

23 V.S.A. §304a Definitions. Excerpts as used in this subchapter:

- a.
- (1) "Ambulatory handicap" means an impairment which prevents or impedes walking.
 - (2) "Blind" means the visual impairment of an individual whose central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with corrective lenses or whose visual acuity, if better than 20/200, is accompanied by a limit to the field of vision in the better eye to such a degree that its widest diameter subtends an angle of no greater than 20 degrees.
- b.
- (1) Upon application for a special registration plate or removable windshield placard, the commissioner shall send a form prescribed by him or her to the applicant to be signed and returned by a licensed physician. The commissioner shall file the form for future reference and issue the placard or plate.

A new application shall be submitted every four years in the case of placards and at every third registration renewal for plates but in no case greater than every four years. When a licensed physician has previously certified to the commissioner that an applicant's condition is both permanent and stable, a special registration plate or placard need not be renewed.

c.

Vehicles with special registration plates or removable windshield placards from any state or which have a handicapped parking card issued by the commissioner of motor vehicles may use the special parking spaces when the card or placard is displayed in the lower right side of the windshield or the plate is mounted as provided in 23 V.S.A. § 511 or as provided by the law of the state where the vehicle is registered.

NOTICE: If you have not previously reported your physical condition to this department, this application may result in your being required to submit a Driver Medical Evaluation report. Failure to submit the report when required will result in the suspension of your operator's license until the report is submitted. Further, upon review of the report it may be necessary to restrict or suspend your license.

Additional information about 'Volunteer Driver Disabled Parking Placards': On a form prescribed by the commissioner, a nonprofit organization, who is registered with the Secretary of State, that provides volunteer drivers to transport persons who have an ambulatory disability or are blind may apply to the commissioner for a placard. These placards are marked "volunteer driver." The organization will ensure proper use of placards and maintain an accurate and complete record of the volunteer drivers to whom the placards are given by the organization. Placards must be returned to the organization when the volunteer driver is no longer performing that service. Abuse of the privileges provided by the placards may result in the privileges being revoked and the placards repossessed by the commissioner. Revocation may occur only after suitable notice and opportunity for a hearing. Hearings shall be held in accordance with § 105-107 of Title 23.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do not detach any portion of this form.
2. Individuals are limited to two (2) Disabled Parking Placards.
3. **ORGANIZATIONS ONLY** - Complete Sections A, B, C, F and H. Complete G, if applicable.
4. **INDIVIDUALS ONLY** - Complete Sections A, B, C, D, E and H. Complete F if applicable. This application must be accompanied by a completed Medical Form, TA-VS-113, unless a medical has been filed with this department within the last four years.
5. **REPLACEMENTS ONLY** – Complete sections from above and complete section I. No medical required for replacement placards.
6. Applications must be signed and dated. If signing for an organization, please give your official title.
7. **IF YOUR REQUEST IS DENIED, YOU MAY APPEAL, IN WRITING, TO THE COMMISSIONER OF MOTOR VEHICLES.**
8. If your name has changed, provide us with your prior name in the space labeled 'Former Name'.
9. If the address given differs from what appears on our records, this application will be considered a notification of change of address.
10. The Vermont law entitled "Gasoline Service to Disabled Persons", enables a motor vehicle operator with a disability who has been issued a Disabled Registration Plate and /or a Disabled Parking Placard under Vermont law (23 V.S.A. §304a) or the laws of any other state, to receive the following:
 - a. Full Service by a gasoline station attendant. This means that an attendant at a gasoline station or convenience store which sells gasoline, must dispense gasoline at the request of a disabled person who is driving a motor vehicle with a Disabled Registration Plate or Placard.
 - b. Gasoline at the self-service price. If an attendant has been required to dispense gasoline at the request of the disabled operator, and the station offers self-service at a lower rate, the operator is to be charged the lower self-service price. **NOTE:** Neither of the above rights apply to self-service gas stations or convenience stores which are operated by a single (sole) employee. These stations/stores are exempt from the requirements of the law. All gasoline stations and convenience stores which sell gasoline are required to prominently display the international symbol of disability access in order to notify patrons of the availability of the services. (Dispensing of gasoline at the self-service price on behalf of a registered motor vehicle operator who is disabled.) If you have a complaint under this law, or have any questions, please contact: **Human Rights Commission, P.O. Box 997, Montpelier, VT 05601. Phone - Voice & TDD: (802) 828-2480 or (800) 416-2010.**
11. A **nonprofit organization** that provides volunteer drivers to transport persons who have an ambulatory disability or are blind may apply to the Commissioner for a 'Disabled Parking Placard - Volunteer Driver' (see relevant information supplied in the box above).
12. **PLEASE NOTE: THE PLACARD MAY ONLY BE USED (DISPLAYED) WHEN THE VEHICLE IS PARKED.**