

Department of Motor Vehicles  
 Agency of Transportation  
 120 State Street  
 Montpelier, Vermont 05603-0001

**July 15, 2021**
**Bulletin 21-04**
**2021 Legislative Changes to Motor Vehicle Laws**

Impacts to DMV			
Topic		What's Happening	Changes Made
Registration	Temporary Registrations <sup>i</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Temporary plates (including in-transit plates) may now be displayed conspicuously on the rear of the vehicle <b>including inside the rear window of the vehicle</b>. All numerals and letters on the plates must always remain legible.</li> <li>Makes permanent the electronic issuance of temporary plates (print-at-home) and makes them valid for 60 days.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None. This makes COVID-19 changes permanent.</li> </ul>
Title	VIN Verifications <sup>ii</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vehicles previously last registered in another state or country no longer need to have their VINs verified.</li> <li>Vehicles with a salvage title still need to have their VIN verified.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None. This makes a COVID-19 change permanent.</li> </ul>
CDL	Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drivers obtaining a Class A or Class B CDL for the first time, upgrading from a Class B to a Class A, or obtaining a Passenger, School Bus, or Hazmat endorsement for the first time must complete ELDT prior to being issued a new credential.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certification of completion will be stored in the Report Out-of-State Test Results (ROOSTR-NG) application. Examiners will have access and will receive training.</li> </ul>
Snowmobiles	Exhaust Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All snowmobiles being operated on VAST trail system that were manufactured 2/1/2007 or later must display certification by the Snowmobile Safety and Certification Committee on all critical components of the exhaust system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snowmobile Operator's Manual (VN-035) updated.</li> </ul>
CVO	Permits <sup>iii</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repeal of permit requirement for operation of trucks with trailers between 68 and 75 feet on US Route 4 between NH border and VT Route 100 South.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permit will be removed from e-permitting system for 7/1/2022.</li> </ul>

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Driver Improvement	Expungements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seven conviction codes are now eligible for automatic expungement by Vermont Judicial Bureau.</li> <li>Codes eligible for expungement – NR, FCC, PL, OSC, NL, NLC, INC, INS, IX4, VNI</li> <li>Records become eligible for expungement two years after restitution has been made; VJB will provide notification to DMV.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VJB will transmit expungements daily with regular reports. Records will be updated manually, and all records of expunged convictions will be destroyed.</li> <li>Response to requests for expunged records will be “NO RECORD EXISTS”.</li> </ul>
Enforcement & Safety	Red & Blue Light Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A red, amber, or combination of the two may be used by law enforcement vehicles. Applies to law enforcement vehicles owned or leased by a law enforcement agency, certified officer, or Vermont Criminal Justice Council. Lamps must be mounted so they are primarily visible from the rear of the vehicle.</li> <li>A blue, amber, or combination of the two may be used by EMS vehicles and those owned or leased by a fire department. Lamps must be mounted so they are primarily visible from the rear of the vehicle.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual and Fleet Light Permit applications updated.</li> </ul>
	Dealers and Direct-to-Consumer Manufacturers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct-to-Consumer manufacturers (e.g. Tesla) who do not operate franchises (dealerships) are permitted to open service facilities in the state, but must be registered as a motor vehicle dealer and meet all dealer regulations.</li> <li>Interested stakeholders can submit proposals for changes to Vermont’s franchise laws and on the creation of a direct-shipper’s license.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Web portal created for stakeholders to submit proposals for law changes. <a href="#">Linked from DMV website.</a></li> <li>Dealer Application updated and a new one created for DTC manufacturers. DTC manufacturers must complete both forms to register as a dealer.</li> </ul>
All-Terrain Vehicles	Helmets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operators and passengers of <b>enclosed</b> ATVs are required to wear helmets when operating in an area where registrations are required. Helmets must meet ASTM International or National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment safety standards (e.g. bicycle helmets).</li> <li>Operators and passengers of <b>open</b> ATVs (e.g. traditional four-wheelers) are required to wear closed-face helmets when operating in an area where registrations are required. Helmets must meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards contained in 49 C.F.R. §571.218 and any applicable regulations by USDOT.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATV manual and DMV website updated.</li> </ul>

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	<b>Trail Access Decals &amp; Registrations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATVs being operated on frozen bodies of water do not need to be registered nor do they need to display a Trail Access Decal (TAD).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ATV manual and DMV website updated.</li> </ul>
<b>E-Bikes</b>	<b>Definitions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definitions of Motorcycle, Motor-Driven Cycle, and All-Terrain Vehicle were updated to <b>not</b> include electric bicycles.</li> <li>Modification of e-bike to increase speed is not permitted unless labels indicating top speed are replaced.<sup>iv</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motorcycle and ATV manuals updated.</li> </ul>
<b>Motorboats</b>	<b>Vessel Validation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vessels registered in another state or documented by any federal agency can be operated on Vermont waters for up to 60 days before they need to complete a vessel validation with Vermont. Change is from 30- to 60-day period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vessel validation form (VD-113) and DMV website updated.</li> </ul>
	<b>Motorboat Crash Reporting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases the damage threshold to require an operator to file a crash report for a motorboat crash from \$100 to \$2,000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operator and Police crash report forms updated. Destroy all outdated versions.</li> </ul>

*All sections effective July 1, 2021 unless otherwise noted*

<sup>i</sup> Effective retroactively to 9/8/2020

<sup>ii</sup> Effective retroactively to 4/1/2020

<sup>iii</sup> Effective 7/1/2022

<sup>iv</sup> Effective 1/1/2022

Director Tony Facos  
 DMV Enforcement and Safety