

810-5-1-.225 Disability Access Parking Privileges.

(1) Disability Access Parking Credentials. Evidence of qualification for disability access parking privileges shall be a removable windshield placard, a temporary removable windshield placard, or the disability access license plate as provided in 23CFR § 1235 and Sections 32-6-230 and 40-12-300, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975.

(2) Issuance of Disability Access Parking Credentials. County license plate issuing officials shall accept Form MVR 32-6-230-"Application for Disability Access Parking Privileges" from persons with disabilities and from organizations transporting persons with disabilities [see paragraph (9) below] in order to issue disability access license plates and/or removable windshield placards or temporary removable windshield placards. Upon presentation of the application, the county license plate issuing official shall verify that the application has been properly completed. The county license plate issuing official shall indicate in the designated space on the application the number shown on the placard and/or the disability access license plate number. The fee for the disability access license plate shall be the regular license fee, as provided in Section 40-12-300, Code of Alabama 1975. There shall be no fee for the removable windshield placard or temporary removable windshield placard.

(3) Display of Credentials. In accordance with 23CFR §1235.4, removable windshield placards shall be "displayed in such a manner that it may be viewed from the front and rear of the vehicle by hanging it from the front windshield rearview mirror of a vehicle utilizing a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities. When there is no rearview mirror, the placard shall be displayed on the dashboard." It is NOT required that a motor vehicle being used by a person with disabilities display both the disability access license plate and the placard. Individuals that do not have disability access license plates, including those that do not own a motor vehicle, may request one (1) additional removable windshield placard, for a total of two (2) placards.

(4) When Credentials May Be Used. A motor vehicle may be parked in a disability access parking space only when the vehicle is being used to transport or is being operated by the person with disabilities to whom the disability access license plate and/or placard was issued; provided, that an organization qualified under paragraph (9) of this rule and displaying the disability access license plate upon an organization-owned motor vehicle may also park in a designated disability access parking space when the vehicle is being used to transport persons with disabilities.

(5) Periodic Renewal. Removable windshield placards and disability access license plates shall, in accordance with 23CFR §1235.4, be subject to "periodic renewal," which is to be based on the five (5) year renewal cycle for private passenger automobiles and pickup truck license plates as provided under Section 32-6-62, Code of Alabama 1975. The month of renewal shall be based on the staggered system as provided under Section 32-6-61, Code of Alabama 1975.

(6) Recertification. Upon expiration of the removable windshield placard and/or the five (5) year disability access license plate, the person with disabilities would be required to reapply by completing the self-certification on Form MVR 32-6-230, which is to be provided to the county license plate issuing official before a new removable windshield placard and/or disability access license plate shall be issued. However, the Commissioner may elect to require all persons with disabilities to be recertified by a licensed physician, as defined in Section 32-6-230, Code of Alabama 1975, using Form MVR 32-6-230 before disability access parking credentials may be reissued.

(7) Replacement License Plates and Removable Windshield Placards. In the event that the disability access license plate or placard is lost or stolen, or becomes mutilated, a replacement disability access license plate or placard may be issued upon application to the county license plate issuing official and completion of the replacement disability access license plate and/or placard affidavit on the reverse of Form MVR 32-6-230.

(8) Maintenance of Application Forms. In issuing the disability access license plates or removable windshield placards, the licensing officials shall record on Form #MVR 32-6-230 the issued license plate or placard number. This form shall be maintained by the issuing official for audit by the Examiners of Public Accounts. In addition, the form must be maintained to be compared with Form #32-6-230 A when re-issuing disability access parking credentials.

(9) Obtaining of Disability Access License Plates by Organizations or Governmental Entities. 23CFR §1235.3[b] provides for disability access license plates for organizations using vehicles primarily to transport persons with disabilities. The disability access license plates may be issued to nursing homes, commissions on aging, special schools for persons with disabilities, and similar organizations when an official of the organization certifies on the "Application for Disability Access Parking Privileges" under the "Organizations Only" portion that the vehicle is being primarily used to transport persons with disabilities (note that the "Physician's Certification" portion of the application is NOT to be completed by the organization). If county license plate issuing officials have reservations regarding the issuance of disability access license plates to an organization, the official may request, in writing, from the organization a description of the mission, purposes, etc. of the organization, and how the vehicle is to be, or is being used. Such organizations may recertify upon expiration of the disability access license plates by completing Form MVR 32-6-230. If the organization is a state, county or municipal governmental entity, which requires governmental license plates under the provisions of Section 40-12-250, Code of Alabama 1975, said governmental agency may request the Department of Revenue to issue governmental license plates containing the International Symbol of Access.

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Authority: Sections 40-2A-7(a)(5) and 32-6-53, Code of Alabama 1975

Public Law 100-641 and federal regulations adopted under 23CFR Sec
1235

History:

New rule filed May 15, 1987.

Amended September 17, 1997, effective October 22, 1997.

Amended: Filed May 6, 2011, effective June 10, 2011.