

## NORTH DAKOTA

### **Definitions**

**Antique Motor Vehicle.** Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old.

**Collector's Motor Vehicle.** A person who owns a motor vehicle that is at least twenty-five years old but that is not eligible for registration as an antique vehicle. The motor vehicle is eligible for collector's registration if it is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and if the owner owns another motor vehicle the owner uses for general transportation. A motor vehicle qualifies as a collector's item under this section only if it is operated on public streets and highways for the purpose of driving the vehicle to and from active entry and participation in parades, car shows, car rallies, other public gatherings held for the purpose of displaying or selling the vehicle, and to and from service or storage facilities.

**Parts Car.** A motor vehicle generally in nonoperable condition which is owned by the collector to furnish parts to restore, preserve, and maintain a special interest vehicle or antique vehicle.

**Reconstructed Vehicle.** Any vehicle, of a type required to be registered, materially altered from its original construction by the removal, addition, or substitution of new or used essential parts.

**Specially Constructed Vehicle.** Any vehicle which was not constructed originally under the distinct name, make, model, or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles.

**Special Interest Vehicle.** A motor vehicle that is at least twenty years old and has not been altered or modified from original manufacturer's specifications and, because of its historic interest, is being preserved by hobbyists.

**Street rod.** A modernized motor vehicle which was manufactured before 1949 by a recognized manufacturer and which retains the general appearance and original body configuration as manufactured or a motor vehicle designed and manufactured to resemble such a motor vehicle. A street rod may have improved modifications to the body, chassis, engine, brakes, power train, steering, and suspension systems either by modifying the original equipment or replacing original parts with fabricated parts or those taken from other existing vehicles.

**Vital Component Parts.** Those parts of a motor vehicle that are essential to the mechanical functioning of the vehicle, including, but not limited to, the motor, drive train, and wheels.

## **North Dakota DMV Guidance**

### **Unconventional Vehicles (FAQ's)**

What is an unconventional vehicle? An unconventional vehicle is a motor vehicle designed to travel on at least wheels in contact with the ground, has an unladen weight of at least three hundred pounds (136.08 kilograms) but less than eight thousand pounds (3628.7 kilograms), has a permanent upright seat or saddle for the driver which is mounted at least twenty-four inches (50.8 centimeters) from the ground, has a steering device for front wheel steering control, is capable of speed in excess of sixty-five miles (104.61 kilometers) per hour, complies with equipment requirements listed in either chapter 39-21 or 39-27 as appropriate, and has an identifying number. The term does not include motor vehicles that otherwise may be registered under this chapter.

Where can an unconventional vehicle be operated? A licensed driver may operate a registered unconventional vehicle on any highway except an access-controlled highway.

Are unconventional vehicles subject to tax? Yes. Unconventional vehicles titled and licensed in North Dakota are subject to the 5% motor vehicle excise tax.

Are unconventional vehicles required to be registered? Yes. An individual may not operate an unconventional vehicle on public roadways unless the vehicle has been registered with the Motor Vehicle Division.

What is required to title and license a new unconventional vehicle? SFN 2872 Application for Certificate of Title and Registration of a Motor Vehicle must be completed in full and signed by the buyer. The Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO) is required and must be completed and signed by the dealership, 5% motor vehicle excise tax will be due on the purchase price, \$5 title fee and \$50 license fee. If a Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO) was not provided when the vehicle was purchased, the owner must contact the dealership for assistance in obtaining a duplicate Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO). The Manufactures Certificate of Origin (MCO) or other documentation from the manufacturer must describe the engine size and maximum speed of the vehicle.

What is required to title and license an older used unconventional vehicle that was never titled and there is no Manufacturers Certificate of Origin (MCO) available? SFN 2486 Certificate of Vehicle Inspection must be completed by a business registered and in good standing with the secretary of state and that offers vehicle repairs to the public. SFN 2888 Seller Certificate and Vehicle Bill of Sale must be completed and signed by the seller. A notarized Statement of Fact may be required from the applicant. SFN 2872 Application for Certificate of Title and Registration of a Motor Vehicle must be completed in full and signed by the buyer, 5% motor vehicle excise tax will be due on the purchase price, \$5 title fee, and \$50 license fee.

Are unconventional vehicles required to be insured? Yes. Liability insurance is required if the unconventional vehicle is registered.

### **UNTITLED VEHICLES 37-12-04-01 (NDAC)**

Untitled Vehicles will be reviewed by the Bismarck Central Office, the title will be mailed once the review process is complete.

If a North Dakota resident owns a vehicle for which the resident is unable to obtain a proper certificate of title, the Motor Vehicle Division will use the following forms and procedures to determine ownership of a vehicle and issue a certificate of title.

1) It is recommended that you complete a NMVTIS Vehicle History Check to verify no certificate of title or ownership record exists in any other state.

a. A NMVTIS Vehicle History Check may be purchased through an approved provider at [www.vehiclehistory.gov](http://www.vehiclehistory.gov).

b. If a certificate of title or ownership record exists in any other state the Untitled Vehicle process cannot be completed.

2) Complete SFN 51269 Request for Vehicle Information, in full, and submit to the Motor Vehicle Division with a photo of the VIN plate, photocopy of the VIN Inspection (keep original for step 3), and the \$3.00 processing fee.

a. A check of the North Dakota Motor Vehicle Division records will be conducted to determine if a North Dakota certificate of title exists.

b. The results from the completed Untitled Vehicle Request for Vehicle Information will be mailed to you and you will need to include the results with your title work upon submission to the Motor Vehicle Division for processing.

c. If no North Dakota title exists you may proceed with the Untitled Vehicle process.

3) Upon receipt of the following, North Dakota Motor Vehicle will start the title process. All Untitled Vehicles will be reviewed. A records check of all other states will be conducted to verify no certificate of title or ownership record exists, as well as a check of the National Crime Information Center, before issuing a North Dakota Certificate of Title.

a. A notarized SFN 2888 Seller's Certificate and Vehicle Bill of Sale.

i. Seller should provide the reason why a title cannot be furnished.

b. SFN 2903 Vehicle Statement of Ownership.

i. You must be detailed in your explanation regarding how you came into possession of this vehicle without a title.

- c. A VIN inspection utilizing SFN 2486 Certificate of Vehicle Inspection.
  - i. Inspection must be completed by a Qualified Business registered with the North Dakota Secretary of State, which offers motor vehicle repairs to the public, per NDCC 39-05-20.2.
  - ii. You must include a copy of the current North Dakota Secretary of State filing which can be obtained directly from the Secretary of State's website.
- d. SFN 2872 Application for Certificate of Title & Registration of a Vehicle.
- e. \$5 title fee, \$1.50 Abandoned Vehicle Disposal Fee and 5% Motor Vehicle Excise Tax.
  - i. Tax is calculated based on the current Fair Market Value of the Vehicle.
- f. Registration Fees.
  - i. SFN 60689 Statement of Fact is required if the vehicle will not be registered.
  - ii. A vehicle inspection utilizing SFN 2486 Certificate of Vehicle Inspection may be required prior to registration if the vehicle is rebuilt, modified, antique or homemade.
- g. Current photos of the front, side and rear of the vehicle.
- h. Proof of North Dakota residency.
  - i. Individuals must provide a North Dakota Driver's License/State ID number.
  - ii. Businesses must provide a current North Dakota Secretary of State filing indicating the State of Origin as North Dakota which can be obtained directly from the Secretary of State's website. i. Results from the completed Untitled Vehicle Request for Vehicle Information.
- j. Any other information required by the department per NDCC 39-05-05

## North Dakota Laws

### From North Dakota Century Code:

#### NDCC § 39-05-05. Application for certificate of title--Contents--Fee

1. An application for a certificate of title must be made upon a form provided by the department and must contain all of the following:
  - a. A full description of the vehicle, including the name of the manufacturer, either the engine, serial, or identification number, and any other distinguishing marks. The department may assign a vehicle identification number for a vehicle not otherwise assigned a number. The assigned number must be permanently affixed to the vehicle and the department may require the vehicle be inspected before issuing a certificate of title for the vehicle.
  - b. A statement as to whether the vehicle is new or used.
  - c. A statement of the applicant's title and the name and address of each lienholder in the order of priority.
  - d. The name and address of the person to whom the certificate of title must be delivered.
  - e. If applicable, a statement as to whether the vehicle is a **specially constructed, reconstructed,** or foreign vehicle.
  - f. The owner's legal name, as evidenced by a valid state-issued driver's license, identity card, or any other documentary evidence that confirms to the satisfaction of the director the true identity of the owner, street address, city, and county, or township and county, of residence. When two or more owners are designated, at least one of the owners must comply with the identification requirement of this subdivision and all names used must be legal names. A dealer shall make specific inquiry as to this information before filling in the information on the application.
  - g. The department may require odometer disclosure information as required under the Truth in Mileage Act of 1986 [Pub. L. 99-579].
  - h. Any other information required by the department.
2. The owner of every vehicle that has been registered outside this state shall surrender to the department the certificate of title and registration card or other evidence that may satisfy the department the applicant is the lawful owner or possessor of the vehicle.
3. If the vehicle for which certificate of title is sought is a new vehicle, a certificate of title may not be issued unless a certificate of origin executed by the manufacturer of the vehicle is attached to the application for registration or is attached to the application for the certificate of title for the vehicle. If the new vehicle for which certificate of title is sought is of foreign manufacture, the certificate of origin must be furnished by the importer of the vehicle. The

manufacturer or importer of all new vehicles shall designate the total shipping weight of the vehicle on the certificate of origin.

4. When a new vehicle is purchased from a dealer, the application for the certificate of title must include a statement of the transfer by the dealer.

5. Each application must be accompanied by a fee of five dollars, which is in addition to any fee charged for the registration of the vehicle.

**NDCC § 39-04-02. Application for the registration of a vehicle--Contents--Penalty**

Application for the registration of a vehicle must be made as provided in this section:

1. Application must be made by the owner thereof using the legal name as evidenced by a valid state-issued driver's license, identity card, or any other documentary evidence that confirms to the satisfaction of the director the true identity of the owner, upon appropriate forms approved or furnished by the department, and every application must be signed by the owner and must contain the owner's county of residence, address, and a brief description of the vehicle to be registered, including the name of the maker, either the engine, serial, or identification number, if any, whether new or used, and the last license number known, and the state in which issued, and, upon the registration of a new vehicle, the date of sale by the manufacturer or dealer to the person first operating the vehicle. When two or more owners are designated, at least one of the owners must comply with the identification requirement in this subsection and all names used must be legal names. The application must contain other information as may be required by the department.

2. If the vehicle for which registration is sought is a specially constructed, reconstructed, or foreign vehicle, the facts must be stated in the application. The owner of every vehicle which has been registered outside this state shall exhibit to the department the certificate of the title and registration card or other evidence as will satisfy the department that the applicant is the lawful owner or possessor of the vehicle.

3. If the vehicle for which registration is sought is a new vehicle, no registration may be issued unless a certificate of origin executed by the manufacturer of such vehicle is attached to the application for registration or is attached to the application for the certificate of title for such vehicle. If the new vehicle for which registration is sought is of foreign manufacture, the certificate of origin must be furnished by the importer of such vehicle. The manufacturer or importer of all new vehicles shall designate the total shipping weight of the vehicle on the certificate of origin.

4. In applying for registration the buyer shall state the buyer's post-office address and county and city or township of residence and the dealer shall make specific inquiry relative thereto before completing the application.

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#### **NDCC § 39-04-10.4. Antique motor vehicles--License and fee--Use**

1. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may be permanently licensed by the department upon the payment of a registration fee of ten dollars. The department shall design and issue a distinctive number plate for this purpose. In lieu of the distinctive number plate, the owner of the motor vehicle may, at the discretion of the director, display on the motor vehicle a number plate from the year in which the motor vehicle was manufactured or in the case of military vehicles, military identification numbers. The number plate from the year of manufacture or military identification numbers may not be used in lieu of a distinctive number plate when it would create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping system of the department. A number plate from the year of manufacture or military identification numbers must be legible and must be restored to the satisfaction of the department. Notwithstanding section 39-04-11, only one number plate needs to be displayed on a motor vehicle licensed under this subsection. Motor vehicles registered under the provisions of this section may not be used in the routine functions of a business or farming operation.

2. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may, if not licensed under subsection 1, be permanently licensed using a personalized plate issued under section 39-04-10.3, in which case a one-time fee of one hundred dollars is due.

#### **NDCC § 39-04-10.6. Registration of motor vehicles owned by collectors**

A person who owns a motor vehicle that is at least twenty-five years old but that is not eligible for registration under section 39-04-10.4 may register that motor vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle. The motor vehicle is eligible for collector's registration if it is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and if the owner owns another motor vehicle the owner uses for general transportation. A motor vehicle qualifies as a collector's item under this section only if it is operated on public streets and highways for the purpose of driving the vehicle to and from active entry and participation in parades, car shows, car rallies, other public gatherings held for the purpose of displaying or selling the vehicle, and to and from service or storage facilities. An applicant for registration of a vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle shall file an affidavit with the director that states the owner's name and address, the make, year, and the manufacturer's identification number of the motor vehicle, and a statement that the motor vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the director is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct, the director shall register the motor vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle on the payment of a registration fee of sixty dollars. The registration is valid as long as the collector's motor vehicle is owned by the person who applied for the registration under this section. The director shall design and issue distinctive number plates for collector's motor vehicles registered under this section. In lieu of the distinctive number plates, the owner of the motor vehicle, at the discretion of the director, may display on the motor vehicle number plates from the year in which the motor vehicle was manufactured. The number plates from the year of manufacture may not be used in lieu of distinctive number plates when it would create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping system of the

department. Number plates from the year of manufacture must be legible and must be restored to the satisfaction of the department. A person violating this section or a department rule regarding this section forfeits the right to the registration provided in this section and any registration fees that have been paid.

**NDCC § 57-40.3-04. Exemptions**

There are specifically exempted from the provisions of this chapter and from computation of the amount of tax imposed by it the following:

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9. Any motor vehicle registered under chapter 39-04 for the first time by a person other than a manufacturer of motor vehicles, as defined in section 39-01-01, who assembled the motor vehicle for that person's own use.



## **North Dakota Equipment Exemptions**

### **NDCC § 39-21-06. Stop lamps and turn signals required on new motor vehicle**

1. A person may not sell, offer for sale, or operate on the highways any motor vehicle registered in this state and **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964**, unless it is equipped with at least two stop lamps that are in good working order when lighted, are mounted on the rear on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and meet the requirements of section 39-21-19 and this section, except that a truck tractor **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964**, must be equipped with at least one stop lamp meeting the requirements of section 39-21-19.
2. A person may not sell, offer for sale, or operate on the highways any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered in this state and **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1952**, unless it is equipped with electrical turn signals in good working order which meet the requirements of section 39-21-19. This subsection does not apply to any trailer or semitrailer of less than three thousand pounds [1360.78 kilograms] gross weight.
3. A stop lamp on a vehicle must be located at a height of not more than seventy-two inches [182.88 centimeters] nor less than fifteen inches [38.10 centimeters] from the ground.

### **NDCC § 39-21-11. Visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps, and marker lamps**

1. Every reflector upon any vehicle referred to in section 39-21-08 must be of such size and characteristics and so maintained as to be readily visible at nighttime from all distances within six hundred feet [182.88 meters] to one hundred feet [30.48 meters] from the vehicle when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps, except that the visibility for reflectors on vehicles **manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1970**, must be measured in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps. Reflectors required to be mounted on the sides of the vehicle must reflect the required color of light to the sides, and those mounted on the rear must reflect a red color to the rear.
2. Front and rear clearance lamps must be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at a distance of five hundred feet [152.4 meters] from the front and rear, respectively, of the vehicle.
3. Side marker lamps must be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at a distance of five hundred feet [152.4 meters] from the side of the vehicle on which mounted.

### **NDCC § 39-21-41. Safety glazing material in motor vehicles**

1. No person may sell any new motor vehicle, nor may any new motor vehicle be registered, unless it is equipped with safety glazing material of a type approved by the department wherever glazing material is used in doors, windows, and windshields. The foregoing provisions

shall apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including passenger buses and schoolbuses, but in respect to trucks, including truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glazing material apply to all glazing material used in doors, windows, and windshields in the drivers' compartment.

2. The term "safety glazing materials" means glazing materials so constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to reduce substantially, in comparison with ordinary sheet glass or plate glass, the likelihood of injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or by these safety glazing materials when they may be cracked or broken.

3. The department shall maintain a list of types of glazing material by name approved by it as meeting the requirements of this section and may not register after January 1, 1964, any motor vehicle which is subject to the provisions of this section unless it is equipped with an approved type of safety glazing material, and it shall thereafter suspend the registration of any motor vehicle subject to this section which it finds is not equipped until it is made to conform to the requirements of this section. The requirements of this section **do not apply to antique automobiles** licensed under chapter 39-04.

#### **NDCC § 39-21-41.1. Safety belts**

1. Every passenger car **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1965**, must be equipped with lapbelt assemblies for use in the driver's and one other front seating position.

2. All motor vehicles **manufactured after January 1, 1968**, must be equipped with any lapbelt or shoulder belt required at the time the vehicle was manufactured by standards of the United States department of transportation. Nothing in this subsection affects the requirement in subsection 1 for a lapbelt in the driver's seating position.

3. The department may except specified types of motor vehicles or seating positions within any motor vehicle from the requirements imposed by subsections 1 and 2 when compliance would be impractical.

4. No person may install, distribute, have for sale, offer for sale, or sell any belt for use in motor vehicles unless it meets current minimum standards and specifications of the United States department of transportation.

5. Every owner shall maintain belts and assemblies required by this section in proper condition and in a manner that will enable occupants to use them.

#### **NDCC § 39-21-52. Exemption for certain street rod motor vehicles**

The provisions of this chapter or chapter 37-12-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code relating to bumpers, tires, and fenders **do not apply to street rod motor vehicles**. However, a street rod must have all equipment, in operating condition, which was specifically required by law as a condition for its sale when it was first manufactured. A street rod is a modernized motor vehicle which was manufactured before 1949 by a recognized manufacturer and which

retains the general appearance and original body configuration as manufactured or a motor vehicle designed and manufactured to resemble such a motor vehicle. A street rod may have improved modifications to the body, chassis, engine, brakes, power train, steering, and suspension systems either by modifying the original equipment or replacing original parts with fabricated parts or those taken from other existing vehicles. The director may adopt rules to implement this section.

#### **NDCC § 39-21-22. Single-beam road-lighting equipment**

Headlamps arranged to provide a single distribution of light are permitted on motor vehicles **manufactured and sold prior to one year after July 1, 1963**, in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment herein specified if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

1. The headlamps must be so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall at a distance of twenty-five feet [7.62 meters] ahead project higher than a level of five inches [12.7 centimeters] below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes, and in no case higher than forty-two inches [106.68 centimeters] above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of seventy-five feet [22.86 meters] ahead.
2. The intensity must be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least two hundred feet [60.96 meters].

**AFFIDAVIT OF USE FOR A COLLECTOR  
MOTOR VEHICLE**

North Dakota Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle  
SFN 16783 (4-2016)

MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION  
ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
608 E BOULEVEARD AVE  
BISMARCK ND 58505-0780  
Telephone (701)328-2725  
Website: <https://dot.nd.gov>

Legal Name	Telephone Number	
Mailing Address		
City	State	ZIP Code

**Motor Vehicle**

Year	Make	Model	Vehicle Identification Number
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I certify that I am aware of and understand the restrictions on usage of special license plates issued to the collector motor vehicle as listed on this affidavit. I further certify that if I violate any of the restrictions on usage of this special registration, I will forfeit my right to the special registration and any registration fees that have been paid.

Vehicles operating with special collector license plates are restricted to the following uses and all other uses are specifically prohibited:

1. Driving to and from active entry and participation in parades, car shows, car rallies, and other public gatherings held for the purpose of displaying or selling the vehicle.
2. Driving to or from service or storage facilities.

Vehicles operated with special collector license plates may NOT be used for any other transportation purposes.

Signature	Date
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# PERSONALIZED/SPECIAL PLATE REQUEST

North Dakota Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle  
SFN 53612 (9-2019)

MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION  
ND DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
608 E BOULEVARD AVE  
BISMARCK ND 58505-0780  
Telephone (701) 328-2725  
Fax (701) 328-1487  
Website: <https://dot.nd.gov>

Legal Name of Owner (Last, First, Middle)		Telephone Number
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code

## Vehicle Information

Title Number	Vehicle Identification Number	Current License Plate Number
<b>PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL LETTERS ARE CAPITALIZED AND NUMBERS ARE WRITTEN CLEARLY</b>		
First Choice:	Second Choice:	
Meaning of Plate (Required for new and reorders)	Meaning of Plate (Required for new and reorders)	

Personalized Plate and other applicable fees are in addition to the registration fee. Please check type of plate:

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Antique Motorcycle</b> - \$100 one-time personalized plate fee - (maximum 6 characters)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Antique Passenger and Truck</b> - \$100 one-time personalized plate fee - (maximum 7 characters)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Collector</b> - \$160 one-time personalized plate fee - (maximum 7 characters) <b>SFN 16783 (Affidavit of Use for a Collector Motor Vehicle) must be completed and enclosed.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FFA Foundation Plate</b> - \$10 one-time fee + \$25 personalized plate fee - (maximum 5 characters)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Firefighter</b> - \$40 yearly fee (\$15 Firefighter fee + \$25 personalized plate fee) - (maximum 5 characters) <b>SFN 52908 (Application for North Dakota Firefighter's Plate) must be completed and enclosed.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Gold Star Plate</b> - (maximum 5 characters) <b>Certification of eligibility from the North Dakota State Department of Veterans Affairs must accompany this form.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>National Guard</b> - \$5 (NG) one-time fee + \$25 personalized plate fee - (maximum 4 characters) <b>Verification from Adjutant General's Office must be enclosed.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Off Highway Plate</b> - \$45 bi-annual fee (\$20 registration + \$25 personalized plate fee) - (maximum 5 characters)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Organization Plate</b> - \$50 yearly fee (\$25 Organization plate fee + \$25 personalized plate fee) - (maximum 5 characters)	
Specify Organization	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Patriotic Plate</b> - \$50 yearly fee (\$25 Patriotic plate fee + \$25 personalized plate fee) - (maximum 5 characters) <b>Check One:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Boonie Stomper <input type="checkbox"/> United States Flag (Available 07-01-2017) <input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle (Available 07-01-2017)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Personalized Plate</b> - (all other types) - \$25 yearly fee - (maximum 7 characters) (Motorcycle - maximum 6 characters) Except the following (maximum of 5 characters) <input type="checkbox"/> Mobility-Impaired	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Prisoner of War Plate</b> - (maximum 7 characters) <b>Certification of eligibility from the North Dakota State Department of Veterans Affairs must accompany this form.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unconventional</b> - \$75 annual fee (\$50 registration + \$25 personalized plate fee) - (maximum 5 characters)	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Veteran Plate</b> - \$40 yearly fee (\$15 Veteran fee + \$25 personalized plate fee) - (maximum 5 characters) <b>SFN 51628 (Application for North Dakota Veterans Number Plate) must be completed and enclosed.</b> <b>Check One:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Marines <input type="checkbox"/> Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Heart <input type="checkbox"/> Non-branch	
Signature of Owner	Date

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## **North Dakota DMV Guidance**

### **Unconventional Vehicles (FAQ's)**

What is an unconventional vehicle? An unconventional vehicle is a motor vehicle designed to travel on at least wheels in contact with the ground, has an unladen weight of at least three hundred pounds (136.08 kilograms) but less than eight thousand pounds (3628.7 kilograms), has a permanent upright seat or saddle for the driver which is mounted at least twenty-four inches (50.8 centimeters) from the ground, has a steering device for front wheel steering control, is capable of speed in excess of sixty-five miles (104.61 kilometers) per hour, complies with equipment requirements listed in either chapter 39-21 or 39-27 as appropriate, and has an identifying number. The term does not include motor vehicles that otherwise may be registered under this chapter.

Where can an unconventional vehicle be operated? A licensed driver may operate a registered unconventional vehicle on any highway except an access-controlled highway.

Are unconventional vehicles subject to tax? Yes. Unconventional vehicles titled and licensed in North Dakota are subject to the 5% motor vehicle excise tax.

Are unconventional vehicles required to be registered? Yes. An individual may not operate an unconventional vehicle on public roadways unless the vehicle has been registered with the Motor Vehicle Division.

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1) It is recommended that you complete a NMVTIS Vehicle History Check to verify no certificate of title or ownership record exists in any other state.

a. A NMVTIS Vehicle History Check may be purchased through an approved provider at [www.vehiclehistory.gov](http://www.vehiclehistory.gov).

b. If a certificate of title or ownership record exists in any other state the Untitled Vehicle process cannot be completed.

2) Complete SFN 51269 Request for Vehicle Information, in full, and submit to the Motor Vehicle Division with a photo of the VIN plate, photocopy of the VIN Inspection (keep original for step 3), and the \$3.00 processing fee.

a. A check of the North Dakota Motor Vehicle Division records will be conducted to determine if a North Dakota certificate of title exists.

b. The results from the completed Untitled Vehicle Request for Vehicle Information will be mailed to you and you will need to include the results with your title work upon submission to the Motor Vehicle Division for processing.

c. If no North Dakota title exists you may proceed with the Untitled Vehicle process.

3) Upon receipt of the following, North Dakota Motor Vehicle will start the title process. All Untitled Vehicles will be reviewed. A records check of all other states will be conducted to verify no certificate of title or ownership record exists, as well as a check of the National Crime Information Center, before issuing a North Dakota Certificate of Title.

a. A notarized SFN 2888 Seller's Certificate and Vehicle Bill of Sale.

i. Seller should provide the reason why a title cannot be furnished.

b. SFN 2903 Vehicle Statement of Ownership.

i. You must be detailed in your explanation regarding how you came into possession of this vehicle without a title.



- c. A VIN inspection utilizing SFN 2486 Certificate of Vehicle Inspection.
  - i. Inspection must be completed by a Qualified Business registered with the North Dakota Secretary of State, which offers motor vehicle repairs to the public, per NDCC 39-05-20.2.
  - ii. You must include a copy of the current North Dakota Secretary of State filing which can be obtained directly from the Secretary of State's website.
- d. SFN 2872 Application for Certificate of Title & Registration of a Vehicle.
- e. \$5 title fee, \$1.50 Abandoned Vehicle Disposal Fee and 5% Motor Vehicle Excise Tax.
  - i. Tax is calculated based on the current Fair Market Value of the Vehicle.
- f. Registration Fees.
  - i. SFN 60689 Statement of Fact is required if the vehicle will not be registered.
  - ii. A vehicle inspection utilizing SFN 2486 Certificate of Vehicle Inspection may be required prior to registration if the vehicle is rebuilt, modified, antique or homemade.
- g. Current photos of the front, side and rear of the vehicle.
- h. Proof of North Dakota residency.
  - i. Individuals must provide a North Dakota Driver's License/State ID number.
  - ii. Businesses must provide a current North Dakota Secretary of State filing indicating the State of Origin as North Dakota which can be obtained directly from the Secretary of State's website. i. Results from the completed Untitled Vehicle Request for Vehicle Information.
- j. Any other information required by the department per NDCC 39-05-05

## North Dakota Laws

### From North Dakota Century Code:

#### NDCC § 39-05-05. Application for certificate of title--Contents--Fee

1. An application for a certificate of title must be made upon a form provided by the department and must contain all of the following:
  - a. A full description of the vehicle, including the name of the manufacturer, either the engine, serial, or identification number, and any other distinguishing marks. The department may assign a vehicle identification number for a vehicle not otherwise assigned a number. The assigned number must be permanently affixed to the vehicle and the department may require the vehicle be inspected before issuing a certificate of title for the vehicle.
  - b. A statement as to whether the vehicle is new or used.
  - c. A statement of the applicant's title and the name and address of each lienholder in the order of priority.
  - d. The name and address of the person to whom the certificate of title must be delivered.
  - e. If applicable, a statement as to whether the vehicle is a **specially constructed, reconstructed,** or foreign vehicle.
  - f. The owner's legal name, as evidenced by a valid state-issued driver's license, identity card, or any other documentary evidence that confirms to the satisfaction of the director the true identity of the owner, street address, city, and county, or township and county, of residence. When two or more owners are designated, at least one of the owners must comply with the identification requirement of this subdivision and all names used must be legal names. A dealer shall make specific inquiry as to this information before filling in the information on the application.
  - g. The department may require odometer disclosure information as required under the Truth in Mileage Act of 1986 [Pub. L. 99-579].
  - h. Any other information required by the department.
2. The owner of every vehicle that has been registered outside this state shall surrender to the department the certificate of title and registration card or other evidence that may satisfy the department the applicant is the lawful owner or possessor of the vehicle.
3. If the vehicle for which certificate of title is sought is a new vehicle, a certificate of title may not be issued unless a certificate of origin executed by the manufacturer of the vehicle is attached to the application for registration or is attached to the application for the certificate of title for the vehicle. If the new vehicle for which certificate of title is sought is of foreign manufacture, the certificate of origin must be furnished by the importer of the vehicle. The

manufacturer or importer of all new vehicles shall designate the total shipping weight of the vehicle on the certificate of origin.

4. When a new vehicle is purchased from a dealer, the application for the certificate of title must include a statement of the transfer by the dealer.

5. Each application must be accompanied by a fee of five dollars, which is in addition to any fee charged for the registration of the vehicle.

**NDCC § 39-04-02. Application for the registration of a vehicle--Contents--Penalty**

Application for the registration of a vehicle must be made as provided in this section:

1. Application must be made by the owner thereof using the legal name as evidenced by a valid state-issued driver's license, identity card, or any other documentary evidence that confirms to the satisfaction of the director the true identity of the owner, upon appropriate forms approved or furnished by the department, and every application must be signed by the owner and must contain the owner's county of residence, address, and a brief description of the vehicle to be registered, including the name of the maker, either the engine, serial, or identification number, if any, whether new or used, and the last license number known, and the state in which issued, and, upon the registration of a new vehicle, the date of sale by the manufacturer or dealer to the person first operating the vehicle. When two or more owners are designated, at least one of the owners must comply with the identification requirement in this subsection and all names used must be legal names. The application must contain other information as may be required by the department.

2. If the vehicle for which registration is sought is a specially constructed, reconstructed, or foreign vehicle, the facts must be stated in the application. The owner of every vehicle which has been registered outside this state shall exhibit to the department the certificate of the title and registration card or other evidence as will satisfy the department that the applicant is the lawful owner or possessor of the vehicle.

3. If the vehicle for which registration is sought is a new vehicle, no registration may be issued unless a certificate of origin executed by the manufacturer of such vehicle is attached to the application for registration or is attached to the application for the certificate of title for such vehicle. If the new vehicle for which registration is sought is of foreign manufacture, the certificate of origin must be furnished by the importer of such vehicle. The manufacturer or importer of all new vehicles shall designate the total shipping weight of the vehicle on the certificate of origin.

4. In applying for registration the buyer shall state the buyer's post-office address and county and city or township of residence and the dealer shall make specific inquiry relative thereto before completing the application.

...

#### **NDCC § 39-04-10.4. Antique motor vehicles--License and fee--Use**

1. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may be permanently licensed by the department upon the payment of a registration fee of ten dollars. The department shall design and issue a distinctive number plate for this purpose. In lieu of the distinctive number plate, the owner of the motor vehicle may, at the discretion of the director, display on the motor vehicle a number plate from the year in which the motor vehicle was manufactured or in the case of military vehicles, military identification numbers. The number plate from the year of manufacture or military identification numbers may not be used in lieu of a distinctive number plate when it would create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping system of the department. A number plate from the year of manufacture or military identification numbers must be legible and must be restored to the satisfaction of the department. Notwithstanding section 39-04-11, only one number plate needs to be displayed on a motor vehicle licensed under this subsection. Motor vehicles registered under the provisions of this section may not be used in the routine functions of a business or farming operation.

2. Any motor vehicle which is at least forty years old may, if not licensed under subsection 1, be permanently licensed using a personalized plate issued under section 39-04-10.3, in which case a one-time fee of one hundred dollars is due.

#### **NDCC § 39-04-10.6. Registration of motor vehicles owned by collectors**

A person who owns a motor vehicle that is at least twenty-five years old but that is not eligible for registration under section 39-04-10.4 may register that motor vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle. The motor vehicle is eligible for collector's registration if it is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and if the owner owns another motor vehicle the owner uses for general transportation. A motor vehicle qualifies as a collector's item under this section only if it is operated on public streets and highways for the purpose of driving the vehicle to and from active entry and participation in parades, car shows, car rallies, other public gatherings held for the purpose of displaying or selling the vehicle, and to and from service or storage facilities. An applicant for registration of a vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle shall file an affidavit with the director that states the owner's name and address, the make, year, and the manufacturer's identification number of the motor vehicle, and a statement that the motor vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation purposes. If the director is satisfied that the affidavit is true and correct, the director shall register the motor vehicle as a collector's motor vehicle on the payment of a registration fee of sixty dollars. The registration is valid as long as the collector's motor vehicle is owned by the person who applied for the registration under this section. The director shall design and issue distinctive number plates for collector's motor vehicles registered under this section. In lieu of the distinctive number plates, the owner of the motor vehicle, at the discretion of the director, may display on the motor vehicle number plates from the year in which the motor vehicle was manufactured. The number plates from the year of manufacture may not be used in lieu of distinctive number plates when it would create a duplication of a number in the recordkeeping system of the

department. Number plates from the year of manufacture must be legible and must be restored to the satisfaction of the department. A person violating this section or a department rule regarding this section forfeits the right to the registration provided in this section and any registration fees that have been paid.

**NDCC § 57-40.3-04. Exemptions**

There are specifically exempted from the provisions of this chapter and from computation of the amount of tax imposed by it the following:

...

9. Any motor vehicle registered under chapter 39-04 for the first time by a person other than a manufacturer of motor vehicles, as defined in section 39-01-01, who assembled the motor vehicle for that person's own use.

## **North Dakota Equipment Exemptions**

### **NDCC § 39-21-06. Stop lamps and turn signals required on new motor vehicle**

1. A person may not sell, offer for sale, or operate on the highways any motor vehicle registered in this state and **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964**, unless it is equipped with at least two stop lamps that are in good working order when lighted, are mounted on the rear on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, and meet the requirements of section 39-21-19 and this section, except that a truck tractor **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1964**, must be equipped with at least one stop lamp meeting the requirements of section 39-21-19.
2. A person may not sell, offer for sale, or operate on the highways any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered in this state and **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1952**, unless it is equipped with electrical turn signals in good working order which meet the requirements of section 39-21-19. This subsection does not apply to any trailer or semitrailer of less than three thousand pounds [1360.78 kilograms] gross weight.
3. A stop lamp on a vehicle must be located at a height of not more than seventy-two inches [182.88 centimeters] nor less than fifteen inches [38.10 centimeters] from the ground.

### **NDCC § 39-21-11. Visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps, and marker lamps**

1. Every reflector upon any vehicle referred to in section 39-21-08 must be of such size and characteristics and so maintained as to be readily visible at nighttime from all distances within six hundred feet [182.88 meters] to one hundred feet [30.48 meters] from the vehicle when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps, except that the visibility for reflectors on vehicles **manufactured or assembled prior to January 1, 1970**, must be measured in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps. Reflectors required to be mounted on the sides of the vehicle must reflect the required color of light to the sides, and those mounted on the rear must reflect a red color to the rear.
2. Front and rear clearance lamps must be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at a distance of five hundred feet [152.4 meters] from the front and rear, respectively, of the vehicle.
3. Side marker lamps must be capable of being seen and distinguished under normal atmospheric conditions at the times lights are required at a distance of five hundred feet [152.4 meters] from the side of the vehicle on which mounted.

### **NDCC § 39-21-41. Safety glazing material in motor vehicles**

1. No person may sell any new motor vehicle, nor may any new motor vehicle be registered, unless it is equipped with safety glazing material of a type approved by the department wherever glazing material is used in doors, windows, and windshields. The foregoing provisions

shall apply to all passenger-type motor vehicles, including passenger buses and schoolbuses, but in respect to trucks, including truck tractors, the requirements as to safety glazing material apply to all glazing material used in doors, windows, and windshields in the drivers' compartment.

2. The term "safety glazing materials" means glazing materials so constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to reduce substantially, in comparison with ordinary sheet glass or plate glass, the likelihood of injury to persons by objects from exterior sources or by these safety glazing materials when they may be cracked or broken.

3. The department shall maintain a list of types of glazing material by name approved by it as meeting the requirements of this section and may not register after January 1, 1964, any motor vehicle which is subject to the provisions of this section unless it is equipped with an approved type of safety glazing material, and it shall thereafter suspend the registration of any motor vehicle subject to this section which it finds is not equipped until it is made to conform to the requirements of this section. The requirements of this section **do not apply to antique automobiles** licensed under chapter 39-04.

#### **NDCC § 39-21-41.1. Safety belts**

1. Every passenger car **manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1965**, must be equipped with lapbelt assemblies for use in the driver's and one other front seating position.

2. All motor vehicles **manufactured after January 1, 1968**, must be equipped with any lapbelt or shoulder belt required at the time the vehicle was manufactured by standards of the United States department of transportation. Nothing in this subsection affects the requirement in subsection 1 for a lapbelt in the driver's seating position.

3. The department may except specified types of motor vehicles or seating positions within any motor vehicle from the requirements imposed by subsections 1 and 2 when compliance would be impractical.

4. No person may install, distribute, have for sale, offer for sale, or sell any belt for use in motor vehicles unless it meets current minimum standards and specifications of the United States department of transportation.

5. Every owner shall maintain belts and assemblies required by this section in proper condition and in a manner that will enable occupants to use them.

#### **NDCC § 39-21-52. Exemption for certain street rod motor vehicles**

The provisions of this chapter or chapter 37-12-02 of the North Dakota Administrative Code relating to bumpers, tires, and fenders **do not apply to street rod motor vehicles**. However, a street rod must have all equipment, in operating condition, which was specifically required by law as a condition for its sale when it was first manufactured. A street rod is a modernized motor vehicle which was manufactured before 1949 by a recognized manufacturer and which

retains the general appearance and original body configuration as manufactured or a motor vehicle designed and manufactured to resemble such a motor vehicle. A street rod may have improved modifications to the body, chassis, engine, brakes, power train, steering, and suspension systems either by modifying the original equipment or replacing original parts with fabricated parts or those taken from other existing vehicles. The director may adopt rules to implement this section.

#### **NDCC § 39-21-22. Single-beam road-lighting equipment**

Headlamps arranged to provide a single distribution of light are permitted on motor vehicles **manufactured and sold prior to one year after July 1, 1963**, in lieu of multiple-beam road-lighting equipment herein specified if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

1. The headlamps must be so aimed that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high-intensity portion of the light shall at a distance of twenty-five feet [7.62 meters] ahead project higher than a level of five inches [12.7 centimeters] below the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes, and in no case higher than forty-two inches [106.68 centimeters] above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of seventy-five feet [22.86 meters] ahead.
2. The intensity must be sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least two hundred feet [60.96 meters].