

**DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF
BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES**

Chapter 158: ADMINISTRATION OF TRAILER TRANSIT PLATES

SUMMARY: This rule establishes the requirements for the use of trailer transit plates pursuant to 29-A M.R.S.A. Section 462, sub-section 8.

A. DEFINITIONS

In the regulation of users of trailer transit plates, the following words, terms and phrases shall be defined as follows:

1. The term “Secretary” shall mean the Maine Secretary of State.
2. The term “mover” shall mean any individual, firm, co-partnership, corporation, association or company, or lessees, trustees or receivers thereof, operating or causing the operation of storage trailers, light trailers, and mobile homes.
3. The term “temporarily in the custody of the licensee” shall mean a mobile home, ~~or~~ storage trailer, or light trailer which is not owned by the mover but is entrusted to the mover for movement. In the case of storage trailers, the owner may be deemed to be “temporarily in the custody” if the storage trailer is leased to another party for thirty (30) days or more, and the storage trailer is not generally in the owner’s direct control. The term “application” shall mean original application and renewal application for trailer transit plates.
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5. The term “highway” shall mean all public ways, roads, including the Maine Turnpike, streets, avenues, alleys, boulevards, parks, squares, ferries, and bridges and approaches here to within the State.
6. The term “trailer transit” shall mean a mobile home, ~~or~~ storage trailer, or light trailer temporarily in the custody of the licensee.
7. The term “mobile home” shall mean a vehicle owned by a manufacturer, dealer, or consumer being moved from point to point or site to site. Mobile home in this context shall include travel trailers, fifth wheel travel trailers, park trailers, office trailers, portable classroom trailers, but not folding camper trailers.
8. The term “storage trailer” shall mean an empty trailer or semitrailer which is moved infrequently over the highways to and from its business location and sites for stationary storage use.

9. The term “license” shall mean a document of the Secretary’s design that specifies the location of the place of business by the trailer transit mover for posting the place or business of the mover.
10. The term “registration certificate” shall mean a document that specifies the location of the place of business occupied by the trailer transit mover which shall be carried in the power unit.
11. The term “light trailer” shall mean a trailer or semitrailer with an unladen weight of 3,000 pounds or less, provided that the load is owned by or in the custody of the transporting business.

B. COMMUNICATIONS

1. All written communication and documents should be addressed to the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Dealer and Agent Services, 29 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333. All communications and documents are deemed to be officially received only when delivered at the offices of the Secretary of State in Augusta, Maine.
2. Every license holder in addressing communications to the Secretary must use the name shown upon the holder’s license.
3. Telephone number is (207) 624-9000 Extension 52143.

C. ADDRESS, CHANGE OF

A change in the address of the principal place of business of any carrier must be immediately reported to the Secretary of State.

D. REMITTANCE

1. Remittances to the Secretary may be by credit card, or money order or bank draft, payable to the Secretary of State or the Treasurer of the State of Maine. Personal checks will be accepted subject to collection. Canadian checks should be drawn on a United States Bank.
2. Remittances in currency or coin are wholly at the risk of the remitter. The Secretary assumes no responsibility for loss of currency or coin sent by mail.
3. All remittances must be paid in United States Currency.

E. APPLICATIONS

Original applications and renewal applications for licenses shall be made upon forms respectively prescribed and furnished by the Secretary.

F. THE FOLLOWING FEES PROVIDED BY TITLE 29-A, M.R.S.A., SECTION 852 MUST BE PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS THEREOF.

1. Original application \$150.00
2. Renewal application \$150.00
3. Plate \$ 20.00

G. LICENSE AND REGISTRATION

The license shall be displayed in a prominent location at the place of business of the mobile home, ~~or~~ storage or light trailer mover. The registration certificate shall be carried in the power unit when moving mobile homes, ~~or~~ storage or light trailers.

H. PLATE DISPLAY

While on the highways the plate shall be displayed at the rear of the storage trailer, mobile home or light trailer and the validation sticker shall be displayed on the lower right side of the plate.

I. ISSUING PERIOD

The licensing period for trailer transit plates shall be from January 1 through December 31. Application for additional plates applied for during the period between the first day of September and the last day of December in any year will pay half the normal plate fee. It shall be lawful to use and display on mobile home, storage and light trailers the number plates issued for the next succeeding year on or after December 1st.

J. MISUSE

Only residents as defined in Title 29-A Section 101 (62) may participate in the program. Any violations of 29-A M.R.S.A. Section 462 or of these rules could result in the cancellation of the license and registration certificate(s).

K. MUNICIPAL FISCAL IMPACT

This Rule will have no fiscal impact on Municipalities.

L. PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Mobile home movers must provide us with proof, if not exempted, that the property taxes and sewage fees have been paid. This may be done by facsimile or other reasonable means.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

August 14, 1991 (EMERGENCY)

EFFECTIVE DATE OF PERMANENT RULE:

December 31, 1991

AMENDED:

August 9, 1994

EFFECTIVE DATE (ELECTRONIC CONVERSION):

May 4, 1996

NON-SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES:

December 20, 2000 - converted to MS Word, formatting

AMENDED:

July 5, 2009 – filing 2009-290