

REGISTERING YOUR CAR AND OBTAINING AUTO TAGS

North Carolina License Plate Agency (<https://www.ncdot.gov/>)

You must have a **North Carolina Driver's License** OR a **North Carolina Learner's Permit** OR a **North Carolina State ID** to register your car. The DMV offices listed below are where you get your license plate and register your car. You go to a **different** DMV Office to get your NC State ID, Learner's Permit, or License. Please refer to our handout *Getting a North Carolina Driver's License* for locations to obtain a License, Permit, or ID.

Durham License Plate Agency

Northgate Mall
1058 West Club Blvd. Suite 626, Durham, NC 27701

919.286.4908

Monday – Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Chapel Hill License Plate Agency

Gateway Commons Plaza
1704-B E. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill
NC, 27514

919.521.8600

Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm

You must bring the following to register your car:

- NC Driver's License, NC Driver's Permit, NC State ID, or NC Restricted License
- Title. It should be properly signed & notarized to you. A notary public is available at the Agency.
- Odometer Disclosure Statement (required only if car is 10 years old or newer)
- Damage Disclosure Statement
- Proof of insurance (policy number and name of insurance company)

FEES:

- \$36 for License Plate Registration
- \$52 for Title
- Highway Use Tax = 3% of fair market value of your car (bought from private party) or 3% of bill of sale from dealership
- \$5 for 1 person, \$6 for 2 people, \$7 for 3 or more (cash only) if you have the Notary Public at the DMV Agency notarize your Title
- **Cash, money orders, personal checks**[?] and American Express, Visa, MasterCard and Discover credit and debit cards at all [NCDMV office locations](#).

For more information, visit: <https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/vehicle/title/>

At the DMV, you will be given your **car registration (this must be kept in the car glove compartment)** and License Plate. (You only get one plate or tag for the back of your car.) A new Certificate of Title, in your name, will be mailed to your home. It should arrive in about ten days. Go back to the DMV if you do not receive the title within two weeks. You **will need the title** when you are finally ready to sell your car.

Additional Yearly Charges

Motor Vehicle Registration Renewal & Property Tax Collection System: North Carolina's new Tag & Tax System allows you to pay annual vehicle tag renewals and vehicle property taxes. If your address is current with the NC Division of Motor Vehicles, you will receive a Tag and Tax Notice listing the vehicle's registration fees and taxes due. Vehicle owners will receive the notice about 60 days prior to their vehicle's registration expiration. Registration Renewal costs around \$36 and Vehicle Inspection costs around \$46.60. Property Tax is based on the value of your car. Go to a local car mechanic or garage to get the vehicle inspection done.

Seat Belt Laws (<http://www.buckleupnc.org/occupant-restraint-laws/child-passenger-safety-law-summary/>)

According to the NC Seat Belt Law, all drivers and passengers, in the rear seat as well as in the front seat, must wear their seat belts. **Children less than age 16** are covered by the NC Child Passenger Safety Law. The **NC Child Passenger Safety Law** requires*

- children **under 16** to be properly restrained in all vehicle seating positions,
- children **under 8 OR below 80 pounds (regardless of age)** to be restrained in a rear-facing car seat installed in the rear seat. (Only children **above 40 pounds** can be restrained in a booster seat installed in the rear seat.),
- **all children in booster seats** to wear both a lap and shoulder belt,
- children of **8 or older OR above 80 pounds (regardless of age)** to be restrained by a properly fitted seat belt in the rear seat,
- to seat only children **12 or older** in the front seat (although the rear seat is recommended).

You will be ticketed and receive points on your driver's license if you are found without the proper restraints.

*For a comprehensive overview of all regulations see this pdf: http://www.buckleupnc.org/resources/crlaw_qa.pdf. As regulations are subject to change, make sure to familiarize yourself with the current regulations. International House is not liable for the information provided in this handout.