

This application is a petition to establish a: Safety Organization Plate Service Organization Plate

Name of Organization				
Mailing Address		City/Town	State	Zip Code
Number of Vermont Members	Federal Employer ID # or Taxpayer #			
Does the organization have a nonprofit status under Section 501(c)(3) or (10) of the United States Revenue Code as amended?				
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If no, please explain				
Is the organization registered as a nonprofit corporation with the office of the Secretary of State?				
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If no, please explain				
What is the nature or purpose of the organization in Vermont? ¹				
This organization has a name and distinctive emblem that the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may use on a license plate. This name and emblem is not obscene, offensive or confusing to the general public and does not promote, advertise or endorse a product, brand or service provided for sale, or promote any specific religious belief or political party. The organization has the right to use this name and emblem on a license plate and the organization's name and emblem does not infringe or violate trademarks, trade names, service marks, copyrights, or other proprietary or property rights. <i>(Please attach color copy of name and emblem requested.)</i>				
Officer or member of organization who will be Primary Point of Contact for DMV				
Name:				
Mailing Address:				
City/Town:		State:	Zip Code:	
Telephone:		email:		
I hereby request the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles issue a special motor vehicle license plate to members of the above described organization as provided in 23 V.S.A. § 304(a). Statements and warrant herein are certified under penalty of 23 V.S.A. § 202.				
Authorized Signature of Applicant		Title		Date

Note: \$2000.00 deposit (US check payable to Vermont DMV) must be submitted with this application.

¹ attach a copy of the organization's Charter and Bylaws or similar documentation

Title 23, Vermont Statutes Annotated

§ 304. Registration certificates; number plates; vanity and other special plates

(b) The authority to issue vanity motor vehicle number plates or special number plates for safety organizations and service organizations shall reside with the Commissioner. Determination of compliance with the criteria contained in this section shall be within the discretion of the Commissioner. Series of number plates for safety and service organizations which are authorized by the Commissioner shall be issued in order of approval, subject to the operating considerations in the Department as determined by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall issue vanity and special organization number plates in the following manner:

Special organization plates.

(A) For the purposes of this section:

(i) "Safety organizations" are groups that provide police and fire protection, rescue squads, the Vermont National Guard, organizations required to respond to public emergencies, and amateur radio operators licensed by the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. To qualify for a special organization plate, safety organizations must have at least 100 in-state members in good standing.

(ii) "Service organization" includes congressionally chartered or noncongressionally chartered U.S. Military Service veterans' groups, and any group which:

(I) has as a primary purpose service to the community through specific programs for the improvement of public health, education, or environmental awareness and conservation, and is not limited to social activities; (II) has nonprofit status under Section 501(c)(3) or (10) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, as amended; (III) is registered as a nonprofit corporation with the Office of the Secretary of State; and (IV) except for a military veterans group, has at least 100 in-state members in good standing.

(B) The officer of a safety organization or service organization may apply to the Commissioner to approve special plates indicating membership in a qualifying organization to be issued to organization members for a \$17.00 special fee for each set of plates in addition to the annual fee for registration. The application shall include designation of an officer or member to serve as the principal contact with the Department and a distinctive name or emblem, or both, for use on the proposed special plate. The name and emblem shall not be objectively obscene or confusing to the general public and shall not promote, advertise, or endorse a product, brand, or service provided for sale. The organization's name and emblem must not infringe on or violate a trademark, trade name, service mark, copyright, or other proprietary or property right, and the organization must have the right to use the name and emblem. After consulting with the principal contact, the Commissioner shall determine the design of the special plate on the basis that the primary purpose of motor vehicle number plates is vehicle identification. An organization may have only one design, regardless of the number of individual organizational units, squads, or departments within the State that may conduct the same or substantially similar activities.

(C) After the plate design is finalized and an officer or the principal contact provides the Commissioner a written statement authorizing issuance of the plates, the organization shall deposit \$2,200.00 with the Commissioner. Of this deposit, \$500.00 shall be retained by the Department to recover costs of developing the organization plate. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 502, the Commissioner may charge the actual costs of production of the plates against the fees collected and the balance shall be deposited in the Transportation Fund. Upon application, special plates shall be issued to a registrant of a vehicle registered at the pleasure car rate or of a truck registered for less than 26,001 pounds (but excluding trucks registered under the International Registration Plan) who furnishes the Commissioner satisfactory proof that he or she is a member of an organization that has satisfied the requirements of this subdivision (b)(2). For each of the first 100 applicants to whom sets of plates are issued, the \$17.00 special plate fee shall not be collected and shall be subtracted from the balance of the deposit. When the \$1,700.00 balance of the deposit is depleted, applicants shall be required to pay the \$17.00 fee as provided for in subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection. No organization shall charge its members any additional fee or premium charge for the authorization, right, or privilege to display special number plates, but any organization may recover up to \$1,700.00 from applicants for the special plates.

(D) When an individual's membership in a qualifying organization ceases or is terminated, the individual shall surrender any special registration plates issued under this subsection to the Commissioner forthwith. However, a retired member of the Vermont National Guard may renew or, upon payment of a \$10.00 fee, acquire, the special guard plates after notification of eligibility for retired pay has been received.