

## Texas A&M AgriLife Research Procedures

### 21.01.08.A0.01 | Vehicle Titles, License Plates, Registration, and Conversions



Reviewed: April 9, 2021

Next Scheduled Review: April 9, 2026

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#### PROCEDURE SUMMARY

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The Texas Transportation Code, which sets out vehicle registration requirements, requires that all state-owned motor vehicles be registered by obtaining a certificate of title and exempt license plates. These regulations also require that each year in which a vehicle is used or to be used on a public highway, it must pass a state inspection.

This procedure provides guidance to units for obtaining vehicle certificates of title, exempt license plates, and guidelines on vehicle conversions.

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#### PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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##### 1.0 CERTIFICATES OF TITLE AND EXEMPT LICENSE PLATES

- 1.1 When a vehicle is purchased or received by transfer of title, the unit head or unit designee will be responsible for acquiring the titles and license plates in accordance with the following procedures:
  - A. Obtain a certificate of title (not required for trailers less than 4,000 lbs. loaded weight) by submitting a Texas Department of Transportation Form 130U, *Application for Texas Title* (available online at <http://txdmv.gov/> or from the County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office), signed by the unit head or unit designee, along with the manufacturer's certificate of origin or other evidence of transfer of ownership, to the county tax office.

Upon receipt of the title, file a copy of the title into Laserfiche section 5.6.5. Texas A&M AgriLife (AgriLife) Property will have view access to this folder to obtain information as required.
  - B. Complete a Texas Department of Transportation Form 62A, *Application for Standard Texas Exempt License Plates* (available online at <http://txdmv.gov/> or from the County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office), have it signed by the unit head or unit designee, and submit to the county tax office.
- 1.2 Upon receipt of the license plates and title, create a vehicle folder, and file the title and vehicle information. Scan title and registration into Laserfiche section 5.6.5.1. Have the license plates installed on the vehicle.
- 1.3 Following the initial registration, vehicles with exempt license plates do not need to be re-registered annually in accordance with the Texas Transportation Code.
- 1.4 Retain the exempt plates for as long as the vehicle is owned and operated by Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research). Upon the sale or disposal of the vehicle, the exempt license plate along with the receipt issued will be collected by the unit head or unit designee and submitted to the county tax office.
- 1.5 There is no requirement to re-register a motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer which is not used on the public highways as defined by the Texas Transportation Code.

## 2.0 CONVERSION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

- 2.1 When a vehicle is junked, dismantled, destroyed, or altered in such a manner that it loses its identity as a vehicle, or is not the vehicle described on the certificate of title, the unit head or unit designee, will surrender the title and license plates as outlined in section 1.0 above.
- 2.2 When a vehicle is rebuilt or assembled so that it is a vehicle without proper certificate of title, a new certificate of title should be obtained. To obtain the certificate of title, a county tax assessor-collector requires an applicant for registration for the rebuilt vehicle provide a statement that the vehicle is rebuilt, a photo of the vehicle, a weight slip, and the old title. Additionally, follow the procedures in paragraph 1.0 above before using the vehicle.
- 2.3 Notify the AgriLife Property and Fleet Management Office of any motor vehicle conversions.

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## RELATED STATUTES, POLICIES, OR REQUIREMENTS

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[A&M System Policy 21.01](#), *Financial Policies, Systems, and Procedures*

[A&M System Regulation 21.01.08](#), *Vehicle Fleet Management*

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## DEFINITIONS

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*Vehicle*—all devices in or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn on a public highway.

*Trailer*—a vehicle that is used to carry a load on itself and is drawn by a motor vehicle.

*Semi-trailer*—a vehicle that is designed to be used with a motor vehicle so that part of the load is carried on another vehicle.

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## CONTACT OFFICE

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Questions regarding this procedure should be referred to the AgriLife Property and Fleet Management Office at 979-314-0951.

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## REVISION HISTORY

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Approved: July 2, 1998  
Revised: November 13, 2010  
July 25, 2012  
July 25, 2014  
August 1, 2017  
Review: April 9, 2021

Next Scheduled Review: April 9, 2026