

# Vehicle Due Date Extension and Penalty Waiver

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## New Information

Effective immediately, owners of vehicles with specific transactions that have fees due are granted an extension from the original due date to submit payment before being charged late fees/penalties.

**NOTE:** Customers can pay without incurring penalties, using any of the following service channels: mail, web, interactive voice response (IVR), and DMV NOW kiosks.

## Procedures

Waive late fees/penalties accrued if fees are paid within the within the guidelines below:

- Vehicle registration renewals—Vehicles with a registration expiration date of March 16, 2020, through May 31, 2020, will have 60 days from the expiration date to register before penalties are due.

**EXAMPLE:** The owner of a vehicle with a registration expiration date of April 10, 2020, will have until June 10, 2020, before penalties are due.

- Transfers of title—For any vehicle transfers of ownership application within 10 days is temporarily suspended through June 21, 2020.

**EXAMPLE:** If the Purchase is April 1, 2020, the new owner has until June 21, 2020 to transfer the title before the transfer penalty is due.

- Out-of-state registration—The requirement to register a vehicle acquired or previously based outside of California within 20 days once registration becomes due is temporarily suspended through June 21, 2020

**EXAMPLE:** If the registration fee is due on April 10, 2020, the owner has until June 21, 2020, to pay the fees before penalties are due.

- Motor carrier permits (MCPs)—The requirement for a current MCP is suspended through June 30, 2020. This suspension is applicable to MCPs that expired on March, 31, 2020, through June 30, 2020.

## Additional Information

Transfers of title may have a transfer penalty, registration penalties, and a use tax penalty. Use the procedures above to determine when the transfer penalty and registration penalties should be waived. Use tax penalties are not to be waived

Temporary operating permits (TOPs)—Any TOP issued for a failed smog check that expires on or after March 4, 2020 is valid through June 21, 2020.

**NOTE:** Employees are **not** to issue these TOPs for more than 60 days.

Vehicles with registration that expires on or after March 4, 2020, and before June 30, 2020, are permitted to operate without a month or year sticker affixed to the vehicle until June 30, 2020.

**Additional Information, *continued***

Vehicles with registration that expires between September 4, 2019, and January 1, 2020, may be operated and parked on a public highway or public parking facility without being towed until June 30, 2020. This does **not** mean they are exempt from receiving a citation for expired registration.

Customers who fall under the penalty waiver criteria listed above and have already paid penalties will automatically receive a refund. Customers will need to contact the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for any use tax penalty refunds.

<p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> If an application for registration, transfer, or out-of-state vehicle registration is <b>not</b> received with payment within the allotted time frame, late fees and penalties will be applicable and computed from the original due date.</p>
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**Background**

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, extensions have been granted for the payment of registration, transfer, and MCP fees.

**Reference**

Executive Order N-54-20

**Distribution**

Notification that this memo is available online at **dmv.ca.gov** under Publications was made via California DMV's Automated Email Alert System in May 2020.

**Contact**

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo.