

SB2035 FAQ for Motor Vehicle Dealers

SB2035 OVERVIEW

What is Senate Bill 2035?

SB2035, also known as the Mason Treat Act, signifies a fundamental shift in the way license plates are issued in the state. Starting on Sept. 1, 2024, this new legislation will limit the amount of time temporary paper tags are on vehicles, with the goal of improving road safety and compliance.

The law is named after Senate Pro Tempore Greg Treat's son, who was critically injured in January 2024 during a routine traffic stop. Canadian County Deputy Jose Tayahua-Mendoza was also seriously hurt.

SB2035 requires dealers to submit pre-registration information to the state within two business days of a sale. The pre-registration information submitted by the dealer will then be used by licensed operators to mail metal plates and pre-registration decals directly to the customer within ten days.

Under this law, a temporary paper tag will only be good for ten days after the purchase of a vehicle in Oklahoma. Within that time frame, buyers must get a metal license plate and two temporary decals through a new pre-registration process. After the pre-registration is completed, buyers will still have two months from the date of purchase to fully register their vehicles.

What is the new vehicle registration process?

When the law takes effect on Sept. 1, 2024:

- ▶ After a vehicle sale is made, dealers will have two business days to submit pre-registration information online. Business days are defined as Mondays through Fridays excluding [state holidays](#).
- ▶ In Oklahoma, license plates are assigned to people, not vehicles. Buyers often transfer their existing plates to new vehicles, and dealers should ensure these plates are affixed to the newly purchased vehicles. If a buyer is not transferring a metal license plate, the dealer will issue a temporary paper plate.
- ▶ A Service Oklahoma licensed operator selected by the dealer* will then mail two pre-registration decals to the customer within ten days of the sale so they can be added to their existing metal license plate. If the buyer is not transferring a metal license plate, they will also be mailed a metal license plate with their pre-registration decals already affixed to the plate.



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- ▶ * There is a section in the dealer's OkCARS account that will allow them to select a licensed operator to use for all transactions. If this is set, then the dealer will not have to select a licensed operator each time they enter pre-registration information. If you need assistance setting up your preferred licensed operator, please reach out to DealerSupport@service.ok.gov and our team will be happy to assist.
- ▶ The buyer must affix a metal license plate with pre-registration decals on their vehicle within ten days of the purchase.
- ▶ After the pre-registration is completed, Oklahomans will still have two months from the date of purchase to fully register their vehicles. They will then replace their pre-registration decals with the standard month and year decals.

The new pre-registration process applies to all vehicles (new or used) purchased in the state of Oklahoma on or after Sept. 1, 2024, regardless of whether the vehicle will be fully registered in another state, jurisdiction or with a tribe.

Vehicles purchased in Oklahoma prior to Sept. 1 do not have to be pre-registered and their temporary paper tags will remain valid for two months rather than ten days. The buyers of those vehicles must still complete full registration within two months of purchase.

What vehicles are exempt from pre-registration?

The following vehicle registration types are not subject to pre-registration under SB2035:

- ▶ ATV / UTV
- ▶ Boat and outboard motor
- ▶ Commercial trailer
- ▶ Commercial rental trailer
- ▶ Construction machinery
- ▶ Farm trailer



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- ▶ Forest trailer
- ▶ Manufactured home
- ▶ Mobile chapel
- ▶ Off-road motorcycle
- ▶ Private trailer
- ▶ Special mobilized trailer
- ▶ Trailer exempt

PRE-REGISTRATION: STEPS FOR DEALERS

What do dealers have to do when selling a vehicle?

SB2035 requires dealers to submit pre-registration information to the state within two business days of a sale. The pre-registration information submitted by the dealer will then be used by licensed operators to mail metal plates and pre-registration decals directly to the customer within ten days.

To meet those requirements, we're making it easy for dealers to submit the pre-registration information online through OkCARS.

- ▶ After a sale is made, dealers will have two business days from the date of sale to submit pre-registration information to Service Oklahoma. The dealer selects the licensed operator that will process the information.
- ▶ If the customer is transferring an existing state of Oklahoma metal license plate, the dealer will input that information during the pre-registration. If the customer is not transferring a metal license plate, the dealer will issue the customer a temporary paper tag valid for ten days and input the temporary paper tag information during pre-registration.
- ▶ The customer will then receive an email confirming that the dealer submitted the pre-registration.



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- ▶ Next, the selected licensed operator will mail the customer two pre-registration decals to be affixed to the customer's existing metal license plate. If the customer is not transferring a metal license plate, the selected licensed operator will mail the customer a metal license plate with pre-registration decals already affixed.

If the customer does not have a metal license plate to transfer to their new vehicle, one will be sent to the customer with their pre-registration decals. All the customer has to do is affix the metal license plate onto their vehicle within ten days of the purchase date, replacing the temporary paper tag.

If the customer is transferring an existing metal license plate to their newly purchased vehicle, the licensed operator will only send the pre-registration decals. The customer will then attach the decals onto their existing metal license plate. This must be done within ten days of the purchase date.

How do dealers submit pre-registration information to Service Oklahoma?

Dealers will be able to enter pre-registration information through a dealer login on [OkCARS, Service Oklahoma's motor vehicle system](#). Dealers will enter pre-registration information for each sale and choose a licensed operator (formerly known as a tag agent) to process the transactions. They have the option to select a preferred licensed operator for all transactions or choose one for each individual sale.

Active licensed dealers can log in to an existing OkCARS login or request a dealer login. If a dealer has never been issued a dealer license plate from Service Oklahoma, they should reach out to DealerSupport@service.ok.gov for help creating an OkCARS login.

To provide flexibility based on a dealer's needs, they can also upload bulk sales transactions through a file transfer via their Dealer Management System (DMS) provider or an approved temporary tag vendor.

If you'd like to explore the DMS option, please contact the Service Oklahoma team at DealerSupport@service.ok.gov for technical specifications.



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Correction notice (updated Aug. 23, 2024): The following fields will be included when submitting pre-registration information through an OkCARS submission or file transfer.

- ▶ VIN
- ▶ Year
- ▶ Make
- ▶ Model
- ▶ Vehicle type - blank if it is an auto, M if it is a motorcycle
- ▶ Plate type - T for temporary or P for plate
- ▶ Plate number
- ▶ Date of sale
- ▶ Buyer name, address, city, state, zip, email and phone number
- ▶ Dealer license number (new or used)

In an OkCARS submission, the following fields will also be required.

- ▶ Is buyer registering in Oklahoma? If no, free form reason is required
- ▶ Primary owner type - business or individual

If an individual is unable to provide an email addresses or phone number, dealers may proceed as follows:

No Email: Dealers who are submitting pre-registration information through OkCARS will need to select the checkbox that state “No Email Provided”. Selecting this check box will prompt a message stating that customers will not receive notifications through the vehicle registration process.

No Phone Number: Dealers who are submitting pre-registration information through OkCARS will need to select the checkbox that state “No Phone Number Provided”. Selecting this check box will prompt a message stating that customers cannot be contacted by phone during their vehicle registration process.



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Dealers who are submitting pre-registration information through a file transfer should note that all file transfers submitted with the correct file layout will be accepted. Errors or missing fields will not result in the rejection of the file as a whole but will require research and review by Service Oklahoma or a licensed operator on the impacted transactions.

The inclusion of all customer contact information, including email address and phone number, is strongly encouraged as effective communication is crucial to the success of Oklahoma's new quick and secure vehicle registration process.

Dealers will have two months from the date of sale (which is when the buyer is required to complete their full registration with Service Oklahoma) to void the transaction through OkCARS or file transfer.

Why is buyer contact information included in pre-registration?

Oklahoma's new quick and secure vehicle registration process includes obtaining customer contact information to ensure buyers have all the necessary information to meet the new registration requirements.

Quick and effective communication is crucial to the success of this process. By providing an email address, customers will receive timely, personalized updates from Service Oklahoma, freeing dealers to focus on vehicle sales rather than registration logistics.

Service Oklahoma's pre-registration emails will include:

- ▶ contact information for the licensed operator processing the transaction.
- ▶ status updates on metal plates and/or pre-registration decals.
- ▶ opportunities to verify customer information to ensure timely receipt of metal plates or decals, allowing compliance within ten days of purchase.
- ▶ resources for assistance if plates or decals do not arrive on time.

Without this direct communication, dealers may face increased customer inquiries, leading to frustration for both parties.



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Will dealers still affix temporary paper tags onto vehicles they sell?

Customers who are not transferring an existing Oklahoma metal plate should receive a temporary paper tag that will be good for ten days under the new law. Temporary paper tags should be affixed onto customers' vehicles until they receive their metal license plates and pre-registration decals. The date on the paper tag should be the date that the paper tag expires: ten days from the date of sale.

If a customer is transferring an Oklahoma metal license plate, the dealer should ensure these plates are affixed to the newly purchased vehicle instead of a temporary paper tag.

Do dealers have to order temporary paper tags through specific vendors?

Yes, dealers must order temporary paper tags through their motor vehicle commission-approved vendors. Authorized temporary tag vendors for both franchised new motor vehicle dealers and independent used motor vehicle dealers can be found online [here](#).

Will dealers be required to issue metal plates?

No, metal license plates will continue to be issued by Service Oklahoma licensed operators (formerly called tag agents).

Is pre-registration required if a customer bought a car in Oklahoma but does not intend to ever fully register their vehicle in the state?

Yes. The pre-registration process applies to all vehicles (new or used) purchased in the state of Oklahoma on or after Sept. 1, 2024, regardless of whether the vehicle will be fully registered in another state, jurisdiction or with a tribe.

Vehicles purchased in Oklahoma prior to Sept. 1 do not have to be pre-registered and their temporary paper tags will remain valid for two months rather than ten days.



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Will members of tribal nations need to pre-register their vehicles?

Pre-registration is required for all vehicles purchased in Oklahoma on or after Sept. 1, 2024, even if the customer plans to complete full registration with their respective tribes. Customers with existing Chickasaw Nation and Choctaw Nation license plates can transfer their plates to their newly purchased vehicles during pre-registration.

All other tribal nation members will need to get new plates during pre-registration rather than transfer their existing plates. This means dealers will need to provide temporary paper tags for their vehicles while they wait for licensed operators to mail out their Oklahoma metal plates and pre-registration decals.

What if a customer purchased a vehicle from a dealer prior to Sept. 1, 2024?

All vehicles purchased in Oklahoma before Sept. 1, 2024, will not have to be pre-registered because their temporary paper tags will still be valid for two months rather than ten days. This means that someone who bought a car in Oklahoma on Aug. 31 will not have to get a metal license plate and pre-registration decals in ten days. However, that person must still complete full registration within two months of purchase.

Will there be a penalty if dealers do not submit pre-registration information within two business days of the sale?

Delaying the submission of the pre-registration information may result in customers receiving their metal plates and/or pre-registration decals late. Customers would then be unable to affix the plates and decals within the required ten-day window from the date of purchase. This may result in customers facing penalties at the discretion of law enforcement.

Is SB2035 going to change the process of adding liens through licensed operators?

No, the process is not changing. While the paper process for adding liens with a licensed operator is a viable option, liens can also be added during the initial sale process from dealers' OkCARS portal.

However, if a dealer decides to submit pre-registration information through a file transfer, liens will still need to be added through their OkCARS dealer login.



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PRE-REGISTRATION: PLATES AND DECALS

What are pre-registration decals?

Pre-registration decals signify that while the vehicle sale information has been sent to the state, the vehicle has not been fully registered. Under the new law, anyone who buys a new or used vehicle must get a metal license plate and pre-registration decals on their vehicle within ten days of purchase. Once that's done, buyers will still have two months to fully register their vehicles.

What pre-registration decals will customers receive?

Buyers will receive two pre-registration decals: one that shows the month the decals expire (two months from the date of vehicle purchase) and another decal that says, "TEMPORARY." The month decal should be on the top left corner of the metal license plate while the "TEMPORARY" decal should be on the top right corner.

For those receiving a metal license plate with their pre-registration decals, the licensed operator will have already attached the two pre-registration decals onto the metal license plate before mailing the plate to the buyer.

Once the buyer completes registration, they will receive the standard month and year decals to place over the pre-registration decals on the metal license plate.

What if a customer wants to keep their existing plate?

Instead of getting a new metal license plate during the pre-registration process, the buyer can transfer their current plate to their newly-purchased vehicle. The dealer will submit the existing plate information to Service Oklahoma and the buyer will only receive the two pre-registration decals, which must be affixed to the buyer's existing metal plate within ten days of the vehicle purchase.



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STEPS FOR CUSTOMERS AFTER PRE-REGISTRATION

Who should customers contact if they do not receive their pre-registration decals and metal license plates within ten days of vehicle purchase?

Customers should contact the licensed operator selected by the dealer during the submission of the pre-registration information. The contact details for that licensed operator will be in a confirmation email that the customer receives after the pre-registration information was submitted. Alternatively, customers can contact Service Oklahoma at (405) 522-7000 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

How long will customers have to complete their full registration after they pre-register their vehicle?

Oklahomans will still have two months from the date of purchase to complete their vehicle registration and will then replace the pre-registration decals with the standard month and year decals.

After a dealer picks one licensed operator for pre-registration, can the customer choose a different licensed operator for full registration?

Yes, a customer can choose another licensed operator for full registration if the location is more convenient for them.

Does the new pre-registration process mean customers have to pay their fees earlier than before?

No, a vehicle buyer does not pay anything during pre-registration. Only once they fully register their vehicles within two months from the date of purchase will they have to pay the tag, title and tax.



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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

How can dealers ask questions on SB2035?

Service Oklahoma is hosting weekly virtual sessions called Dealer Office Hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. to answer questions and discuss the changes.

[Click here to join Dealer Office Hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.](#)

Dealers can also send questions to the Service Oklahoma team at DealerSupport@service.ok.gov.

Can dealers offer feedback?

Yes, dealers can share feedback at DealerSupport@service.ok.gov. Service Oklahoma is always looking for ways to make the experience better and more seamless for dealers.

In addition to providing input during Dealer Office Hours, dealers can [fill out this brief survey](#) to let Service Oklahoma know how they plan to submit pre-registration information. Service Oklahoma will use the results to ensure that dealers have everything they need for a successful implementation of SB2035.

How will Oklahomans know about the new pre-registration process?

Service Oklahoma has implemented the Ready, Set, Tag! statewide public awareness campaign to ensure Oklahomans understand the new, quick and secure vehicle registration process and how it will improve road safety for drivers and law enforcement officers. Oklahomans can visit ReadySetTag.com to learn more.

