

A Message from DMV

Individual customers to whom the DMV issues “disability” plates or placards must understand their obligation to the entire community. Allowing anyone else to use the privileges that accompany these plates or placards is a citable offense which may result in immediate revocation of the privileges. More importantly, such abuses deny parking spaces to those individuals who experience a disability.

By accepting a placard or plates with parking privileges, you accept the responsibility to use them for their intended purpose. If you loan a placard to someone else, or allow another driver to park your vehicle in a parking space reserved for individuals who experience a disability, you are denying your neighbors the access they need and deserve. Please respect the needs of others, and make sure our friends and family members understand that mobility cannot be taken for granted.

If you are granted the privilege of parking closer to your destination, don't take the matter lightly. Know the rules and obey them. Thank you.

What Is Required To Apply?

You must complete an application for disabled parking identification (Form 861), Part 1., available at all DMV locations or on the Internet at www.state.ak.us/dmv/forms/forms.htm.

A licensed physician must complete Part 2. of the form, certifying that you experience one of the qualifying disabilities. It is your responsibility to make sure the form is completed in full before bringing it to DMV for processing. Please check the form to be sure it is completed in full before you leave the physician's office, as incomplete forms cannot be accepted.

What Are The Penalties For Misuse?

Law enforcement officers may enforce disability parking restrictions in public or private lots that indicate the restriction by reserved parking signs or blue painted curbs. Any citizen or property owner may request such enforcement. Violators are subject to a fine of up to \$500.00, along with having the placard or plates confiscated.

DMV may cancel the disability parking placard or plates of any person or organization who uses them improperly.

Where Do I Hang The Placard?

Hang the placard from your rear view mirror when parked in a space designated for use only by individuals who experience a disability. Be sure to remove the placard from your rear view mirror before driving the vehicle, as it can obstruct your vision.

When Does The Placard Expire?

Permanent placards are issued for up to 5 years. Temporary placards are issued for a maximum of 6 months. The expiration date is printed on the placard. The placard expires on the last day of the month shown on the placard.

Placard or Plates?

If you are experiencing a temporary disability, you are eligible to obtain a placard that allows you to park in designated parking spaces. For a permanent disability, you may obtain a placard, and are also eligible to obtain disability license plates. Registration and taxes are waived for your first set of plates. All fees are required for second or subsequent requests for disability license plates.

Who Is Eligible?

Parking placards and license plates are available for individuals with permanent or temporary disabilities who:

- Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest.
- Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device.
- Are restricted by lung disease to such an extent that their forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty mm/hg on room air at rest.
- Use portable oxygen.
- Have a cardiac condition to the extent that their functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association.
- Are severely limited in their ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

Who Can Use The Placard/Plates?

State law requires that the authorized holder (disabled individual) must enter or exit the vehicle when parking in a space reserved for individuals who experience a disability. In other words, if you experience a disability and have been issued a placard or plates, you may not park in a reserved parking space and stay in the vehicle while another person runs an errand.

Using a placard or plate that was issued to another person could result in a fine of up to \$500.00. Loaning a placard to another person can result in your privileges being revoked.

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