

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. What happens if the application recipient does not live in unincorporated Cook County?** *Instruct him or her to write "Incorporated by (municipality name)" on the front of the application and return it to the Department of Revenue.*
- 2. How long are the current vehicle licenses valid?** *They are valid from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.*
- 3. How do I know what license to obtain for my vehicle?** *The correct license and vehicle code are enclosed on the attached Cook County Vehicle License Fees.*
- 4. How is a Large Passenger Vehicle (XLV) determined?** *It is determined by the vehicle's curb weight of 4,500 lbs. or more.*
- 5. What does the vehicle owner need in order for the license to be issued?** *All of the applicable information and documentation requested on the application must be provided by the vehicle owner before a license is issued.*
- 6. When should a late penalty be charged?** *After July 1, 2014, all stickers excluding the TR and DP categories MUST be charged the late penalty.*
- 7. When does a vehicle license become half price?** *Most vehicle licenses are sold for 1/2 price for vehicles purchased after December 1st.*
- 8. What are the requirements of applications?** *Both pre-printed and blank applications have to be completed entirely.*
- 9. Should a penalty be waived?** *The penalty is waived for residents who have purchased a 1/2 price vehicle license for vehicles purchased after December 1st.*
- 10. Are all 'XLV' classed vehicles listed on the table provided?** *No. Please refer to the guide.*
- 11. Can a new recently purchased vehicle be listed incorrectly on the application?** *Yes. This can occur if a new vehicle has recently been purchased. The changes should be noted on the back of the application and the "Data Change" box should be checked.*
- 12. What is the late fee for customers purchasing licenses after July 1st?** *The late penalty is equal to the price of the license or \$25, whichever is greater.*
- 13. What is the late fee for customers purchasing No Fee Licenses (NF and SR) after July 1st?** *The late fee for 'NF' and 'SR' Licenses is \$25.*
- 14. Does the vehicle have to be registered to the applicant of the vehicle license?** *Yes, for a business as it pertains to commercial use.*
- 15. Does the County have a database or list of unincorporated addresses?** *Yes, used only by Cook County Department of Revenue.*
- 16. Do both pre-printed and manual applications have to be completed entirely?** *No, but it is preferably if they are.*
- 17. Does the applicant need a driver's license?** *Not in all cases. It's determined on a case by case basis.*
- 18. Can we accept an ID from another person, not the owner of the vehicle?** *No.*
- 19. Is the penalty waived for residents moving to unincorporated Cook County after July 1st?** *Yes. There is a 60 day grace period.*
- 20. If a vehicle owner purchases a license for their vehicle, and are no longer in possession of the vehicle, can they obtain a refund?** *No.*
- 21. If the owner is moving from unincorporated Cook County within a month, can they purchase a temporary license or obtain a refund on the license they purchase?** *No.*
- 22. What happens if a senior owns a motorcycle or trailer?** *The Senior Discount applies ONLY to passenger vehicles and small trucks (XSV, XLV, A).*
- 23. What if a senior owns more than 2 vehicles?** *Seniors are entitled to ONLY 2 'SR' licenses. They must pay full price for any additional vehicles.*
- 24. If a senior owns a business and registers his or her vehicle in the business name, can he purchase a 'SR' license?** *No, full cost of license applies.*
- 25. What are exemptions?** *(NF Licenses). This vehicle license will have no expiration date and will remain valid for the duration of the ownership of the vehicle(s). The vehicle sticker also has the word permanent printed on the license and the sequence number begins with NF.*



ACCORDING TO THE ORDINANCE:

(a) All vehicles owned and operated upon the public ways of the unincorporated area of Cook County by the United States Government or any agency thereof, or by the State of Illinois or any department thereof, or by any political subdivision, public or municipal corporation of the State of Illinois or any department or other agency of such corporation, or by a nonprofit organization as defined by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, such as the American Red Cross, and all buses owned and operated by churches in conjunction with the authorized activities of said institutions under Section 3-616 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, shall be exempt from the vehicle tax.

(b) Vehicles owned by a person with disabilities and registered with the State of Illinois under 625 ILCS 5/3-616, shall be exempt from this tax.

(c) Vehicles owned by a disabled veteran, who has provided proof of a disability connected to service in the United States military, shall be exempt from this tax.

A maximum of two vehicles owned by a person over the age of 65 shall upon satisfactory proof of the owner's age be exempt from this tax. This exemption is limited to vehicles in the XSV, XLV, or A class.

You may also purchase your vehicle license on line at www.cookcountyil.gov/revenue.