October 2025 Newsletter



Registration Applied for Cards/Temp Tags

A follow-up letter was sent to dealers on October 22, 2025, offering them further details regarding the forthcoming modifications to the Registration Applied For card process. The letter included the following information:

• An update on the commencement date of the new Registration Applied For card process (now set for January 1, 2025)
• Instructions on how to apply for an ARTS account, including guidance on completing the Privacy Act Agreement form
• A link to the instructions for creating Registration Applied For cards using the Dealer Inquiry Fee Estimator Tool
• The URL for the Registration Applied For stock website
• Guidelines on how to order the new secure stock
All these resources can be found on the Iowa DOT website at:
Registration Applied for Cards (Temp Tags) | Department of Transportation

Should a dealer reach out to your office with inquiries, you may direct them to the link provided above, or they can contact Dealer Programs at 515-237-3156. Please remember that the last day a dealer may utilize the handwritten cards issued through the County Treasurer's offices are December 31, 2025. After this date, the County Treasurer's offices will cease to supply stock to dealers.

Transit Plates Include Leasing Customers

Nonresident customers may apply to County Treasurers for transit paper plates to take their purchased or leased vehicle from Iowa to the nonresident's state. The transit plates are nontransferable, no refund shall be allowed, and they are void thirty days after issuance. A purchaser must provide the MCO/title, or a copy of the MCO/title, properly assigned to the purchaser. However, when the transit plates are requested in conjunction with an in-transit title, the original MCO or title properly assigned to the customer is required (not copies) to issue the in-transit title. A lessee must provide the leasing agreement or a copy of the leasing

agreement. If the customer provides the original MCO/title or leasing agreement, the county will make a copy and return the original to the customer after review.

Out-of-State Titles & SPOA for Dealer Transactions

When processing a title transfer from another state, counties may encounter situations where the title was held electronically through an Electronic Lien and Title (ELT) program. Unlike Iowa titles that note "PREVIOUS ELECTRONIC TITLE", out-of-state titles (OOS) typically do not include any notation indicating that they were part of an ELT program. In these cases, counties may accept a properly completed Secure Power of Attorney (SPOA) to facilitate the transfer, provided the title issuance date is after the dates listed in Sections A and B of the SPOA. Retain a copy of all paperwork with the title application for audit purposes.

DBA on Iowa Titles

Titles in Iowa must reflect the full legal name of a business as registered with the Iowa Secretary of State (SOS)—not the DBA (Doing Business As). DBAs are not legal entities and cannot hold ownership. To verify legal names and noted DBAs, use the SOS Business Entity Search at Business Entities Search If a title is assigned only to a DBA, confirm the associated legal name and issue the title accordingly. If a previously issued title lists only a DBA in error, you may verify that the DBA is officially associated with business, using references like the SOS website or documents provided by the applicant, and then proceed with the title transfer. Dealers may use DBAs on titles if the name is registered with the Iowa DOT and noted on the dealer's license.

Selling Towable Recreational Vehicles

This is a reminder that motor vehicle dealers are prohibited from selling towable recreational vehicles (RVs) under their Motor Vehicle Dealer license. To include a towable RV in their inventory and subsequently sell it at retail, a motor vehicle dealer must possess a Towable Recreational Vehicle Dealers license. Should a motor vehicle dealer wish to sell a towable RV without obtaining a Towable RV license, they must first register and title the towable RV, as well as pay the fee for new registration to acquire a title in their name, before proceeding with the sale of the towable RV.

Replacement Title Applications Print Date

The Application for Replacement Title (DOT Form 411033) is programmed in ARTS for efficient completion by county staff, and it matches the updated version that is customer-facing on the DOT Forms site (Seamless). Some of the information for the "county only" box is automatically filled. The "Print Date" line is filled with the date the county is completing the form, not the date of printing the actual

replacement title (5 days later). Counties may use this box at their discretion, including writing in the replacement title print date for record. MVD staff are looking for a solution.

Stolen Wyoming Title Stock

The state of Wyoming has experienced some theft of title stock. WY memo attached. If you encounter any of the stock numbers that have been reported as stolen, please reach out to your investigator immediately.

Mailing Labels

Reminder that mailing labels for Used Toner Cartridges and Imaging Units can be ordered online. https://lexmarktoner.bgmailing.com/

Thank you!

Reminder: Past newsletters can be located on the county vehicle resource site.

We want to hear from you! Please click here to share feedback regarding your experience with this newsletter.

Iowa Department of Transportation
county.vehicle@iowadot.us