

ID REQUIRED FOR TITLE & REGISTRATION – JANUARY 1, 2012

Effective January 1, 2012, an individual must present a valid South Carolina driver's license or other form of ID before a motor vehicle can be titled and registered in South Carolina. If an individual presents an ID from any source other than the State of South Carolina, he/she must provide evidence that the vehicle is operated or principally garaged in South Carolina. Exemptions are provided for out of state students, active military personnel and "snow birds" who own, lease or rent property and live here part time.

Businesses titling and registering vehicles must provide a federal identification or social security number and proof of their physical place of business in the state. In the event of a vehicle leasing company owning a vehicle, the South Carolina lessee must provide the same ID that would be required by an in state vehicle owner.

Attached is a detailed explanation of the new law and requirements from the SC DMV that should answer any questions.

New Titling and Registration Requirements Effective January 1, 2012

Summary. *South Carolina Code 56-19-240 has been amended, effective January 1, 2012, to require an application for vehicle title and/or registration must provide a valid driver's license or identification, if the applicant is an individual, and for businesses to provide a federal identification number (social security number for sole proprietors) and physical place of business. This amendment also prohibits titling and registering vehicles purchased for operation outside of South Carolina. These new requirements only affect transfers of ownership and not replacement or corrected titles or registrations where the owner remains the same.*

Therefore effective January 1, 2012, for individuals, upon application for title and/or registration, a valid South Carolina credential, an Out of State Credential (United States), passport with visa, employment authorization document, or permanent residency card must be provided. If identification other than a South Carolina credential is provided, and the individual is registering the vehicle, the individual must also verify that the vehicle is operated or principally garaged in the South Carolina.

For business customers, upon application for registration, the business must provide a federal identification number (social security number for sole proprietorships), and proof of the physical place of business in South Carolina.

Operational Definition:

Principally Garaged: the vehicle is garaged for six or more months of the year on property in this State which is owned, leased, or otherwise lawfully occupied by the owner of the vehicle. The application for a certificate of title must include the South Carolina residence address or physical address of the property where the vehicle is housed.

Customer Requirements

For Individual Customers

If a vehicle is being titled and/or registered for the first time by an individual, he/she must provide a valid South Carolina credential (i.e. driver's license, identification card, beginner's permit) in his/her name. If the individual does not have a South Carolina credential, a valid out of state credential from the United States, passport with visa, Employment Authorization Document (EAD) or permanent residency card must be presented. If the vehicle is also being registered and a credential other than a South Carolina credential is presented, the Form TI-006 (Statement of Vehicle Operation in South Carolina) is also required, stating that one of the following applies:

1. The vehicle owner is on active duty military service in South Carolina. The TI-006 must be accompanied by military identification and orders indicating duties in South Carolina.
2. The vehicle owner is currently enrolled in school in South Carolina. The TI-006 must be accompanied by school identification or enrollment documents not more than 12 months old.
3. The vehicle is principally garaged in this State – attested by individuals, who are not residents of South Carolina, but their vehicle is operated in this state. The TI-006 must be accompanied by one of the following:
 - a. If the vehicle owner is a homeowner or is leasing a residence in the state, a copy of the lease, deed, mortgage or a current utility bill in the homeowner's name.
 - b. If the vehicle owner is employed in South Carolina, a statement from the employer indicating employment.

- c. If the vehicle owner resides with a homeowner or an individual leasing a residence in the state, a statement from the homeowner attesting to the fact that the applicant resides in their home; and a copy of the homeowner's South Carolina credential or an item from (a) above.
4. The vehicle is owned by an individual who is unable to obtain a South Carolina credential because of a medical or physical condition; but the vehicle is principally garaged in South Carolina, and will be driven by a driver who is not the owner. The TI-006 must be submitted and the vehicle must be registered with a disabled plate or the owner must have a disabled placard registered in their name. All disabled plate/placard procedures still apply.

Remember that all vehicles required to be registered in South Carolina, also require proof of property taxes in the owner's name; and liability insurance information. The dealer's PTO may still be used in lieu of the property tax receipt.

For vehicles that have more than one owner, only one co-owner must provide the information required above; but, all owners must submit a South Carolina credential, credential from out of state, passport with visa, EAD or permanent residence card.

Customers mailing in their applications should submit a copy of the front of the credential or the cover and first page of their passport with visa.

Individual customers will have to comply with these requirements each time a vehicle is newly titled or registered in his/her name.

For Business Customers

If a vehicle is being registered for the first time by a business customer, the customer must provide the following:

The FEIN or social security number; and one of the following indicating the business location in South Carolina:

1. Utility bill
2. Property tax receipt of the business property (not the vehicle)*
3. Insurance papers for the business property (not the vehicle)*
4. City or county permit of the business
5. Registration with the Secretary of State's office for the business

Once the business customer has complied with the business address and FEIN or SSN requirement by submitting one of the documents above, subsequent applications will not require this information, unless the business' address changes.

If the business is located out of South Carolina, the principal driver of the vehicle must comply as listed in the individual section above and the South Carolina residential address of the driver must be listed as the housed address for the vehicle.

If a vehicle is leased by an individual from a company with an out of state address, the lessee, who is the registrant, must comply as listed in the individual section above.

Customers mailing in their applications may submit a copy of the business location document and federal identification number proof. The federal Form SS-4 is acceptable.

*These documents are required to establish a business presence in South Carolina and does not waive or negate the requirements for vehicle property tax receipt and insurance information for the vehicle.

Vehicles owned by federal, state, county or local government are exempt from these requirements.