Persons with Disabilities Parking Privileges
Forms can be found online at DMV.Colorado.gov/forms-and-publications

Qualifications

The State of Colorado issues license plates and placards to qualified persons with disabilities to park in reserved parking spaces. Disability parking is provided to assure that individuals requiring additional space to enter or exit their vehicles have the needed space and provide parking as close to the main entrance of a facility. The disability privilege allows a qualifying individual to park in any space marked with the International Symbol of Access.

To be considered “disabled” and eligible for persons with disabilities license plates and/or placards, the applicant must have a physical impairment that meets the standards of 23 CFR 1235 listed below and have it verified in writing by a Medical Professional*.

1. Mobility: Persons who cannot walk two-hundred feet without stopping to rest.
2. Assisted Mobility: Persons who cannot walk without the use of, or assistance from, a brace, cane, crutch, another person, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or other assistive device.
3. Respiratory: Persons who are restricted by lung disease to such an extent that the person’s forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second when measured by spirometry is less than one liter, or the arterial oxygen tension is less than sixty mm/hg on room air or at rest.
5. Cardiac: Persons who have a cardiac condition to the extent that the person’s functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or IV according to the standards of the American Heart Association.
6. Other: Persons who are severely limited in their ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.

*Medical Professional means a physician licensed to practice medicine or practicing medicine under section 12-240-107(3)(i), a physician assistant licensed under section 12-240-113, a podiatrist licensed under article 290 of title 12, an advance practice nurse registered under section 12-255-111, or a physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, or advance practice nurse authorized to practice professionally by another state that shares a common border with Colorado. For the purposes of issuance of a ninety-day placard only, “professional” includes a chiropractor or physical therapist.

Plate and Placard Restrictions

- Disability placards/plates are only to be used by the person to whom they are issued. The privilege does not extend to a qualified person who may be in a vehicle but not entering or exiting at a particular location.
- Each qualified person or owner may receive either one set (two plates) of license plates and one placard, OR two sets of plates, OR two placards.
- The placard must be visible by hanging from the rear view mirror at all times that the vehicle is parked in disabled parking. It must be removed before driving the vehicle. The placard may be used in any vehicle where the owner is a passenger or driver. When displaying the placard, you must carry the placard registration receipt.
- Plates are valid for one year and must be renewed annually. They must be clearly displayed at all times the vehicle is parked in disabled parking. Front and rear plates are required with the exception of motorcycles. No other plate may be attached to the vehicle.
- If the vehicle is jointly owned, the registration receipt will identify the owner authorized to use the plate or placard. If more than one owner is eligible for disability privileges, each owner must apply individually to exercise these privileges.
- Persons that also qualify for a military special license plate may have that license plate issued to them as a person with disability license plate. The person must meet both person with disability qualifications and qualifications for the military special license plate they are desiring to be issued.

How to Apply for a Placard

Submit the items below to your County motor vehicle office. You may receive a temporary placard if your disability is not permanent. You may also receive a three year placard for permanent impairments as well as plates for either a motor vehicle or motorcycle.

1. Completed DR 2219 Persons with Disabilities Parking Privileges Application to your County Motor Vehicle Office.
2. Owner’s secure and verifiable identification is required (please see DR 2841 Secure and Verifiable ID for a list of acceptable documents).

NOTE: Issuance of three year placards to organizations that transport Persons with Disabilities can be obtained by completing the DR 2218 Business Entity Permanent Disability Placard Application.
How to Apply for Plates

Submit the items below to your County Motor Vehicle office.

2. A copy of the vehicle registration or title for the vehicle upon which the plates will be registered (The applicant’s name must appear as the owner or co-owner on the title of the vehicle).
3. Owner’s secure and verifiable identification is required (please see DR 2841 Secure and Verifiable ID for a list of acceptable documents).

Lost/Stolen Plates/Placards

If your placard or license plate is lost or stolen, you are required to report it to local law enforcement and your County Motor Vehicle Office immediately using form number DR 2283 Lost or Stolen License Plates/Permits Affidavit.

Recertification

- Every three years the applicant must re-certify their disability.
- Recertification must be completed on the DR 2219 Persons with Disabilities Parking Privileges Application or online at myDMV.Colorado.gov

Reciprocity

The State of Colorado honors valid disability license plates and placards issued by other states. Those issued in Colorado will also be honored when used in other states.

Loss of Privileges

The privileges granted to Colorado disability plate and placard holders will expire immediately when:
- Owner moves to another state.
- Owner is deceased.
- Owner is no longer disabled.

Surviving spouses or relatives are not entitled to continue use of these plates or placards. The disabled person’s County Motor Vehicle office must be notified within 30 days if any of the above circumstances occur and all plates and placards issued to that individual will need to be returned to that office.

Fines/Revocations

Any law enforcement officer or authorized uniformed parking enforcement official may check identification to ensure that the authorized user is a passenger or driver of a vehicle utilizing a disability license plate or placard in a disabled parking place.

Infractions may result in suspension/revocation of plate and/or placard, fines of up to $5,000 and community service. For information regarding fines or revocations, please call (303) 205-5607.

References

23 CFR 1235, 42-3-204, C.R.S., 42-4-1208, C.R.S.