subdivisions 2, 7, 8, 10, 14, 16, 19, 20, 22 to 26, 28, 32, and 35.

**Subd. 28. *Primary standards.*** — “Primary standards” means the physical standards of the state that serve as the legal reference from which all other standards and weights and measures are derived.

**Subd. 29. *Refinery, terminal.*** — “Refinery” or “terminal” means a petroleum refinery, pipeline terminal, river terminal, storage facility, or other point of origin where liquefied petroleum gas or petroleum products are manufactured, or imported by rail, truck, barge, or pipe; and held, stored, transferred, offered for distribution, distributed, offered for sale, or sold. For the purpose of restricting petroleum product blending, this definition includes all refineries and terminals within and outside of Minnesota, but does not include a licensed distributor’s bulk storage facility that is used to store petroleum products for which the petroleum inspection fee charged under this chapter is either not due or has been paid.

**Subd. 30. *Resort.*** — “Resort” has the meaning given it in section 157.15, subdivision 11.

**Subd. 31. *Sale from bulk.*** — “Sale from bulk” means the sale of commodities when the quantity is determined at the time of the sale.

**Subd. 32. *Sample.*** — “Sample” means a sample of a petroleum product taken from a dispenser or storage tank by the division or a sample of a petroleum product provided to the division by a licensed distributor.

**Subd. 33. *Secondary standards.*** — “Secondary standards” means the physical standards that are used in enforcing weights and measures laws. These standards must be traceable to the primary standards.

**Subd. 34. *Snowmobile.*** — “Snowmobile” has the meaning given it in section 84.81, subdivision 3.

**Subd. 35. *Traceability; traceable.*** — “Traceability” and “traceable” mean:

- (1) the ability to relate individual measurement results, through an unbroken chain of calibrations, to the United States national standards maintained by the United States Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology; and
- (2) the ability to produce evidence on a continuing basis to demonstrate that the measurement processes used by the division are producing results within the limits of uncertainty designated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

**Subd. 36. *Weight.*** — “Weight” means net weight when it is used in connection with a commodity sold by weight.

**Subd. 37. *Weights and measures.*** — “Weights and measures” mean weights and measures of every kind, instruments and devices for weighing and measuring, and appliances and accessories associated with these instruments and devices.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, SAFETY

Minn. Stat. § 169.64 (2016)

169.64 PROHIBITED LIGHTS; EXCEPTIONS

Subdivision 1. Bright light. — Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle, other than a headlamp, a spot lamp, or an auxiliary driving lamp, which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than 300-candle power, shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 75 feet from the vehicle.

Subd. 2. Colored light.

(a) Unless otherwise authorized by the commissioner of public safety, no vehicle shall be equipped, nor shall any person drive or move any vehicle or equipment upon any highway with any lamp or device displaying a red light or any colored light other than those required or permitted in this chapter.

(b) A vehicle manufactured for use as an emergency vehicle may display and use colored lights that are not otherwise required or permitted in this chapter, provided that the vehicle is owned and operated according to section 168.10, is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes, and is registered under section 168.10, subdivision 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1g, or 1h. A person may not activate the colored lights authorized under this paragraph on streets or highways except as part of a parade or other special event.

Subd. 3. Flashing lights. — Flashing lights are prohibited, except on an authorized emergency vehicle, school bus, bicycle as provided in section 169.222, subdivision 6, road maintenance equipment, tow truck or towing vehicle, service vehicle, farm tractor, self-propelled farm equipment, rural mail carrier vehicle, funeral home vehicle, or on any vehicle as a means of indicating a right or left turn, or the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring unusual care in approaching, overtaking, or passing. All flashing warning lights shall be of the type authorized by section 169.59, subdivision 4, unless otherwise permitted or required in this chapter.

Subd. 4. Blue light.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) to (d), blue lights are prohibited on all vehicles except road maintenance equipment and snow removal equipment operated by or under contract to the state or a political subdivision thereof.

(b) Authorized emergency vehicles may display flashing blue lights to the rear of the vehicle as a warning signal in combination with other lights permitted or required by this chapter. In addition, authorized emergency vehicles may display, mounted on the passenger side only, flashing blue lights to the front of the vehicle as a warning signal in combination with other lights permitted or required by this chapter.

(c) A motorcycle may display a blue light of up to one-inch diameter as part of the motorcycle's rear brake light.

(d) A motor vehicle may display a blue light of up to one-inch diameter as part of the vehicle's rear brake light if:

- (1) the vehicle is a collector vehicle, as described in section 168.10; or
- (2) the vehicle is eligible to display a collector plate under section 168.10.

Subd. 5. [Renumbered]

Subd. 6. Flashing amber light.

(a) Any service vehicle may be equipped with a flashing amber lamp of a type approved by the commissioner of public safety.

(b) A service vehicle shall not display the lighted lamp authorized under paragraph (a) when traveling upon the highway or at any other time except at the scene of a disabled vehicle or while engaged in snow removal or road maintenance.

(c) A self-propelled implement of husbandry may display the lighted lamp authorized under paragraph (a) at any time.

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1991 c 277 s 18]

Subd. 8. Strobe lamp.

(a) Notwithstanding sections 169.55, subdivision 1; 169.57, subdivision 3, paragraph (b); or any other law to the contrary, a vehicle may be equipped with a 360-degree flashing strobe lamp that emits a white light with a flash rate of 60 to 120 flashes a minute, and the lamp may be used as provided in this subdivision, if the vehicle is:

(1) a school bus that is subject to and complies with the equipment requirements of sections 169.441, subdivision 1, and 169.442, subdivision 1, or a Head Start bus that is not a type III vehicle as defined in section 169.011, subdivision 71. The lamp shall be permanently mounted on the longitudinal centerline of the bus roof not less than two feet nor more than seven feet forward of the rear roof edge. It shall operate from a separate switch containing an indicator lamp to show when the strobe lamp is in use. The strobe lamp may be lighted only when atmospheric conditions or terrain restrict the visibility of school bus lamps and signals or Head Start bus lamps and signals so as to require use of the bright strobe lamp to alert motorists to the presence of the school bus or Head Start bus. A strobe lamp may not be lighted unless the school bus or Head Start bus is actually being used as a school bus or Head Start bus; or

(2) a road maintenance vehicle owned or under contract to the Department of Transportation or a road authority of a county, home rule or statutory city, or town, but the strobe lamp may only be operated while the vehicle is actually engaged in snow removal during daylight hours.

(b) Notwithstanding sections 169.55, subdivision 1; 169.57, subdivision 3, paragraph (b); or any other law to the contrary, a vehicle may be equipped with a 360-degree flashing strobe lamp that emits an amber light with a flash rate of 60 to 120 flashes a minute, and the lamp may be used as provided in this subdivision, if the vehicle is a rural mail carrier vehicle, provided that the strobe lamp is mounted at the highest practicable point on the vehicle. The strobe lamp may only be operated while the vehicle is actually engaged during daylight hours in the delivery of mail to residents on a rural mail route.

(c) A strobe lamp authorized by this section shall be of a double flash type certified to the commissioner of public safety by the manufacturer as being weatherproof and having a minimum effective light output of 200 candelas as measured by the Blondel-Rey formula.

Subd. 9. Warning lamp on vehicles collecting solid waste. — A vehicle used to collect solid waste may be equipped with a single amber gaseous discharge warning lamp that meets the Society of Automotive Engineers standard J 1318, Class 2. The lamp may be operated only when the collection vehicle is in the process of collecting solid waste and is either:

(1) stopped at an establishment where solid waste is to be collected; or

(2) traveling at a speed that is at least ten miles per hour below the posted speed limit and moving between establishments where solid waste is to be collected.

Subd. 10. Cover for lamp or reflector.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), it is prohibited for any person to:

(1) equip a motor vehicle with any equipment or material that covers a headlamp, tail lamp, or reflector; or

(2) operate a motor vehicle fitted with or otherwise having equipment or material that covers a headlamp, tail lamp, or reflector.

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to:

(1) any manufacturer's original equipment or material;

(2) any equipment or material that is clear and colorless; or

(3) the covering for auxiliary lights required under section 169.56.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, SAFETY

Minn. Stat. § 169.73 (2016)

169.73 BUMPERS, SAFEGUARDS

Subdivision 1. Definitions.

(a) As used in this section, "private passenger vehicle" means a four-wheeled passenger automobile as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 24; a van as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 40; a pickup truck as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 26; and a jeep-type automobile or other multipurpose vehicle. "Private passenger **vehicle**" does not include a **collector vehicle or collector** military **vehicle** as defined in section 168.10.

(b) "Suspension system" includes both the front and rear wheels and tires of a vehicle as specified in subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. Bumper requirement.

All private passenger vehicles shall be equipped with front and rear bumpers, except that pickup trucks and vans shall be equipped with front bumpers and with either rear bumpers or reflectors.

Subd. 3.

MS 1978 [Repealed, 1980 c 498 s 7]

Subd. 3. Bumper restrictions.

No person shall operate a private passenger vehicle that: (a) was originally equipped with bumpers as standard equipment, unless the vehicle is equipped with bumpers equal to the original equipment; or (b) has a suspension system or body so modified that the height of the vehicle or any bumpers varies more than six inches from the original manufactured height for the vehicle.

Subd. 4.

MS 1978 [Repealed, 1980 c 498 s 7]

Subd. 4. Maximum bumper height.

(a) Notwithstanding the restrictions contained in subdivision 3, bumpers required under this section shall not exceed a height of (1) 20 inches on any passenger automobile or station wagon or (2) 25 inches on any four-wheel drive multipurpose type vehicle, van as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 40, or pickup truck as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 26, when the vehicle is being operated on a public highway. The height of the bumper shall be determined by measuring from the bottom of the bumper, excluding any vertical bumper attachments, to the ground. A vehicle which has an original bumper which does not exceed a height of 30 inches may be modified by attaching a full width bumper to the regular bumper to meet the height requirement. The attached bumper must be at least 4.5 inches in vertical height, be centered on the vehicle's centerline, extend at least ten inches on either side of the frame, and be attached to the frame in at least four places with angle braces at no less than 45 degrees so that it effectively transfers impact to an extent equal to or greater than the original bumper.

(b) Competent evidence that a vehicle was originally manufactured with bumpers higher than prescribed in this subdivision shall be an affirmative defense in any action under this section.

Subd. 4a. Rear-end protection for other vehicles.

(a) Vehicles other than private passenger **vehicles, collector vehicles, collector** military **vehicles**, and other **vehicles** specifically exempted by law from such requirements must meet the rear-end protection requirements of federal motor carrier regulations, Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, section 393.86.

(b) Notwithstanding contrary regulations cited in paragraph (a), a truck-tractor and semitrailer combination with a semitrailer length longer than 50 feet whose frame or body extends more than 36 inches beyond the rear of its rearmost axle must not be operated on the highways of this state unless equipped with a bumper or underride guard on the extreme rear of the frame or body. The bumper or underride guard must:

(1) provide a continuous horizontal beam having a maximum ground clearance of 22 inches, as measured with the vehicle empty and on level ground; and

(2) extend to within four inches of the lateral extremities of the semitrailer on both left and right sides.

Subd. 5.

MS 1978 [Repealed, 1980 c 498 s 7]

Subd. 5. Misdemeanor.

Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES  
CHAPTER 239 WEIGHTS, MEASURES  
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Minn. Stat. § 239.791 (2016)

239.791 OXYGENATED GASOLINE

Subdivision 1. Minimum biofuel content required.

(a) Except as provided in subdivisions 10 to 14, a person responsible for the product shall ensure that all gasoline sold or offered for sale in Minnesota must contain at least the quantity of biofuel required by clause (1) or (2), at the option of the person responsible for the product:

(1) the greater of:

(i) 10.0 percent conventional biofuel by volume; or

(ii) the maximum percent of conventional biofuel by volume authorized in a waiver granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; or

(2) 10.0 percent of a biofuel, other than a conventional biofuel, by volume authorized in a waiver granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or a biofuel formulation registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under United States Code, title 42, section 7545.

(b) For purposes of enforcing the requirement of paragraph (a), clause (1), item (i), a gasoline/biofuel blend will be construed to be in compliance if the biofuel content, exclusive of denaturants and other permitted components, comprises not less than 9.2 percent by volume and not more than 10.0 percent by volume of the blend as determined by an appropriate United States Environmental Protection Agency or American Society of Testing Materials standard method of analysis.

(c) The aggregate amount of biofuel blended pursuant to this subdivision may be any biofuel; however, conventional biofuel must comprise no less than the portion specified on and after the specified dates:

(1) July 1, 2013 90 percent

(2) January 1, 2015 80 percent

(3) January 1, 2017 70 percent

(4) January 1, 2020 60 percent

(5) January 1, 2025 no minimum

Subd. 1a. [Repealed, 2013 c 114 art 2 s 69]

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1993 c 250 s 3]

Subd. 2a. Federal Clean Air Act waivers; conditions.

(a) Before a waiver granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under United States Code, title 42, section 7545, may alter the minimum content level required by subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), item (ii), the waiver must:

(1) apply to all gasoline-powered motor vehicles irrespective of model year; and

(2) allow for special regulatory treatment of Reid vapor pressure under Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 80.27, paragraph (d), for blends of gasoline and ethanol up to the maximum percent of denatured ethanol by volume authorized under the waiver.

(b) The minimum biofuel requirement in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), item (ii), shall, upon the grant of the federal waiver, be effective the day after the commissioner of commerce publishes notice in the State Register. In making this determination, the commissioner shall consider the amount of time required by refiners, retailers, pipeline and distribution terminal companies, and other fuel suppliers, acting expeditiously, to make the operational and logistical changes required to supply fuel in compliance with the minimum biofuel requirement.

Subd. 2b. Limited liability waiver. — No motor fuel shall be deemed to be a defective product by virtue of the fact that the motor fuel is formulated or blended pursuant to the requirements of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), item (ii), under any theory of liability except for simple or willful negligence or fraud. This subdivision does not preclude an action for negligent, fraudulent, or willful acts. This subdivision does not affect a person whose liability arises under chapter 115, water pollution control; 115A, waste management; 115B, environmental response and liability; 115C, leaking underground storage tanks; or 299J, pipeline safety; under public nuisance law for damage to the environment or the public health; under any other environmental or public health law; or under any environmental or public health ordinance or program of a municipality as defined in section 466.01.

Subd. 2c. Fuel dispensing equipment; blends over ten percent ethanol. — Notwithstanding any other law or rule, fuel dispensing equipment authorized to dispense fuel under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), is authorized to dispense fuel under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), or subdivision 1a.

Subd. 3. Blending restriction. — When gasoline contains an oxygenate, a person responsible for the product shall not blend the product with ethanol or with any other oxygenate after it is transferred or otherwise removed from a refinery or terminal.

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1995 c 220 s 141]

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1995 c 220 s 141]

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1995 c 220 s 141]

Subd. 7. Ethanol records; state audit. — The director shall audit the records of registered ethanol blenders to ensure that each blender has met all requirements in this chapter. Specific information or data relating to sales figures or to processes or methods of production unique to the blender or that would tend to adversely affect the competitive position of the blender must be only for the confidential use of the director, unless otherwise specifically authorized by the registered blender.

Subd. 8. Disclosure.

(a) A refinery or terminal, shall provide, at the time gasoline is sold or transferred from the refinery or terminal, a bill of lading or shipping manifest to the person who receives the gasoline. For oxygenated gasoline, the bill of lading or shipping manifest must include the identity and the volume percentage or gallons of oxygenate included in the gasoline, and it must state: "This fuel contains an oxygenate. Do not blend this fuel with ethanol or with any other oxygenate." For nonoxygenated gasoline sold or transferred after September 30, 1997, the bill or manifest must state: "This fuel is not oxygenated. It must not be sold at retail in Minnesota." This subdivision does not apply to sales or transfers of gasoline between refineries, between terminals, or between a refinery and a terminal.

(b) A delivery ticket required under section 239.092 for biofuel blended with gasoline must state the volume percent of biofuel blended into gasoline delivered through a meter into a storage tank used for dispensing by persons not exempt under subdivisions 10 to 14.

Subd. 9. [Repealed, 1995 c 220 s 141]

Subd. 10. Exemption for airport. — A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, or dispense at an airport, for use in airplanes, gasoline that is not oxygenated in accordance with subdivision 1 if the gasoline is unleaded premium grade as defined in section 239.751, subdivision 4.

Subd. 10a. Exemption for resorts, marinas, and houseboat rental companies. — A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, or dispense at a resort, marina, or houseboat rental company gasoline that is not oxygenated in accordance with subdivision 1 if the gasoline has an octane rating of 87 or higher; is delivered into onsite bulk storage; and is not used for a licensed motor vehicle as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 18.

Subd. 11. Exemption for motor sports racing. — A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, or dispense at a public or private racecourse, gasoline that is not oxygenated in accordance with subdivision 1 if the gasoline is intended to be used exclusively as a fuel for off-highway motor sports racing events.

Subd. 12. Exemption for collector vehicle and off-road use.

(a) A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, or dispense at a retail gasoline station for use in collector vehicles or vehicles eligible to be licensed as collector vehicles, off-road vehicles, motorcycles, boats, snowmobiles, or small engines, gasoline that is not oxygenated in accordance with subdivision 1 if the person meets the conditions in paragraphs (b) to (e). If the nonoxygenated gasoline is for use in a small engine, it must be dispensed into a can with a capacity of six or fewer gallons.

(b) The nonoxygenated gasoline must be unleaded premium grade as defined in section 239.751, subdivision 4.

(c) No more than one storage tank on the premises of the retail gasoline station may be used for storage of the nonoxygenated gasoline offered for sale, sold, or dispensed by the station.

(d) The pump stands must be posted with a permanent notice stating: "NONOXYGENATED GASOLINE. FOR USE IN COLLECTOR VEHICLES OR VEHICLES ELIGIBLE TO BE LICENSED AS COLLECTOR VEHICLES, OFF-ROAD VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES, BOATS, SNOWMOBILES, OR SMALL ENGINES ONLY."

This notice must be posted at least two feet above the ground. A retail gasoline station that sells nonoxygenated premium gasoline as defined in section 239.791, subdivision 15, must register every two years with the director, or an entity appointed by the director, on forms approved by the director, the total amount of nonoxygenated premium gasoline sold annually.

Subd. 13. Exemption for certain riparian landowners.

(a) A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, and deliver directly to a bulk fuel storage tank gasoline that is not oxygenated in accordance with subdivision 1 if the conditions in paragraphs (b) to (e) are met.

(b) The nonoxygenated gasoline must be unleaded premium grade as defined in section 239.751, subdivision 4.

(c) The bulk fuel storage tank must be stationary or permanent.

(d) The bulk fuel storage tank must be under the control of an owner of littoral or riparian property and located on that littoral or riparian property.

(e) The nonoxygenated gasoline must be purchased for use in vehicles that would qualify for an exemption under subdivision 12, paragraph (a).

Subd. 14. Exemption for aircraft operator. — A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, and deliver directly to a bulk fuel storage tank gasoline that is not oxygenated in accordance with subdivision 1 for use in aircraft if the nonoxygenated gasoline is unleaded premium grade as defined in section 239.751, subdivision 4.

Subd. 15. Exemption for certain blend pumps.

(a) A person responsible for the product, who offers for sale, sells, or dispenses nonoxygenated premium gasoline under one or more of the exemptions in subdivisions 10 to 14, may sell, offer for sale, or dispense oxygenated gasoline that contains less than the minimum amount of ethanol required under subdivision 1 if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) the blended gasoline has an octane rating of 88 or greater;

(2) the gasoline is a blend of oxygenated gasoline meeting the requirements of subdivision 1 with nonoxygenated premium gasoline;

(3) the blended gasoline contains not more than ten percent nonoxygenated premium gasoline;

(4) the blending of oxygenated gasoline with nonoxygenated gasoline occurs within the gasoline dispenser; and

(5) the gasoline station at which the gasoline is sold, offered for sale, or delivered is equipped to store gasoline in not more than two storage tanks.

(b) This subdivision applies only to those persons who met the conditions in paragraph (a), clauses (1) through (5), on August 1, 2004, and registered with the director by November 1, 2004.

Subd. 16. Exemption for recreational vehicle manufacturer. — A person responsible for the product may offer for sale, sell, or dispense gasoline that is not oxygenated according to subdivision 1 if the gasoline is intended to be used exclusively for research and development by a manufacturer of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, or recreational vehicles.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, SAFETY

Minn. Stat. § 169.62 (2016)

169.62 CERTAIN LIGHTS PERMITTED ON OLD MOTOR VEHICLES

Headlamps arranged to provide a single distribution of light not supplemented by auxiliary driving lamps shall be permitted on motor vehicles manufactured and sold prior to January 1, 1938, in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment herein specified if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

- (a) The headlamps shall be so aimed that when the vehicle is fully loaded none of the high-intensity portion of the lamp beam rises above a horizontal plane passing through the headlamp centers parallel to the level surface upon which the vehicle stands, and in no case higher than 42 inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of 75 and more feet ahead.
- (b) The intensity shall be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least 200 feet.

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, SAFETY

Minn. Stat. § 169.67 (2016)

169.67 BRAKES

Subdivision 1. Motor vehicle.

Every motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, when operated upon a highway, shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle, including two separate means of applying the brakes, each of which means shall be effective to apply the brakes to at least two wheels. If these two separate means of applying the brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part of the operating mechanism shall not leave the motor vehicle without brakes on at least two wheels. The requirement in this subdivision for separate braking systems does not apply to a commercial motor vehicle described in section 169.781, subdivision 5, paragraph (d).

Subd. 2. Motorcycle and bicycle.

Every motorcycle, and bicycle with motor attached, when operated upon a highway, shall be equipped with at least one brake, which may be operated by hand or foot.

Subd. 3. Trailer, semitrailer.

(a) No trailer or semitrailer with a gross vehicle weight of 3,000 or more pounds, or a gross weight that exceeds the empty weight of the towing vehicle, may be drawn on a highway unless it is equipped with brakes that are adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the trailer or semitrailer. A surge brake on a trailer or semitrailer meets the requirement of this paragraph for brakes adequate to stop and hold the trailer or semitrailer.

(b) No trailer or semitrailer with a gross vehicle weight of more than 3,000 pounds may be drawn on a highway unless it is equipped with brakes that are so constructed that they are adequate to stop and hold the trailer or semitrailer whenever it becomes detached from the towing vehicle.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d), paragraph (a) does not apply to:

(1) a towed custom service vehicle drawn by a motor vehicle that is equipped with brakes that meet the standards of subdivision 5, provided that such a towed custom service vehicle that exceeds 30,000 pounds gross weight may not be drawn at a speed of more than 45 miles per hour;

(2) a motor vehicle drawn by another motor vehicle that is equipped with brakes that meet the standards of subdivision 5; and

(3) a disabled vehicle while being towed to a place of repair.

(d) Vehicles described in paragraph (c), clause (2), may be operated without complying with paragraph (a) only if the trailer or semitrailer does not exceed the following gross weights:

(1) 3,000 pounds while being drawn by a vehicle registered as a passenger automobile, other than a pickup truck as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 26;

(2) 12,000 pounds while being drawn by any other motor vehicle.

Subd. 4. Service brakes on wheels; exceptions.

(a) All motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers manufactured after June 30, 1988, must be equipped with foot brakes on all wheels.

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to:

(1) a mobile crane that is not operated at a speed of more than 45 miles per hour and is capable of stopping within the performance standards of subdivision 5;

- (2) a motorcycle;
  - (3) a trailer or semitrailer with a gross weight of less than 3,000 pounds;
  - (4) a swivel-type third wheel on a travel trailer; and
  - (5) a temporary auxiliary axle attached to a motor vehicle during a period of vehicle weight restrictions for the purpose of relieving the weight on another axle, if the combined gross weight on the temporary axle and the axle being relieved does not exceed 18,000 pounds and the motor vehicle meets all brake requirements under this section.
- (c) Paragraph (a) does not require brakes on the front wheels of a **vehicle** having three or more axles and **manufactured before** July 1, 1988, if the brakes on the other wheels of the vehicle meet the standards of subdivision 5.

Subd. 5. Performance standards.

Every motor vehicle or combination of vehicles, at all times and under all conditions of loading, upon application of the service (foot) brake, shall be capable of (1) developing a braking force that is not less than the percentage of its gross weight tabulated herein for its classification, (2) decelerating in a stop from not more than 20 miles per hour at not less than the feet per second per second tabulated herein for its classification, and (3) stopping from a speed of 20 miles per hour in not more than the distance tabulated herein for its classification, such distance to be measured from the point at which movement of the service brake pedal or control begins. Tests for deceleration and stopping distance shall be made on a substantially level (not to exceed plus or minus one percent grade), dry, smooth, hard surface that is free from loose material.

Deceleration Table

1 Classification of Vehicles and Combinations	2 Braking Force as a Percentage of Gross Vehicle or Combination Weight	3 Deceleration in Feet Per Second Per Second	4 Brake System Application and Braking Distance in Feet
Passenger vehicles, not including buses	52.8 percent	17	25
Single-unit vehicles with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of less than 10,000 pounds	43.5 percent	14	30
Single-unit, 2-axle vehicles with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 or more pounds, and buses not having a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating	43.5 percent	14	40
All other vehicles and combinations with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 or more pounds	43.5 percent	14	50

All brakes shall be maintained in good working order and shall be so adjusted as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the wheels on opposite sides of the vehicle.

Subd. 6.

[Repealed, 2009 c 64 s 57]

TRANSPORTATION  
CHAPTER 169 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS  
VEHICLE EQUIPMENT, SAFETY

Minn. Stat. § 169.686 (2016)

169.686 SEAT BELT USE REQUIRED; PENALTY

Subdivision 1. Seat belt requirement.

(a) Except as provided in section 169.685, a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt, including both the shoulder and lap belt when the vehicle is so equipped, shall be worn by the driver and passengers of a passenger vehicle, commercial motor vehicle, type III vehicle, and type III Head Start vehicle.

Notwithstanding the equipment exemption in section 169.685, subdivision 1, this paragraph applies to the driver and passengers of an autocycle equipped with seat belts.

(b) A person who is 15 years of age or older and who violates paragraph (a) is subject to a fine of \$25. The driver of the vehicle in which a violation occurs is subject to a \$25 fine for each violation of paragraph (a) by the driver or by a passenger under the age of 15, but the court may not impose more than one surcharge under section 357.021, subdivision 6, on the driver. The Department of Public Safety shall not record a violation of this subdivision on a person's driving record.

(c) The driver of a bus is not subject to the fine under paragraph (b) for a violation of paragraph (a) by a passenger under the age of 15. This paragraph does not apply to (1) a school bus, including a type III vehicle; and (2) a Head Start bus, including a type III Head Start vehicle.

Subd. 1a. Definitions.

(a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "Passenger vehicle" means:

(1) a passenger automobile defined in section 168.002, subdivision 24;

(2) a pickup truck;

(3) a van;

(4) a commuter van, as defined in section 168.126; and

(5) a recreational vehicle, as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 27.

(c) "Passenger vehicle" does not include a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, bus, school bus, a vehicle designed to operate exclusively on railroad tracks, a farm truck as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 8, or special mobile equipment as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 31.

(d) "Pickup truck" means a truck, regardless of manufacturer's nominal rated carrying capacity, that is commonly known as a pickup truck.

(e) "Van" means a vehicle, regardless of the manufacturer's nominal rated carrying capacity, of a box-like design that (1) has no barrier or separation between the operator's area and the remainder of the cargo-carrying area, or (2) is designed to carry 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.

Subd. 2. Seat belt exemptions. — This section shall not apply to:

(1) a person driving a passenger vehicle in reverse;

(2) a person riding in a vehicle in which all the seating positions equipped with safety belts are occupied by other persons in safety belts;

(3) a person who is in possession of a written certificate from a licensed physician verifying that because of medical unfitness or physical disability the person is unable to wear a seat belt;

(4) a person who is actually engaged in work that requires the person to alight from and reenter a motor vehicle at frequent intervals and who, while engaged in that work, does not drive or travel in that vehicle at a speed exceeding 25 miles per hour;

(5) a rural mail carrier of the United States Postal Service or a newspaper delivery person while in the performance of duties;

(6) a person driving or riding in a passenger vehicle manufactured before January 1, 1965; and

(7) a person driving or riding in a pickup truck while engaged in normal farming work or activity.

Subd. 3. Appropriation; special account. — The fines collected for a violation of subdivision 1 must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to a special account to be known as the emergency medical services relief account. Ninety percent of the money in the account shall be distributed to the eight regional emergency medical services systems designated by the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board under section 144E.50, for personnel education and training, equipment and vehicle purchases, and operational expenses of emergency life support transportation services. The board of directors of each emergency medical services region shall establish criteria for funding. Ten percent of the money in the account shall be distributed to the commissioner of public safety for the expenses of traffic safety

educational programs conducted by State Patrol troopers.

### **Emissions Exemptions**

Minnesota does not operate a vehicle emissions testing program.