

March 26, 2020
Update #1



Kevin A. Shwedo
Executive Director

State of South Carolina

Department of Motor Vehicles

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles is diligently working to ensure the agency continues to perform its essential operations as we consider the impact of COVID-19 on the state. For these reasons, I am putting the following guidelines in place to assist our citizens:

- Treat all identification cards, non-commercial driver's licenses, beginner's permits, non-hazmat commercial driver's licenses, and commercial learner's permit with expiration dates from March 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, as valid until July 1, 2020. All public and private businesses, companies, agencies, and organizations of any kind are urged to accept these documents as valid. (CDLs and CLPs above were authorized for extension via March 24, 2020 guidance from FMCSA.)
- All vehicles, including commercial motor vehicles in the International Registration Plan engaged in interstate commerce traveling in or through the state of South Carolina, with registrations that expire March 2020 through June 2020 will be valid until July 1, 2020.
- Because some state residents are not able to pay vehicle property taxes in counties that are or will be closed to the public and because closure of county offices may delay issuance of tax bills, the Department of Motor Vehicles will suspend the collection of late fees for late vehicle registration renewals and suspend the suspension of driver's licenses for failure to pay property taxes for registration renewals that expire March 2020 through June 2020.
- Treat all traceable temporary license plates and 30-day temporary license plates with expiration dates of March 2020 through June 2020 as valid until July 1, 2020. Vehicles that have expired temporary plates that are not properly titled and registered within 45 days after July 1, 2020 will be considered as having expired registrations.

We ask all law enforcement agencies in South Carolina to take these measures into consideration. It is understood that expired South Carolina driver's licenses, beginner's permits, commercial driver's licenses, or commercial learner's permits and vehicle license plates may not be recognized outside of South Carolina. It is suggested, however, that a copy of this guidance be maintained by drivers or inside vehicles that fall into categories addressed above.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin A. Shwedo".

Kevin A. Shwedo
Executive Director, SCDMV