



SPECIAL INTEREST OR ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATE (ELP) APPLICATION

For more information and to order online, or to check configuration availability, visit dmv.ca.gov, Special Interest License Plates.

- 1 ☐ **ORIGINAL** Complete Sections 1, 2, 5, 6 ☐ **REPLACEMENT*** Complete Sections 1, 3, 5, 6 ☒ **REASSIGN, RETAIN, RELEASE** Complete Sections 1, 4, 5, 6 ☐ **EXCHANGE** (for ELPs) Complete Sections 1, 2, 5, 6

NOTE: The department will not honor a change of license plate selection or letter/number configuration, or a request for refund after this application is submitted.

Special Interest License Plates belong to the license plate owner, not the vehicle. When selling your vehicle, you may: 1) remove the license plates and reassign the license plates to another vehicle immediately; 2) retain for future use on another vehicle; or 3) surrender them to the department. You may be subject to annual retention fees if you do not immediately place the license plates on another vehicle.

SECTION 1 — LICENSE PLATE SELECTION Check one (For special recognition license plates use REG 17A)

License Plates allowed 2-6 Characters (Motorcycles 2-5)

- 2 ☐ Breast Cancer Awareness ☐ Collegiate (only UCLA is available) ☐ California Arts Council ☐ Kids - (Child Health and Safety Funds) (SYMBOLS: HEART, STAR, HAND OR PLUS SIGN) ☐ California Agricultural (CalAg) ☐ California Memorial ☐ California Museums (Snoopy) ☐ Pet Lovers ☐ Veterans' Organization

(PROVIDE ORGANIZATIONAL CODE OF DECAL)

List of Logos can be found at <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Pages/License-Plates.aspx>

☐ "Honoring Veterans" License Plate

☐ Duplicate Decal -

(CURRENT LICENSE PLATE NUMBER)

License Plates allowed 2-7 Characters (Motorcycles 2-5, except ELP and California 1960s Legacy: 2-7)

- ☐ Environmental License Plate (ELP) (BASIC PERSONALIZED PLATE) ☐ California Coastal Commission (Whale Tail) ☐ California Lake Tahoe Conservancy ☒ Yosemite Foundation ☐ California 1960s Legacy (6 character sequential, 2-7 characters for ELP)

SECTION 2 — SELECT CONFIGURATION

LICENSE PLATES WILL BE ASSIGNED TO: ☐ Automobile ☐ Commercial ☐ Trailer ☐ Motorcycle
(Select motorcycle license plates will be issued a special interest decal on the left.)

☐ Sequential (Non-Personalized) — Issued in number sequence. Your existing sequential license plate number cannot be re-issued. You must submit a copy of your current registration card.

Sequential license plates will be assigned to: CURRENT LICENSE PLATE NUMBER FULL VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (REQUIRED)

☐ Personalized

PERSONALIZED CONFIGURATION CHOICE

The department shall refuse any configuration that does not comply with 13 CCR 206.02

SEE PAGE 2 FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON ENTERING THE CONFIGURATION IN THE BOXES BELOW.

If you do NOT want the plates centered, check this box: ☐ **KIDS LICENSE PLATE:** Circle choice of symbol    

First Choice

8th box shown only to allow for spacing

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Second Choice

8th box shown only to allow for spacing

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Third Choice

8th box shown only to allow for spacing

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When ready for pick up, your new license plates must be assigned to a vehicle currently registered in California (cannot be on Planned Non-Operation status). Check the DMV or Auto Club box and enter location of office where your current license plates and registration card will be exchanged for your new license plates:

☐ DMV OFFICE ☐ AUTO CLUB (must be a member) LOCATION (city):

SECTION 3 — REPLACEMENT [California Vehicle Code (CVC) 4458]

SPECIAL INTEREST LICENSE PLATE NUMBER If BOTH license plates were lost or stolen, the same configuration cannot be reissued on any license plate type.

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I NEED: ☐ One License Plate ☐ Two License Plates LICENSE PLATE(S) WERE: ☐ Lost ☐ Mutilated ☐ Stolen

SECTION 4 — REASSIGN, RETAIN, OR RELEASE

SPECIAL INTEREST LICENSE PLATE NUMBER

R	A	M	A	N	1	3
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REMOVED FROM (VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER)

4	S	4	B	R	B	C	C	1	D	3	2	4	1	7	8	5
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☒ RETAIN INTEREST FOR FUTURE USE

☐ RELEASE INTEREST/SURRENDER TO DMV

☐ RELEASE INTEREST TO NEW OWNER

☐ REASSIGN

PLACED ON (CURRENT LICENSE PLATE)

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PLACED ON (VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER)

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SECTION 5 — PURCHASER ☒ Same as License Plate Holder

TRUE FULL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL, SUFFIX)

RAMAN, PRIYA N

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX

2418 Fruitvale Ave

CITY

Oakland

STATE

CA

ZIP CODE

94601

HOLDER (If different from License Plate Purchaser, i.e. gift or release)

TRUE FULL NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE INITIAL, SUFFIX)

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

SECTION 6 — SIGNATURE

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

SIGNATURE

X Priya Raman

DATE

08/16/2026

TELEPHONE NUMBER

(510) 555-0148

EMAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)

p.raman@example.com



The form that gets your personalised plate off a car you are selling and onto the next one - or into storage, or back to the DMV. Ordinary California plates stay with the car; these do not, and this is the only way to move them.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank REG 17 from the California Department of Motor Vehicles at <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/file/special-interest-license-plates-application-reg-17-pdf/> — always take the current revision from the agency rather than a copy. Print this and keep it beside you while you complete theirs.

Every line, in the order you meet it

1	YOU	The four boxes at the top	Original, Replacement, Reassign/Retain/Release, or Exchange. Somebody taking a plate off a car they are selling ticks the third one. Watch out: Each box prints its own routing in italics underneath it, and the third reads Complete Sections 1, 4, 5, 6. That is the whole instruction for which parts of this form apply to you.
2	YOU	Section 1, which plate you already hold	One tick against the programme your plate belongs to, from the 2-6 character list on the left or the 2-7 character list on the right. Watch out: It has to match the plate on the car, not the plate you would like next. Special recognition plates are not on this form at all - the section heading sends those to the REG 17A.
3	YOU	Section 4, the plate and the car it comes off	The special interest licence plate number on the left, and the vehicle identification number it is being removed from on the right. Watch out: Both are rows of printed boxes. Write across the whole row, one character to a box, rather than bunching everything into the first few and leaving the rest empty.
4	YOU	Retain, surrender, or release to the new owner	Three boxes on one row, and they are the three things that can happen to a plate when the car goes: keep it for a future vehicle, hand it back to the department, or let it go with the buyer. Watch out: Keeping it is not consequence-free. The note at the top of the form warns that you may be subject to annual retention fees if you do not immediately place the plates on another vehicle.
5	YOU	Section 5, purchaser or holder	Tick Same as License Plate Holder where the plate is staying with the person who already owns it, and complete only the left-hand column. Watch out: The right-hand HOLDER column exists for the case printed in its heading - a gift or a release, where the person paying for the plate and the person keeping it are two different people.
6	YOU	True full name	Last name, first name, middle initial and suffix, in the order the box prints them. Watch out: This is the name a retained plate is held against between one vehicle and the next, so it wants to be the name on your licence rather than a shortened everyday version of it.
7	YOU	Street address, city, state and zip	Where the department writes to you about the plate. Watch out: A retained plate is something you own that lives in a record rather than on a bumper. Let the address go stale and the notices about it go stale too.
8	YOU	Section 6, signature	Sign and date under the perjury declaration, with a daytime telephone number and, if you want one, an email address. Watch out: The email box is the only one on this row the form marks optional. And read the NOTE above section 1 before you sign - no change of plate selection or configuration is honoured after the application goes in.

What gets this one rejected

- Assuming you can change your mind later. The form warns that the department will not honour a change of plate selection or configuration, or a request for refund, after the application is submitted.
- Retaining a plate and then forgetting about it. The form is explicit: you may be subject to annual retention fees if you do not immediately place the plates on another vehicle.
- Using it for a special recognition plate. Those go on the REG 17A.
- Leaving a personalised plate on a car you have sold. It stays registered to you, and so does everything the new owner does under it.

☒ Amber is what you write

☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes

The filled-in example is at the start of this sheet.