Violations and Penalties

It’s unlawful to do any of the following:

• Park in spaces designated for mobility impaired individuals without displaying a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate. A conviction for this offense could result in fines, as outlined below:

  • First Offense - $200
  • Second Offense - $300
  • Third Offense - $500

• Use a legally obtained mobility impaired parking placard or license plate when not transporting mobility impaired persons. A conviction of this offense could result in fines up to $500 and/or the revocation of mobility impaired parking privileges, requiring the surrender of all mobility impaired parking placards and license plates

• Create or use a counterfeit copy of a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate

• Alter a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate

• Make false statements about mobility impairments in order to obtain, or to assist someone else to obtain, a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate

• Lend a mobility impaired parking placard to another person

• Forge a doctor’s signature on any application

• Use a mobility impaired persons parking placard if you are not transporting that person

Conditions Requiring the Return of Mobility Impaired Parking Placards and License Plates

WV law requires the return of mobility impaired parking placards and/or license plates if:

1. The person to whom the parking placard or license plate has been issued is deceased or has moved out of state

2. The person has found, or has in their possession, a parking placard or license plate that was not issued to them

3. The parking placard or license plate was reported lost or stolen and is later found after a duplicate has been issued

Special license plates should be surrendered to your local DMV regional office.

Can we help you?

If you have a permanent or temporary mobility impairment that limits your ability to walk, the DMV may be able to help you. The DMV offers mobility impaired parking placards and license plates which allow you to use parking spaces designated for mobility impaired person(s).

These mobility impaired parking placards and license plates display the international symbol of access and are valid in all 50 states, as well as many other countries. Any agency or organization that provides transportation for mobility impaired persons may also apply for mobility impaired parking placards and license plates.

Any vehicle transporting mobility impaired persons may use parking spaces designated for the mobility impaired; however, their mobility impaired parking placard must be hung from the front windshield rearview mirror, or their vehicle must have a mobility impaired license plate.

Anyone with qualifying mobility impairments can apply for a mobility impaired parking placard. You do not need to be a certain age, own a motor vehicle, or even drive a motor vehicle to be eligible.

(WV Code: §17C-13-6)

Download applications DMV-41-TR for Individuals or DMV-41A-TR for Organizations at www.dmv.wv.gov/forms, or call our fully-staffed Call Center at 1-800-642-9066 for assistance.
How to Apply for a Mobility Impaired Parking Placard or License Plate

The applications are available at all DMV locations, State Police Detachments, and on the DMV website (www.dmv.wv.gov). The DMV will also mail you an application if you call the number listed on the back of this brochure.

1. The application must be completed by a licensed physician when requesting a new or renewal of a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate. Applicants who submit an application for a duplicate or replacement parking placard or license plate are not required to have a licensed physician certify the application. Under no circumstances will more than two permits or any combination of parking placards or license plates be issued. Additionally, a mobility impaired license plate may only be issued if the applicant is the registered owner of the vehicle.

2. The applicant must indicate at the top of the application whether they are requesting a mobility impaired parking placard, license plate, or both. The licensed physician certifies the applicant with either a permanent (five-year) or temporary (six-month) mobility impairment. Each customer must be recertified to renew a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate. Mobility impaired license plates are not issued to individuals with a temporary mobility impairment.

3. Applicants requesting a mobility impaired license plate must provide all vehicle information, including: the license plate number, title number, make, year, weight, and vehicle identification number. Please include a copy of the vehicle owner’s personal property tax receipt, proof of insurance, and the correct registration fee.

4. The application must be certified by a licensed physician. The licensed physician must include their full name, address, signature, medical license number, and medical license expiration date. The licensed physician must determine that the applicant meets at least one of the six criteria established by the federal government. It’s important that the entire medical section be completed for verification purposes.

The Medical Requirements

All applicants must receive certification by a licensed physician stating they meet at least one of the following six criteria:

1. Cannot walk 200 feet without stopping to rest
2. Cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device
3. Is restricted by lung disease to such an extent that the person’s forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at rest
4. Uses portable oxygen
5. Has a cardiac constitution to the extent that the person’s functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV, according to standards set by the American Heart Association
6. Is severely limited in their ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition (Source: Federal Rule 23 CFR PART 1235)

Mobility Impaired Parking Privileges

Mobility impaired parking privileges are only valid when the vehicle displaying the parking placard or license plate is being driven by or is transporting the person with the mobility impairment. A mobility impaired person may obtain one or two parking permits. Below are options as outlined in WV law code §17C-13-6(a)(1):

- One mobility impaired license plate and/or one placard, or
- Two placards, but NO mobility impaired license plates, or
- Two mobility impaired license plates and NO placards.

Proper Parking Placard Display

Mobility impaired parking placards must be displayed in clear view at all times when the vehicle is parked in a space designated for the mobility impaired. Display the parking placard on the front rearview mirror when the vehicle is parked. If there is no rearview mirror, the parking placard should be displayed on the dashboard clearly visible from the outside. For safety reasons, do not drive with the parking placard hanging in the windshield.

- Permanent Placards are Blue and feature a “P” at the end of the ID number.
- Temporary Placards are Red and feature a “T” at the end of the ID number.

If you have a question about designated parking for the mobility impaired, contact the authorities responsible for maintaining the street or road in question. If you have a question about mobility impaired parking at any facility with off street parking, contact the facility manager.

Non-mobility impaired drivers: if possible, please consider dropping off your mobility impaired passenger and utilizing regular parking in order to allow a mobility impaired driver to use the available mobility impaired parking. Please note, a mobility impaired person must exit the vehicle when parking in a mobility impaired parking space.

Certain spaces are purposely designated to be larger for the purposes of parking vans and wheelchair lifts. As a matter of courtesy, park in the reserved space that best accommodates the size of your vehicle.

Rights and Privileges

Mobility impaired parking privileges allow you to park in any parking space designated for a mobility impaired person. Mobility impaired parking privileges do not allow you to stop, stand, or park in the following areas:

- Where parking is prohibited
- In spaces accessible for other special types of vehicles
- Where it would clearly present a traffic hazard

Keep the Identification Card With You

Law enforcement may request that you show your identification card, this should be attached to the front of your parking placard. Always carry these with you whenever using mobility impaired parking privileges; in any vehicle the mobility impaired person is operating or riding in.

- One mobility impaired license plate and/or one placard, or
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- Two mobility impaired license plates and NO placards.

Some Reminders About Parking

The use of a mobility impaired parking placard or license plate does not necessarily exempt you from state or local parking regulations or fees. The West Virginia mobility impaired parking placard or license plate is valid in all 50 states for permissible parking. Local governments designate parking spaces for persons with mobility impairments by local law or ordinance.

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