

Application

- Applications for disability license plates or parking placards are available at your local Driver Services facility, at www.cyberdriveillinois.com, or by contacting the Persons with Disabilities License Plates/Placard Unit, 501 S. Second St., Rm. 541, Springfield, IL 62756.
- A licensed physician must certify on the application that you have one of the five specific qualifying disabilities. You also must include your date of birth, gender and driver's license or state I.D. card number.
- If applying for disability plates, a copy of the registration card or title is required if the vehicle is registered in the applicant's name. If the vehicle is not registered in the applicant's name, a copy of the Certificate of Title or Manufacturer's Certificate of Origin is required.
- If current plates expire within 90 days, submit:
 - Certification for Persons with Disabilities Plates or Placard
 - Application for Reclass to Disability Plates
 - Check or money order payable to Secretary of State for \$107 (\$78 renewal fee, \$29 replacement fee)
- If current plates do not expire within 90 days, submit:
 - Certification for Persons with Disabilities Plates or Placard
 - \$29 replacement fee
- Vanity and personalized disability plates are available. For more information, please call 217-782-2434.

Submit applications to:

Secretary of State Jesse White
Persons with Disabilities
License Plates/Placard Unit
501 S. Second St., Rm. 541
Springfield, IL 62756
217-782-2709
800-252-2904 (V)
800-261-5280 (TTY)

WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM

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JESSE WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE

PARKING PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

www.cyberdriveillinois.com



The Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities is a vital program for many Illinois residents with disabilities. My office is committed to reducing the fraud and abuse of this important program. Effective Jan. 1, 2006, the unauthorized use of disability license plates or parking placards may result in a \$500 fine, driver's license suspension and the suspension/ revocation of the placard or plates.

As a user of this program, please ensure that your placard or plates are being used accordingly. Remember, disability plates and placards are not transferable. The authorized holder must be present and must enter or exit the vehicle at the time the parking privileges are being used.

It is unconscionable that many people still consider it worth the risk to abuse the laws reserving parking spaces for persons with disabilities. My goal is to ensure that those who qualify for the program have the access they deserve.

If you have any questions about this program or the proper use of disability license plates or placards, please contact the Persons with Disabilities License Plates/Placard Unit at the numbers provided in this brochure.

Jesse White

Jesse White
Illinois Secretary of State



RESERVED PARKING



Program Eligibility

To qualify for the Secretary of State's Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities, an applicant must have one of the following five specific medical conditions: ("Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest" is no longer a qualifying disability, unless it is related to one of these conditions.)

- Cannot walk without the assistance of another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair or other assistive device.
- Be restricted by lung disease to such a degree that forced (respiratory) expiratory volume (FEV) in 1 second, when measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter.
- Must use portable oxygen.
- Have Class III or Class IV cardiac condition according to standards set by the American Heart Association.
- Be severely limited in the ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological or orthopedic condition.

Parking Privileges

Disability license plates and parking placards are not transferable. The authorized holder must be present and must enter or exit the vehicle at the time the parking privileges are being used.

Vehicles properly displaying disability license plates or a parking placard are exempt from meter fees or time limitations on parking, except at meters, signs or other markings with time limitations of 30 minutes or less.

Disability plates and parking placards do not permit vehicles to park in areas where parking is prohibited. Vehicles also are prohibited from parking in any manner that creates a traffic hazard.

Disability License Plates

Persons with permanent disabilities may obtain disability license plates for vehicles titled in their name. An immediate family member residing in the same household may obtain one set of plates if the qualifying person with disabilities does not own a vehicle and must rely on someone else for transportation.

Corporations, school districts, limited liability companies, nursing homes, convalescent homes and special education cooperatives transporting eligible persons may obtain disability plates as well.

Parking Placards

There are three different types of placards available from the Secretary of State's office:

- **Permanent placards** are issued to persons with a permanent disability. They are valid for four years and expire on the last day of the holder's birth month in 2010.
- **Temporary placards** are issued to persons with a temporary disability and valid for the length of time as indicated by the certifying physician, not to exceed six months if issued by the Secretary of State and 90 days if issued by a local municipality.
- **Organization placards** are issued to organizations that transport persons with disabilities free of charge. These placards are valid for four years and expire on April 30, 2010.

Placards are only valid until the expiration date indicated on the placard. To receive a new placard, you must submit a new application with a physician's certification verifying disability.

Placards are not transferable and it is illegal to copy or duplicate a placard for any reason.

Proper Display of Placards

Because a parking placard is issued to the authorized holder and not to a vehicle, it may be used in any vehicle in which the holder is driving or is a passenger. When parked, the placard must be properly displayed in one of the following locations so it is clearly visible to law enforcement:

- Hanging from the rearview mirror or
- Placed on the dashboard

Failure to properly display a parking placard may result in a fine.

Remember to remove the placard before the vehicle is in motion to prevent damage or excessive exposure to sun. Also, the placard can obstruct the driver's view if left hanging from the mirror.

Penalties for Misuse

It is illegal to:

- Park in a space reserved for persons with disabilities without disability license plates or a parking placard. Abuse or misuse may result in a minimum \$250 fine.
- Park in an access aisle — the vertical lines adjacent to the parking space for persons with disabilities. The access aisle reserves room for persons to safely enter and exit their vehicle. You can be ticketed for parking in the access aisle even if your vehicle is displaying a placard or disability plates.

- Use disability license plates or a parking placard if the holder is not present. State law requires that the authorized holder must be present and enter or exit the vehicle at the time parking privileges are being used.

Abuse or misuse may result in a minimum \$500 fine, driver's license suspension and suspension/revocation of the placard plates.

The following are Class A misdemeanors and may result in a fine of up to \$2,500 and driver's license suspension:

- Persons who illegally manufacture or alter disability plates or placards, obtain disability plates or placards based on fictitious information, or knowingly transfer plates or placards to others so that they may use privileges granted to authorized holders will be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor, which carries a maximum \$2,500 fine.
- A second or subsequent offense is a Class 4 felony with a minimum \$2,000 fine and a maximum \$25,000 fine.

Police may confiscate a placard if they believe it is being used illegally. Police officers have clear authority to enforce parking laws on private property, such as at a mall or grocery store.