

Dealer Connection

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) is proud to be a resource for the dealer community through the Dealer Connection newsletter.

South Carolina to Launch E-Titling Services for Dealers

South Carolina is preparing to launch E-Titling services for dealers through Commercial Digital Titles, positioning the state as one of the first in the nation to offer this technologically advanced capability.

This service is designed to deliver real, measurable benefits to dealership operations:

- **Faster Transactions** - Digital titles dramatically reduce processing times, helping dealers complete sales and move inventory more quickly.
- **Fraud Prevention** - Secure, verifiable digital records eliminate opportunities for title fraud and add confidence to every transaction.
- **Less Paperwork, More Sales** - A streamlined titling process means less time managing documents and more time serving customers.

South Carolina's adoption of Commercial Digital Titles reflects a shared commitment to modernizing the vehicle titling experience for dealers.

A full training rollout is planned for 2027. Additional details, timelines, and resources will be shared in the months ahead – stay tuned as we approach this milestone together.

In-state Dealer Transactions

ALL vehicles sold by an S.C. dealership to an S.C. customer must be processed through EVR unless the transaction is listed on the exemption list (see pg. 5).



Military Exemption

As a reminder, dealers must select the “non-resident” exemption for active-duty military members when processing title transactions in EVR. To claim exemption, the customer must provide a Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) from the appropriate department of the armed forces indicating their declared state of residence is any state other than S.C. Applying this exemption will reduce refund requests.

Customer Numbers

- When creating a customer number without a social security number, please use “999999999” as the social security number instead of random numbers.
- When requesting a customer number be created, please provide proof of address.
- Ensure the name matches exactly as it is listed on the credential when completing the forms, including the suffix.
- Please provide the apartment or suite number if one is listed.
- Ensure the forms are completed correctly.
- If known, please include the customer number on the request for address change forms.

Proof of Residency Within Nine Months

If you submit a Proof of Residency (POR) along with a TI-006, it must have been generated within the last nine months to be eligible. For a complete list of approved POR, please consult the MV-93 (US citizen) or MV-94 (lawfully present non-US citizen) forms.



Requesting Government License Plates

S.C. dealers should not send in their TR paperwork when a customer is requesting a government plate. Dealers must only process the title in EVR and the customer may mail-in the registration part.

Commission and State Board Plate Transfers

As a reminder, there is a \$10 fee for plate transfers. The \$10 transfer fee may be paid in office or by mail to Specialty Plates.

Credentials Uploaded to EVR

Effective August 26, 2026, dealers are required to upload a scanned copy of the ID presented for titling and registration. This includes both in-state and out-of-state credentials (DL, passport, etc.). Color scans are preferred, but legible black and white scans are acceptable.

Active S.C. Title Error Code

If you receive an active S.C. title error code when processing through EVR, email a copy of your out-of-state title to vehicle.compliance@dmv.sc.gov for review.

Manufacturer Certificate of Origin Backout

To request an MCO backout, please submit the following:

- Check, money order, or cashier's check in the amount of \$15 payable to SCDMV or DLA-12, Dealer Payment Transmittal.
- Statement from dealership, signed by the general manager or owner, explaining how the error occurred. Statement must include the year, make, and complete VIN of the vehicle.
- Statement from the customer that they did not take possession of the vehicle in question. Statement must include their original signature and must also include the year, make, and complete VIN (Power of Attorney from original sale is not allowed).
- Original incorrect S.C. title.

Mail Request to:

S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles
ATTN: STAR Unit
10311 Wilson Blvd
Blythewood SC 29016-0039



Camper Plates

Regular license plates (RP4) should not be issued for camper trailers. Campers must receive camper tags (KT1).

Utility Terrain Vehicle Registration and Plates

Starting November 18, 2026, Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) will be eligible for registration for use on some public roads. As a reminder, UTVs are a retail sale that collects sales tax. These transactions are processed in person at a branch office or via mail. They are not to be processed through EVR.

Transfer Plates

- At least one owner listed on the plate must match the newly listed owners
- Plates must have at least three months left on the current registration to be transferable (please view the registration for expiration date).
- The customer cannot provide a paid property tax receipt to a dealership for an expired tag. The tag will need to be renewed before transferring to the new vehicle.
- Customers may place the plate they are transferring on the new vehicle at the time of purchase. They will need to ensure they always have a copy of the previous registration and bill of sale for the new vehicle in the car until they receive their new registration.

Title Lien Number Suspense

- If you receive a TLN suspense code, the out-of-state title will need to be taken into a branch office. Please make a copy of the out-of-state title (front and back) before taking it into a branch office.
- If the name of the owner in suspense is different from the name on your out-of-state title, you can send an email with a copy of the out-of-state title to vehicle.compliance@dmv.sc.gov.

Temporary Plates Extended To 60 Days

Effective October 6, 2026, temporary license plates will see an extension in validity from the previous 45-day limit to **60 days**, pursuant to the amendment of [S.C. Code § 56-3-210\(L\)](#).

This statutory update establishes that all temporary plates must be valid for no more than 60 days and explicitly requires them to be securely and clearly affixed to the rear of the vehicle at all times in an unobscured manner.

Message from the Office of Inspector General

Planning Ahead Makes All the Difference. One of the most exciting milestones for a business owner is purchasing a dealership and preparing to open the doors for customers. We want that experience to be as smooth and successful as possible.

One of the best ways to avoid unnecessary delays is to **submit your dealership application at least 20 days before your anticipated purchase or opening date.**

Those 20 days provide time for our team to carefully review your application, identify and resolve any issues, schedule the required dealership inspection, avoid scheduling conflicts, and ensure all licensing requirements are met before you begin operations.

Our goal is to help every new dealership get off to a strong start while ensuring the licensing process is fair, efficient and timely for everyone.

We look forward to welcoming you to South Carolina's dealer community.

Dealer Tip: *A successful grand opening begins long before the ribbon is cut. Apply early—at least 20 days in advance—and let us help you start your business on the right foot.*

Exempted Transactions That Can Be Processed at Branch Offices

Dealers are required to contact their EVR Service Provider if there is an exception needed for a transaction not included on this list before going to a branch office.

- Transactions involving a housed-address duplicate title request
- EVR Transactions with system issues
 - Email approval
- Title corrections (finalized transaction)
 - No email needed
- Clearing a suspense title
 - Suspense codes (transactions that cannot be cleared after the dealer has contacted the service provider and the service provider has contacted the SCDMV—the branch office will be notified by email of the transaction that needs to be processed)
 - TLN suspense
- Government Vehicle/Fleet
 - Title must be processed through EVR
 - Plate requests are processed in a branch office or by mail
- Courtesy delivery
- Changing to a salvage rebuilt brand
- Brands from an out-of-state title to an S.C. title
- Manufacturer Certificate of Origin (MCO) to used car for dealer loaner vehicles
- Dealer titling in dealer name
- Lien Release Notice from lender
- Transactions collecting sales tax, not IMF
 - Trailers (personal use = sales tax, business use = IMF)
 - ATVs/off-road vehicles

- MCO Backout (MCO has been backed out due to an error, and the EVR system will not allow the dealer to transmit for the correct/new customer)
- Lease buyouts
- TI body-style error
- Multi-stage vehicles
- Renew and transfer plate (title must be processed through EVR)
- IFTA/IRP customers have options to complete the titling and registration of the newly acquired vehicle:
 - Option 1: Dealer processes via EVR System as a title-only transaction and the customer completes the IFTA/IRP either through the web portal or at one of the Motor Carrier branch offices.
 - Option 2-A: Dealer processes title at any SCDMV branch and the customer completes the IFTA/IRP either through the web portal or at one of the Motor Carrier branch offices.
 - Option 2-B: Customer handles both title and registration at one of the Motor Carrier branch offices.
 - Option 2-C: Dealer takes full packet to a Motor Carrier branch for processing.
- Trust