

FAQ'S

VEHICLE TITLING AND REGISTRATION

“What days can I renew my registration?”

Until further notice, the Town Clerk's office is open only for new car titling and registrations, change of address, problem registrations, marriage licenses, registering to vote and certain other problems that require in-person contact. You can renew car or dog registrations online, through the mail or by leaving your request in the drop box on the right side of the main entrance. The online service can be found on the Town Clerk page of the town website (chesterfield.nh.gov); mail or drop box renewals require your license plate number or name of dog, a check made out to the town of Chesterfield, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope. We will fill in the amount on your check and send you a receipt [t.

“How long does it take to get a registration done by mail or online?”

This depends on when you send it in and the volume of requests that we get. To be absolutely safe, you should allow for a week to 10-day turnaround.

“I'm looking at a new car. How much will it cost to register?”

The state fees of a new vehicle are based on the weight with most sedans being \$43.20/year and most SUVs at \$55.20/ year. Town fees are based on the MSRP for the vehicle when it was new and depreciate for the first 6 years, after which they remain the same. In the year 2020, the following is how cars of various years are calculated:

CAR YEAR	CHARGE PER THOUSAND OF SUGGESTED RETAIL
2021	\$18.00/\$1000
2020	\$15.00/\$1000
2019	\$12.00/\$1000
2018	\$9.00/\$1000
2017	\$6.00/\$1000
2016 & older	\$3.00/\$1000

Additionally, you may be charged for the title (27.00) and license plates (\$8.00) There are also small additional fees, usually amounting to about \$5.00.

“Can I get a refund for the registration amount left on a car that I sold?”

The only way to recoup money on a registration is if you transfer it to a new-to-you car. To do this you must bring the old registration with you at the time you register your new car. We cannot accept a copy and we cannot supply you with a copy from our records. If you have lost the old registration or left it with the person who bought your car, your only alternative is to buy a copy from the state for \$17.50

“When does a car no longer need to be titled?”

A few years ago the state changed the rules on this. Currently, all cars 2000 or newer need to be titled.

“I just bought a 1998 car. What do I need to bring in to register it?”

All cars 1999 and older require a bill of sale and either a title, the registration from the prior New Hampshire owner or a VIN verification. Those forms are available from our office or you can find them online at dos.nh.gov under vehicle registration / forms.

“Does a trailer need a title?”

Trailers over 3001 GVW must be titled—which means you must bring in either a prior owner’s title signed over to you or, for a new trailer, the certificate of origin. Trailers under that weight only require a bill of sale.

“Do I pay a fine if I’m late registering my car?”

There is no fine at the Town Clerk’s office. The police are who you need to fear: fines for an unregistered motor vehicle are more than \$100.00.

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DOG REGISTRATION

“How do I register a dog?”

All dogs in the state of New Hampshire must be registered between January 1, and April 30, each year, with a copy of their rabies certificate on file at this office. The cost is:

\$6.50 for neutered or spayed dogs or puppies under the age of 7 months;

\$9.00 for unaltered dogs

\$2.00 for one dog registered by a person over 65

Starting in June, failure to register will result in fines and civil forfeitures and can lead to a court summons and additional costs