

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 13, 2020

REINSTATEMENT FEE DEBT REDUCTION AND AMNESTY PROGRAM

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles is implementing a driver's license reinstatement fee debt reduction and amnesty program for individuals whose driver's licenses have been suspended for specific violations.

Please note that commercial motor vehicle-related violations are not eligible for this program.

How to Apply

All eligible drivers will automatically receive a notice by mail of enrollment in the amnesty program.

- To activate the program and reinstatement fee payment plan, you must submit proof of insurance (*insurance card, declaration page, policy, or other proof that can be verified*).
- To apply for a complete waiver of fees, you must complete form **BMV 2829** and submit proof of indigence.

Proof of insurance, form **BMV 2829**, and/or proof of indigence may be submitted:

- By email: amnesty@dps.ohio.gov
- By fax: 1-614-308-5110
- In person at a deputy registrar license agency. NOTE: A service fee may be charged
- By mail to:
OhioBMV
Attn: ALS/Points
P.O.Box16521
Columbus, OH 43216-6521

Eligibility

The program only applies to a driver's license or permit suspension. It does not apply to a commercial driver's license or permit suspension.

Drivers do not need to submit an application. A one-time reduction will automatically be applied to any driver record when one or more offenses become eligible.

- The BMV will notify eligible drivers by mail and request current proof of insurance in order to activate the reduction.
- Drivers who can also provide proof of indigence will be eligible for a complete amnesty waiver.

If a driver in the amnesty program has remaining reinstatement fees, they will be placed on a payment plan requiring payment of at least \$25 every 30 days.

For more information, call us at 1-844-Ohio-BMV or log on to our [Live Chat](#).

Eligibility – Phase 1

Eligible offense(s) must have occurred **before** September 15, 2020, and 18 months have expired since the end of one of the court ordered suspension. Applicants may have other active suspensions.

- Commercial driver’s license or commercial permit holders are **not eligible**.
- When enrolled in the amnesty program, additional reinstatement fees or suspensions cannot be added to the plan.
- Must show valid proof of insurance. Eligible individuals will automatically go on amnesty fee payment plan upon providing proof of insurance.
- An individual may be eligible for complete waiver of fees with proof of indigence by showing participation in:
 - SNAP benefits - A SNAP Benefit approval letter or Self Service Portal Benefit Issuance Verification Screen printout.
 - MEDICAID - Medicaid online account Person History screen print showing eligibility.
 - OHIO WORKS FIRST - Benefit approval letter issued by ODJFS or online Case Summary screen print showing eligibility.
 - US Department of Veteran Affairs Pension Benefits Program - Screenshot of enrollment webpage showing name, benefits, enrollment expiration or renew.
 - Supplemental Security Income Program- screenshot of enrollment webpage showing name, benefits, enrollment expiration or renew.
- Individual has not previously participated in phase 1 of the permanent amnesty program. An individual may only be enrolled in the permanent amnesty program once in their lifetime.

Eligibility – Phase 2

Eligible offense(s) must have occurred **on or after** September 15, 2020, and 18 months have expired since end of at least one court-ordered suspension. Applicants may have other active suspensions.

- Commercial driver’s license or commercial permit holders are **not eligible**.
- When enrolled in the amnesty program, additional reinstatement fees or suspensions cannot be added to the plan.
- Must show valid proof of insurance. Eligible individual will automatically go on amnesty fee payment plan upon providing proof of insurance.
- An individual may be eligible for complete waiver of fees with proof of indigence by showing participation in:

- SNAP benefits - A SNAP Benefit approval letter or Self Service Portal Benefit Issuance Verification Screen printout.
- MEDICAID - Medicaid online account Person History screen print showing eligibility.
- OHIO WORKS FIRST - Benefit approval letter issued by ODJFS or online Case Summary screen print showing eligibility.
- US Department of Veteran Affairs Pension Benefits Program - Screenshot of enrollment webpage showing name, benefits, enrollment expiration or renew.
- Supplemental Security Income Program- screenshot of enrollment webpage showing name, benefits, enrollment expiration or renew.
- Individual has not previously participated in phase 1 or phase 2 of amnesty program. An individual may only be enrolled in the permanent amnesty program once in their lifetime.

Frequently Asked Questions

For questions not addressed below, please call 844-644-6268, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

What is the BMV Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative?

The Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Program is a permanent driver’s license reinstatement fee debt reduction and waiver program for offenders whose driver’s licenses have been suspended for specific violations. The program only applies to a driver’s license or permit suspension. It does not apply to a commercial driver’s license or permit suspension.

When will the BMV Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative start?

The permanent Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Program will begin on December 13, 2020.

What offenses are eligible for the reinstatement fee amnesty?

The BMV will determine an applicant’s eligibility based on the defined permissible qualifying offenses contained in the Ohio Revised Code.

- Any offenses involving alcohol, drugs, or deadly weapons or associated with an offense of this nature do not qualify.
- Commercial driver’s license and commercial temporary permit suspensions do not qualify.

Amnesty is based on when the eligible offense(s) occurred:

- **Phase 1:** Drivers who owe fees for at least one eligible offense that occurred before September 15, 2020, will be granted a reduction or waiver for those suspensions under the rules of Phase 1.
- **Phase 2:** Drivers who do not have offenses eligible for Phase 1, but owe fees for eligible offenses occurring on or after September 15, 2020, will receive a reduction or waiver for those suspensions under the rules of Phase 2.

What are the eligibility requirements for the reinstatement fee reduction?

1. Drivers must have been issued an Ohio driver license or temporary permit. Current CDL and CDL permit holders are not eligible.
2. Must owe fees on at least one eligible offense that occurred prior to September 15, 2020, to be eligible for Phase 1, **OR** at least one eligible offense that occurred on or after September 15, 2020, to be eligible for Phase 2.
3. At least 18 months have passed since the end of the period of the suspension ordered by the court for at least one of the eligible offenses. As long as one suspension meets the 18-month requirement, the reduction will be applied to the fees of all eligible offenses.

What are the eligibility requirements for a complete amnesty of reinstatement fees?

1. Drivers must have been issued an Ohio driver license, temporary permit, or ID card. Current CDL and CDL permit holders are not eligible.
2. Must owe fees on at least one eligible offense that occurred prior to September 15, 2020, to be eligible for Phase 1, **OR** at least one eligible offense that occurred on or after September 15, 2020, to be eligible for Phase 2.
3. The driver is indigent and can provide proof of indigence.

What can be shown for proof of indigence?

Drivers must show proof of participation in one of the following programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Ohio Works First Program
- Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI)
- Veteran's Affairs Pension Benefit Program

Drivers receiving benefits through Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services may provide proof by submitting a copy of their case status from the [Benefits Self-Service Portal](#) or a county JFS office. Proof of participation in these programs as well as documentation for SSI and VA benefits should include the driver's name as an authorized participant and the current status or current month.

How will I be notified if I am approved or denied for the reinstatement fee amnesty?

Once a record has been approved, the driver will be notified by mail. The notice will include:

- Fees to be reduced
- Outstanding fees
- How to submit proof of insurance to initiate the reduction
- How to submit proof of indigence for a complete waiver

I have not received a notice for the automatic reduction, but I believe I have eligible cases. Can I submit an application for the program?

Yes. In some situations, drivers may have eligible fees, but are not yet eligible for the reduction. A driver who believes they have eligible cases, may submit an application (form [BMV 2829](#)), current proof of insurance, and proof of indigence (if applicable) for review. More information on how to submit is on the application.

Am I eligible if I don't live in Ohio anymore?

If you had an Ohio driver's license or permit and owe reinstatement fees on eligible offenses, you will automatically be enrolled in the program. You also may submit proof of indigence for the waiver, if applicable. Please be sure to update your mailing address on our website or by calling 1-844-Ohio-BMV or through our [Live Chat](#).

I have a commercial driver license (CDL) and owe reinstatement fees. Can I apply for reinstatement fee amnesty?

No. CDL drivers are not eligible for Reinstatement Fee Amnesty.

Can I downgrade my CDL to an operator license and then apply?

Yes, but if you downgrade and later want to obtain another CDL, you will be required to start the process over from the beginning and retake all tests.

I have some offenses or suspensions that qualify for reinstatement fee amnesty and some that do not. How will this affect my eligibility?

Any suspensions that qualify will be reviewed and considered for a reduction in fees or complete amnesty. Suspensions that do not qualify will not be reviewed or considered and those reinstatement fees will remain the same. All fees will be included in the payment plan applied to records after amnesty is granted.

Do I need to fulfill my other reinstatement requirements to be considered for reinstatement fee amnesty?

No. Outstanding reinstatement requirements are not considered when determining eligibility for the program.



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES

APPLICATION FOR BMV REINSTATEMENT FEE AMNESTY INITIATIVE

Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) 4510.102

This is an application for the waiver of reinstatement fees through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). In order to have reinstatement fees waived, the applicant must meet eligibility requirements listed below, which are outlined in R.C. 4510.102. The application must include proof of current insurance (insurance card, declaration page, policy, or other proof that can be verified). Please complete this application and return it and the required proof of indigence documentation (listed below) to the BMV for review and approval. The applicant will receive notification by mail of whether their application was approved or denied.

WAIVER OF FEES

1. Applicant must have completed all court-ordered sanctions related to one of the eligible offenses other than the payment of reinstatement fees.
2. Applicant must provide proof of indigence by providing one of the following:
 - SNAP benefits – A SNAP Benefit approval letter or Self Service Portal Benefit Issuance Verification Screen printout,
 - MEDICAID – Medicaid online account Person History screen print showing eligibility,
 - OHIO WORKS FIRST – Benefit approval letter issued by ODJFS or online Case Summary screen print showing eligibility,
 - US Department of Veteran Affairs Pension Benefits Program – Screenshot of enrollment webpage showing name, benefits, enrollment expiration or renew, or
 - Supplemental Security Income Program- screenshot of enrollment webpage showing name, benefits, enrollment expiration or renew.

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		MIDDLE NAME	
DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER		PHONE NUMBER		DATE OF BIRTH	
E-MAIL ADDRESS					
ADDRESS (STREET)					
CITY		STATE	ZIP	COUNTY	
SIGNATURE X				DATE	

Send the completed application, along with proof of indigence, and proof of current insurance

By Email: amnesty@dps.ohio.gov	By Fax: 1-614-308-5110	By Mail: Ohio BMV Attn: ALS P.O. Box 16784 Columbus, OH 43216-6784	In Person: BMV Deputy Registrar office (listed at www.bmv.ohio.gov) A service fee will apply
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For questions or additional information, please visit www.bmv.ohio.gov or call Toll Free (844) 644-6268.