

1 AN ACT relating to licensing.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 186.041 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Each initial and renewal application by a person who meets the criteria of paragraph
5 (a) of this section and each initial application by a person who meets the criteria of
6 paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section for a special military license plate shall be
7 accompanied by proof ***as set forth in subsection (10) of this section*** that the person
8 is associated with the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air
9 Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard, United States Coast
10 Guard Auxiliary, Kentucky National Guard, Merchant Marines with service
11 between December 7, 1941, and August 15, 1945, or Civil Air Patrol in one (1) of
12 the following ways:

13 (a) ***A member of the Armed Forces of the United States***~~[An active component~~
14 ~~member];~~

15 (b) A retired member;

16 (c) A member of the National Guard or Reserve component who has completed
17 his or her term of service, or has retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years
18 of service; or

19 (d) A veteran who received a discharge under honorable conditions, or the
20 veteran's ***surviving spouse***,~~[widow]~~ and:

21 1. Performed one hundred eighty (180) days of active-duty service;

22 2. Received an early release due to injuries or other medical condition, or
23 at the convenience of the service;

24 3. Received a hardship discharge;

25 4. Was separated or retired due to a disability; or

26 5. Was determined to have a service-connected disability incurred during
27 the enlistment.

- 1 (2) The member, retired member, veteran, ~~or~~ reservist, or his or her spouse who is
2 eligible under subsection (9) of this section may purchase an unlimited number of
3 special military-related license plates described in subsection (1) of this section,
4 annually for vehicles they own or lease. A disabled veterans license plate shall
5 expire on July 31.
- 6 (3) A recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross
7 shall be eligible for a Service Cross license plate upon submission of an application
8 to the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs. The recipient shall be required to
9 include with the initial application for a Service Cross license plate a copy of the
10 general order that authorized the award and the recipient's Department of Defense
11 form number 214. The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall verify the
12 documentation submitted with the application for a Service Cross license plate, and
13 if the individual applying for the plate is confirmed to be a recipient of the
14 Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or Air Force Cross, the Department of
15 Veterans' Affairs shall submit the applicant's name to the Transportation Cabinet's
16 Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing not later than September 1 preceding the year
17 that the Service Cross license plate is to be initially issued or renewed. When the
18 Service Cross license plate is ready, the plate shall be sent to the county clerk in the
19 county of the applicant's residence. The Transportation Cabinet's Division of Motor
20 Vehicle Licensing shall inform each applicant in writing that the Service Cross
21 license plate is ready and may be picked up at the county clerk's office. The
22 Transportation Cabinet shall prescribe the type of application form required by this
23 subsection and shall supply the Department of Veterans' Affairs with the application
24 form required by this subsection.
- 25 (4) A person who is a former prisoner of the enemy during World War I, World War II,
26 the Korean War, or the Vietnam War, or the spouse of a deceased former prisoner
27 of war, shall be eligible for a former prisoner of war license plate by submitting

1 written proof from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or other
2 appropriate federal agency stating the period of time the person or person's spouse
3 was a prisoner of war. If a former prisoner of war dies with a vehicle licensed as
4 authorized under this section, the person's surviving spouse may retain the license
5 plate for use on the same vehicle or on another vehicle that complies with KRS
6 186.164(7).

7 (5) A person who is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors
8 Association as being a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor shall be eligible for a
9 Pearl Harbor license plate and shall be required to attach to the special military-
10 related license plate application written evidence from the Kentucky chapter of the
11 Pearl Harbor Survivors Association that the person:

12 (a) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7, 1941;

13 (b) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55 a.m. to 9:45
14 a.m., Hawaii time, at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or offshore at a
15 distance not to exceed three (3) miles;

16 (c) Was discharged honorably from the United States Armed Forces; and

17 (d) Is certified by the Kentucky chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors
18 Association.

19 (6) A person who is eligible to receive a Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or Gold
20 Star Spouses license plate under KRS 186.164(15)(a) may receive up to two (2)
21 Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Fathers, or Gold Star Spouses license plates free of
22 charge and may purchase additional license plates by paying the same fee as for
23 special military-related plates issued under KRS 186.162(2)(d) annually for vehicles
24 he or she owns or leases.

25 (7) The surviving spouse of a Purple Heart recipient, or a Kentucky National Guard
26 member or a retired member, who possessed a vehicle licensed with the Purple
27 Heart recipient special license plate or the Kentucky National Guard special license

1 plate, may retain the license plate for use on the same vehicle or another vehicle that
2 complies with KRS 186.164(7). The surviving spouse may renew the license plate
3 indefinitely, provided the appropriate registration fee is paid annually.

4 (8) A person who is attending or who is a graduate of the United States Air Force
5 Academy, the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy,
6 the United States Coast Guard Academy, or the United States Merchant Marine
7 Academy shall be eligible for a special military service academy license plate. A
8 special military service academy license plate under this subsection shall use the
9 same plate template as the standard special military license plate under subsection
10 (1) of this section, with stickers to identify the various service academies. The
11 Transportation Cabinet shall promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to
12 KRS Chapter 13A to establish the proof required to demonstrate current attendance
13 at or graduation from a service academy. An eligible applicant may receive up to
14 two (2) special military service academy license plates.

15 **(9) The legally married spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States**
16 **who meets the criteria for a special military license plate under subsection (1) of**
17 **this section shall be eligible for a special military license plate. A special military**
18 **license plate under this subsection shall use the same template as the standard**
19 **special military license plate under subsection (1) of this section, with a sticker**
20 **identifying the plate as that of a military spouse.**

21 **(10) Prior to receiving a special military-related plate requested under subsection (1)**
22 **of this section, the applicant shall present one (1) of the following as proof of**
23 **veteran status:**

24 **(a) An original or copy of his or her DD-214, DD-256, DD-257, or NGB-22**
25 **form; or**

26 **(b) A current military or Geneva Conventions identification card establishing**
27 **current service, dependent status, or retirement status in the Armed Forces**

1 *of the United States.*

2 ➔Section 2. KRS 186.416 is amended to read as follows:

- 3 (1) If a resident of the Commonwealth currently serving in the United States military is
4 stationed or assigned to a base or other location outside the boundaries of the
5 Commonwealth, the resident, or the resident's spouse or dependents, may renew a
6 Class D operator's license issued under this section by mail. If the resident, or his or
7 her spouse or dependents, was issued an "under 21" operator's license, upon the date
8 of the license holder's twenty-first birthday, the "under 21" operator's license may be
9 renewed for an operator's license that no longer contains the outdated reference to
10 being "under 21."
- 11 (2) A resident of the Commonwealth renewing an operator's license by mail under
12 subsection (1) of this section may have a personal designee apply to the circuit clerk
13 on behalf of the resident to renew the resident's operator's license. An operator's
14 license being renewed by mail under subsection (1) of this section shall be issued a
15 license without a photograph if there is no photo on file. If there is no photo on file,
16 the license shall show in the space provided for the photograph the legend "valid
17 without photo and signature."
- 18 (3) (a) 1. If a resident of the Commonwealth has been serving in the United States
19 military stationed or assigned to a base or other location outside the
20 boundaries of the Commonwealth and has allowed his or her operator's
21 license to expire, he or she shall, within ninety (90) days of returning to
22 the Commonwealth, be permitted to renew his or her license without
23 having to take a written test or road test.
- 24 2. The spouse or dependent of a person identified in subparagraph 1. of this
25 paragraph shall be afforded the same consideration identified in that
26 subparagraph regarding the renewal of an expired operator's license.
- 27 (b) A person who meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall not be

1 convicted or cited for driving on an expired license prior to license renewal
2 during the ninety (90) days after the person's return to the Commonwealth if
3 the person can provide proof of his or her out-of-state service and dates of
4 assignment.

5 (c) A person who meets the criteria in paragraph (a) of this subsection and who
6 does not renew his or her license within ninety (90) days of returning to the
7 Commonwealth shall be required to comply with the provisions of this chapter
8 governing renewal of a license that has expired.

9 (d) If a resident of the Commonwealth has been issued an "under 21" or "under 21
10 CDL" operator's license and the person is unable to renew the license on the
11 date of his or her twenty-first birthday, the "under 21" or "under 21 CDL"
12 operator's license shall be valid for ninety (90) days beyond the date of the
13 person's twenty-first birthday.

14 (4) (a) Any person who served in the active Armed Forces of the United States,
15 including the Coast Guard, and any member of the National Guard or Reserve
16 Component who completed the member's term of service and was released,
17 separated, discharged, or retired therefrom under either an honorable
18 discharge or a general under honorable conditions discharge may, at the time
19 of initial application or application for renewal or duplicate, request that an
20 operator's license or a personal identification card issued under this chapter
21 bear the word "veteran" on the face or the back of the license or personal
22 identification card.

23 (b) The designation shall be in a style and format considered appropriate by the
24 Transportation Cabinet. Prior to obtaining a designation requested under this
25 subsection, the applicant shall present the circuit clerk **with one (1) of the**
26 **following as proof of veteran status:**

27 **1.** ~~[with]~~ An original or copy of his or her DD-214, **DD-256, DD-257**~~DD-~~

1 2], or NGB-22 form; or [~~as proof of veteran status.~~]

2 2. A current military or Geneva Conventions identification card
3 establishing current service or retirement status in the Armed Forces
4 of the United States.

5 The circuit clerk shall not be liable for fraudulent or misread forms presented.