

**281.631 Motor carrier vehicle license -- Applications -- Fees -- Bulk application fees -- Requirements for license -- City and county license fees -- Exemption for nonresident motor carriers -- Partial fees for additional carriers -- Administrative regulations.**

- (1) No person shall act as a motor carrier without first obtaining a motor carrier vehicle license from the department for each motor carrier vehicle.
- (2) Application for and renewal of a motor carrier vehicle license shall be made in such form as the department may require. Every motor carrier vehicle license shall be renewed annually.
- (3) (a) Except for driveaway plates issued under KRS 281.724, and except as permitted under paragraph (b) of this subsection, an applicant or license holder shall pay to the department the following annual license fees:
  1. Thirty dollars (\$30) for each taxicab, limousine, TNC, or disabled persons vehicle;
  2. Ten dollars (\$10) for each motor carrier vehicle transporting household goods for hire;
  3. One hundred dollars (\$100) for each charter bus or bus;
  4. Fifteen dollars (\$15) for each motor carrier vehicle operating as a U-Drive-It;
  5. Ten dollars (\$10) for each motor carrier vehicle transporting property other than household goods and those exempt under KRS 281.605;
  6. Ten dollars (\$10) for each automobile utility trailer; and
  7. Ten dollars (\$10) for each tow truck that is not actively registered with the unified carrier registration.
- (b) The cabinet may promulgate administrative regulations to set forth an optional motor carrier vehicle license fee schedule under this subsection on a bulk basis for applicants who employ or contract with more than fifty (50) vehicles. Bulk application fees under these administrative regulations may use a tiered system based on the type of certificate and the number of vehicles.
- (4) Before the department may issue or renew a motor carrier vehicle license, the applicant or license holder shall:
  - (a) Pay the fee established under subsection (3) of this section;
  - (b) For a taxicab, limousine, disabled persons vehicle, TNC vehicle, charter bus, and bus, provide a copy of the vehicle registration for each out-of-state registered motor carrier vehicle being licensed, and if necessary, a statement showing that the driver is an insured driver of the vehicle, and that the registered owner or lessee authorizes the use of the vehicle for TNC services; and
  - (c) For a taxicab, limousine, disabled persons vehicle, TNC vehicle, charter bus, and bus, obtain and retain for a period of at least three (3) years, an inspection of the motor vehicle in the manner and form as the department may require.
- (5) No motor carrier vehicle shall be operated after the expiration of the motor carrier vehicle license under which it is operated.

- (6) All cities or counties of the Commonwealth may impose an annual license fee on an intrastate taxicab, limousine, or disabled persons vehicle operated from said city or county. The annual license fee shall not exceed thirty dollars (\$30) per vehicle.
- (7) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, nonresident motor carriers engaged in transporting passengers for hire in irregular route interstate charter or special operations shall be exempt from all fees prescribed in this chapter, if reciprocal privileges are granted to similar nonresident carriers by the laws and regulations of his or her state.
- (8) If any person required to pay a license fee under subsection (3) of this section begins the operation of an additional motor carrier vehicle after the date of its certificate or renewal, the fee shall be as many twelfths of the annual fee as there are unexpired months in the certificate or renewal year.
- (9) The department may promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A as it deems necessary to administer this section.

**Effective:** June 27, 2025

**History:** Amended 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 142, sec. 2, effective June 27, 2025; and ch. 152, sec. 2, effective June 27, 2025. -- Repealed and reenacted 2015 Ky. Acts ch. 19, sec. 12, effective June 24, 2015. -- Amended 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 331, sec. 2, effective July 15, 1998. -- Amended 1956 (2nd Extra. Sess.) Ky. Acts ch. 7, sec. 2, effective March 29, 1956. -- Created 1952 Ky. Acts ch. 212, secs. 1 and 2.

**Legislative Research Commission Note (6/27/2025).** This statute was amended by 2025 Ky. Acts chs. 142 and 152, which do not appear to be in conflict and have been codified together.