

2023 License & Registration Fee Rating.

Content pulled from the RMP REG 101 and REG 201 courses.



New Vehicle Fees

Whenever a transfer of ownership is recorded with the Department of Motor Vehicles, all fees due to the state must be paid. All fees required by the state to register a vehicle and transfer ownership may be charged to a customer. This includes license and registration fees, other miscellaneous fees, penalties and duplicate documentation fees. **Penalties that accrue due to a dealer's failure to pay fees on time cannot be passed on to the buyer.**

A few things to note when it comes to the rating of the DMV fees:

SMOG ABATEMENT: Smog Abatement Fee is NOT due on DIESELS, ELECTRIC vehicles, or vehicles registered in NON-BIENNIAL SMOG AREAS.

SELLING PRICE: "SELLING PRICE" means: (1) For vehicles sold using LAW[®] 553-CA and 553-CA-ARB retail installment sale contracts, Cash Price Vehicle (line 1.A.1.) + Cash Price Accessories (line 1.A.2.) + Theft Deterrent Devices + Surface Protection Products (lines 1.D.1. through 1.E.2.); (2) For leased vehicles, "agreed upon value" + accessories.

New Vehicle Fee Breakdown Charts

The following charts indicate the various fee breakdowns based on the type of vehicle being rated.

Automobiles

Vehicle license fee (VLF)	0.65% of vehicle market value
+ Registration fee	\$68 (\$65 + \$3 alternative fuel/technology fee)
+ CHP fee	\$30
+ Reflectorized license plate fee	\$1
+ Smog abatement fee	\$20 (six model years and newer)
+ County fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Weight fee	\$8-\$360 depending on weight (commercial vehicles only)
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Misc fees (special plate reassignment, etc.)	as applicable

Motorcycles

Vehicle license fee (VLF)	0.65% of vehicle market value
+ Registration fee	\$68 (\$65 + \$3 alternative fuel/technology fee)
+ CHP fee	\$30
+ Reflectorized license plate fee	\$1
+ Motorcycle cross index fee	\$1
+ Motorcycle safety fee	\$2
+ County fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Misc fees (special plate reassignment, etc.)	as applicable

Commercial vehicles operated under 10,000 lbs.

Lightweight trucks, vans, taxis and rental limousines with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 10,000 lbs or less are assessed weight fees based on the unladen weight of the vehicle:

Vehicle license fee (VLF)	0.65% of vehicle market value
+ Registration fee	\$68 (\$65 + \$3 alternative fuel/technology fee)
+ CHP fee	\$30
+ Reflectorized license plate fee	\$1
+ Smog abatement fee	\$20 (six model years and newer)
+ County fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Weight fee	\$8-\$360 depending on weight (commercial vehicles only)
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Misc fees (special plate reassignment, etc.)	as applicable

Unladen weight (lbs)	Fee	Unladen weight (lbs)	Fee
0 - 2,999	\$8	6,001 - 7,000	\$204
3,000 - 4,000	\$24	7,001 - 8,000	\$257
4,001 - 5,000	\$80	8,001 - 9,000	\$308
5,001 - 6,000	\$154	9,001 - 10,000	\$360

Electric vehicles

Unladen weight (lbs)	Fee
0 - 5,999	\$87
6,000 - 9,999	\$266
10,000 or more	\$358

Commercial vehicles operated at 10,001 lbs or more (CVRA)

Vehicles operating at 10,001 lbs. or more (GVW or CGVW) are assessed CVRA fees in lieu of weight fees. In addition, these vehicles are subject to higher CHP, decal and program fees:

Vehicle license fee (VLF)	0.65% of vehicle market value
+ Registration fee	\$68 (\$65 + \$3 alternative fuel/technology fee)
+ CVRA motor vehicle fee	\$122
+ CVRA CHP fee	\$50
+ CVRA decal fee	\$3
+ Cargo theft interdiction program fee	\$3
+ Smog abatement fee	\$20 (six model years and newer)
+ County fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Weight fee	\$332-\$2,064 depending on weight
+ Misc fees (special plate reassignment, etc.)	as applicable

NOTE

Pickup trucks with a body type model **4C, 3C, 4B, 3B, PC** and **PK** are assessed weight fees based on the unladen weight only. The unladen weight cannot exceed 8,000 lbs and the gross vehicle weight (GVW) must be less than 11,500 lbs.

Declared weight (lbs)	CVRA Fee	Declared weight (lbs)	CVRA Fee
10,001 - 15,000	\$332	45,001 - 50,000	\$1,161
15,000 - 20,000	\$447	50,001 - 54,999	\$1,270
20,001 - 26,000	\$546	55,000 - 60,000	\$1,431
26,001 - 30,000	\$586	60,001 - 65,000	\$1,562
30,001 - 35,000	\$801	65,001 - 70,000	\$1,701
35,001 - 40,000	\$937	70,001 - 75,000	\$2,004
40,001 - 45,000	\$1,028	75,001 - 80,000	\$2,064

Additional fees for CVRA vehicles:

CVRA motor vehicle fee	\$122 (included in weight fees listed above)
CVRA CHP fee	\$50
CVRA decal fee	\$3
Cargo theft interdiction program fee	\$3

Complete tables of all license and registration fees are available from the DMV website.

Note: Each county has their own CVRA fee. Reference the County Fee Add-on Chart for the CVRA fee by county.

Transportation Improvement Fee Chart

Vehicle Value	Registration Fee Amount Increase
Zero to \$4,999	\$29
\$5,000 to \$24,999	\$59
\$25,000 to \$34,999	\$118
\$35,000 to \$59,999	\$177
\$60,000 to higher	\$206

The following vehicles are exempt from the TIF:

- Commercial vehicles with unladen weight of more than 10,000 lbs.
- Vehicles exempt from registration fees
- Vehicles currently on planned nonoperational (PNO) status
- Vehicles with historical plates
- Nonresident Military

New Vehicle Fee Matrix

Vehicle Type	Standard Fee	Transportation Improvement Fee	Vehicle License Fee	Smog Abatement	Weight Fee	County Fee
Auto, Motorhome/Trailer Coaches	\$99 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate	\$29 to \$206 (see TIF fee chart)	0.65% of vehicle value	\$20	N/A	Varies by county
Auto - Hybrid	\$99 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate	\$29 to \$206 (see TIF fee chart)	0.65% of vehicle value	\$20	N/A	Varies by county
Pickup	\$99 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate	\$29 to \$206 (see TIF fee chart)	0.65% of vehicle value	\$20	\$8 to \$360 (see weight fee chart)	Varies by county
Commercial Truck/Van	\$124 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$50 CHP + \$3 CVRA Fee + \$3 Cargo Fee		0.65% of vehicle value	\$20	\$332 to \$2064 (see CVRA weight chart)	Varies by county
Trailer PTI	\$45 <i>includes:</i> \$20 Original + PTI \$25 PTI Title					
Motorcycle	\$102 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate + \$1 Moto X Index + \$2 Moto Safety	\$29 to \$206 (see TIF fee chart)	0.65% of vehicle value	N/A	N/A	Varies by county
OHV	\$52					
Auto IND	\$99 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate	\$29 to \$206 (see TIF fee chart)	N/A	\$20	N/A	Varies by county
Auto NRM	\$99 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate	N/A	N/A	\$20	N/A	Varies by county
Pickup NRM	\$99 <i>includes:</i> \$68 Reg + \$30 CHP + \$1 Plate	N/A	N/A	\$20	\$8 to \$360 (see weight fee chart)	Varies by county

New Vehicle Penalties

Within 1 year of date sold/first operated	Over 1 year, up to and including 2 years from date sold/first operated	Over 2 years from date sold/first operated
\$30 Registration fee penalty	\$50 Registration fee penalty	\$100 Registration fee penalty
+ \$30 CHP fee penalty	+ \$50 CHP fee penalty	+ \$100 CHP fee penalty
+ 40% of the VLF	+ 80% of the VLF	+ 160% of the VLF
+ 40% of the weight fee (if any)	+ 80% of the weight fee (if any)	+ 160% of the weight fee (if any)

Common Fee Exemptions

COMMON VEHICLE LICENSE FEE EXEMPTIONS: The following are the common vehicle fee exemptions for both new and used vehicle sales.

Nonresident Military	Nonresident military members and their spouses are exempted from the vehicle license fee (VLF) portion of the initial registration fees and the Transportation Improvement Fee (TIF). All other fees, including the county fee are due.
Native American	Federally-recognized Native American tribes or tribal members residing on a federal reservation or rancheria are exempted from the vehicle license fee (VLF). In addition, vehicles registered to a federally-recognized tribe and operated exclusively on tribal land are exempt from all fees other than the \$68 Registration fee.
Disabled Veteran	Disabled veterans are exempted from all fees (except duplicate plate/sticker) for one vehicle (auto, motorcycle or commercial 8,000 lbs or less), provided the vehicle displays disabled veteran license plates and is not used for hire or compensation.
Disabled Commercial Vehicles	Disabled individuals are exempted from the weight fee for one commercial vehicle weighing 8,000 lbs or less.
Exempt Vehicles	Vehicles registered or leased to qualified state, federal or local agencies are exempted from all registration fees.

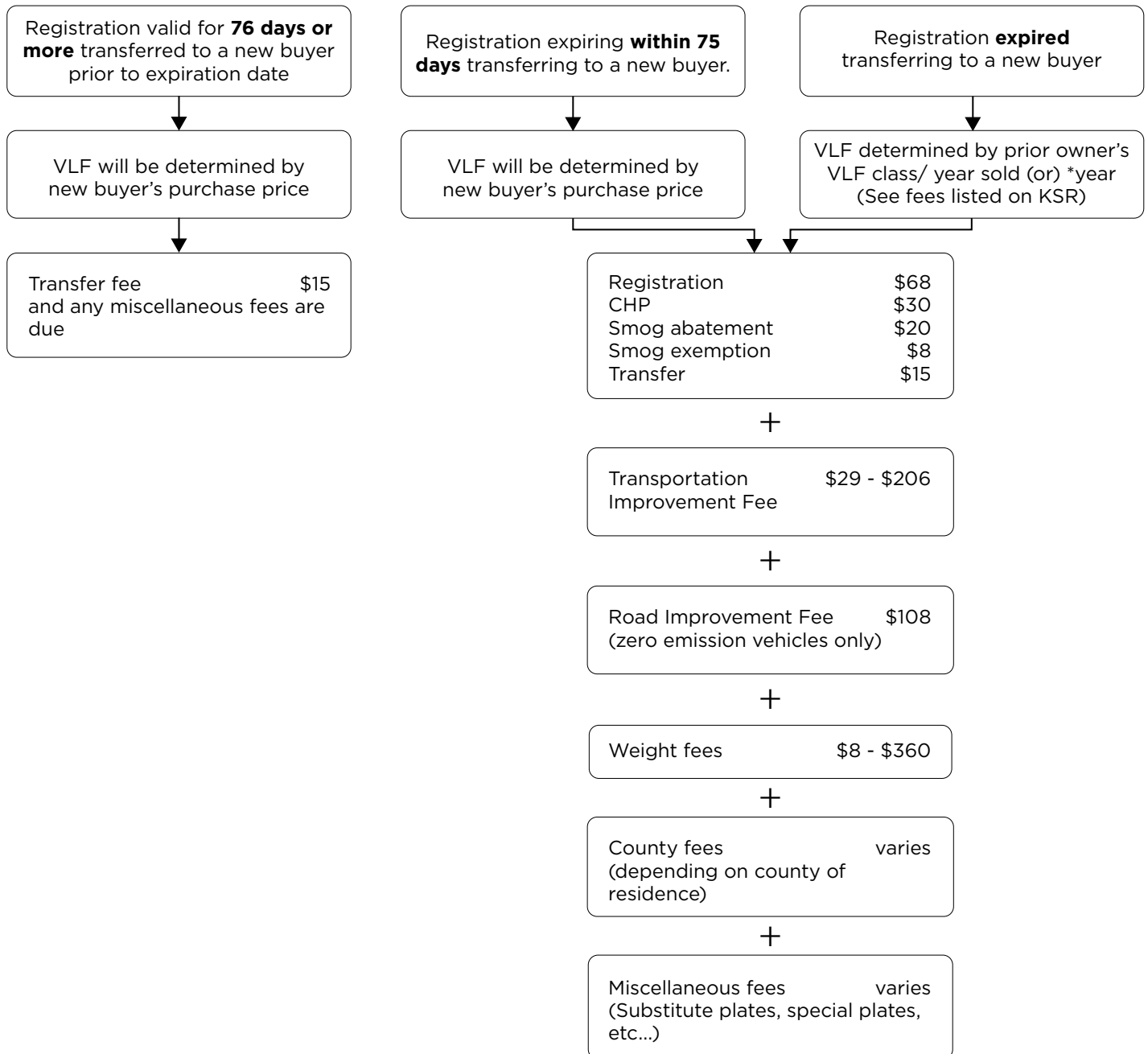
Used Vehicle Fees

SMOG ABATEMENT FEE of \$20 is generally collected on first six model years — 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018 — when paying renewal fees and the vehicle is to be registered in a biennial smog area.

SMOG ABATEMENT FEE of \$25 is generally collected on model years between seven and eight years old — 2017, 2016 — when paying renewal fees and the vehicle is to be registered in a biennial smog area.

SMOG EXEMPTION FEE of \$8 is generally collected on first four model years — 2023, 2022, 2021, and 2020 — in lieu of a smog certification fee. This fee should NOT be collected on vehicles older than four model years, prior out-of-state, diesels, or electric vehicles, or vehicles which would not otherwise require a smog certification.

NOTE: Smog Abatement Fee should NOT be collected on vehicles older than eight model years, prior out-of-state vehicles, vehicles to be registered in a non-biennial smog area, or on diesel or electric vehicles.



Vehicle Registered in California (Registration Valid for the Next 76 Days or More)

Transfer fee	\$15
+ Smog exemption fee (gas, diesel and hybrid powered vehicles, four model years)	\$8
+ Misc fees (substitute plates, special plates, etc.) as needed	

Vehicle Registered in California (Registration Expires Within the Next 75 Days)

Transfer fee	\$15
+ Smog exemption fee (see note above)	\$8
+ Vehicle license fee (VLF) based on purchase price and current year	0.65% of vehicle value
+ Registration fee	\$68
+ CHP fee	\$30
+ Smog abatement fee (gas, diesel and hybrid powered vehicles, four model years)	\$20
+ Misc county fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Weight fee (commercially designed vehicles only)	\$8-\$360 depending on weight
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Road Improvement Fee (zero emission vehicles only)	\$108
+ Misc fees (substitute plates, special plates, etc.) as needed	

Vehicle Registered in California (Registration Expired)

Transfer fee	\$15
+ Smog exemption fee	\$8
+ Vehicle license fee (VLF) Based on VLF class and *year or year 1st sold	Varies
+ Registration fee	\$68
+ CHP fee	\$30
+ Reflectorized license plate fee	\$1
+ Smog abatement fee	\$20
+ Misc county fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Weight fee (commercially designed vehicles only)	\$8-\$360 depending on weight
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Road Improvement Fee (zero emission vehicles only)	\$108
+ Misc fees (substitute plates, special plates, etc.) as needed	

Nonresident Vehicles

Vehicle license fee (VLF) Based on purchase price and current year	0.65% of vehicle value
+ Registration fee	\$68
+ CHP fee	\$30
+ Reflectorized license plate fee	\$1
+ Nonresident fee	\$25
+ Misc County fee	Varies depending on county of residence
+ Weight fee (commercially designed vehicles only)	\$8-\$360 depending on weight
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Road Improvement Fee (zero emission vehicles only)	\$108
+ Misc fees (substitute plates, special plates, etc.) as needed	

Lease Buyout

Transfer fee	\$15
+ Outstanding violation fees (if applicable)	
+ Registration renewal fees as noted above (If registration expires within the next 90 days)	
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Road Improvement Fee (zero emission vehicles only)	\$108
+ Misc fees (substitute plates, special plates, etc.) as needed	

Prior Repossession

Transfer fee	\$15
+ Smog exemption fee (Four model years)	\$8
+ Repossession fee	\$15
+ Registration renewal fees as noted above	
+ Transportation Improvement Fee	\$29-\$206 fees based upon current market value of vehicle
+ Road Improvement Fee (zero emission vehicles only)	\$108
+ Misc fees (substitute plates, special plates, etc.) as needed	

Used Vehicle Penalties (Registration Renewal)

If payment is late	The penalty will be the sum of
1-10 days	\$10 Registration fee penalty + \$10 CHP fee penalty + 10% of the VLF + 10% of the weight fee (if any)
11-30 days	\$15 Registration fee penalty + \$15 CHP fee penalty + 20% of the VLF + 20% of the weight fee (if any)
31 days to 1 year	\$30 Registration fee penalty + \$30 CHP fee penalty + 60% of the VLF + 60% of the weight fee (if any)
More than 1 year, up to and including 2 years	\$50 Registration fee penalty + \$50 CHP fee penalty + 80% of the VLF
More than 2 years	\$100 Registration fee penalty + \$100 CHP fee penalty + 160% of the VLF + 160% of the weight fee (if any)

Miscellaneous Fees

Personalized plate reassign	Varies
Duplicate title	\$25
Substitute plates (includes \$1 reflectorized plate fee)	\$25
Substitute sticker	\$25
Duplicate registration card	\$25
Expedited title processing (rush title)	\$15
Repo fee	\$15
Transfer Penalty	\$15

Common Fee Exemptions

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Native American	Federally-recognized Native American tribes or tribal members residing on a federal reservation or rancheria are exempted from the vehicle license fee (VLF). In addition, vehicles registered to a federally-recognized tribe and operated exclusively on tribal land are exempt from all fees other than the \$68 registration fee.
Disabled Veteran	Disabled veterans are exempted from all fees (except duplicate plate/sticker) for one vehicle (auto, motorcycle or commercial 8,000 lbs or less), provided the vehicle displays disabled veteran license plates and is not used for hire or compensation.
Disabled Commercial Vehicles	Disabled individuals are exempted from the weight fee for one commercial vehicle weighing 8,000 lbs or less.
Exempt Vehicles	Vehicles registered or leased to qualified state, federal or local agencies are exempted from all registration fees.