

How to fill out MV-215 — Request for Refund

What you file to get back the unused part of a registration after the car is sold and the plates are gone - and, just as usefully, the form that tells you when not to bother, because in several common cases the refund is automatic and sending this only slows it down.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank MV-215 from the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles at <https://dmv.ny.gov/forms/mv215.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	Name and address	Name of registrant, street address, city, state, ZIP, county and a telephone number. Watch out: Use the address the DMV has, or change it first. The cheque comes from the State Comptroller and it goes where the record says.
2	YOU	Plate number and date last driven	The plate the registration was on, and the date the vehicle was last driven if it applies. Watch out: The date last driven is doing real work here: the certification underneath says the registration was not used during the period you are claiming for.
3	YOU	Vehicle identification number	The identification number of the vehicle the registration belonged to. Watch out: Take it from your own bill of sale rather than from memory. By the time you are filing this, the certificate has been gone for weeks.
4	YOU	Reason for refund	The free-text box. What the transaction was, what you were charged and why the money is owed. Watch out: Name the dates: when the car was sold, when the plates were surrendered, and what you told the counter at the time. Vagueness here is what turns a 90-day wait into a longer one.
5	YOU	Certification	Sign and date the block at the foot, under the line about a fraudulent claim being a felony. Watch out: Read what you are certifying: that the registration was not used during the claimed period, and that no part of the refund has been paid to you already.

What gets this one rejected

- Sending it when one of the four Step 1 cases applies. Those refunds are already in motion and this duplicates them.
- Sending it for sales tax. That is a Tax Department matter and a different form entirely.
- Missing the 14-month window on a credit that will not be used.
- A reason box that does not say what happened. The form asks for a complete description of the transaction, what you were charged and why you are asking - a one-line answer is what a returned form looks like.
- Expecting it quickly. The form's own first bullet is that the DMV needs a minimum of 90 days to process a refund, and longer if proofs have to be reviewed.

☒ Amber is what you write ☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes The completed example follows overleaf.



**Department of
Motor Vehicles**

**REQUEST FOR REFUND OF FEE PAID FOR MOTOR VEHICLE
REGISTRATIONS, DRIVER LICENSES AND TITLES**
dmv.ny.gov

STEP 1 - Read this first!

- DMV needs a minimum of 90 days to process a refund. If you submit proof for DMV to review, the process takes additional time.
- Do not use this form for sales tax refunds. If you want a sales tax refund, you must use form DTF-806 "Application for Refund and/or Credit of Sales Tax Paid on Casual Sale of Motor Vehicle" available at any Motor Vehicles office and DMV's web site (dmv.ny.gov). Send your request for sales tax refunds to the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.
- **DO NOT SEND THIS FORM IF:**
 - ♦ you turned in your plates and unused sticker to a Motor Vehicles office within 2 months after the date of purchase or within 2 months after the beginning of the registration period. (This does not apply to apportioned registrations.)
 - ♦ you turned in your plates to a Motor Vehicles office during the first year of a 2-year registration, and told staff that you will not use the registration again.
 - ♦ you reregistered a vehicle in a different class during the first year of a 2-year registration and the new vehicle class is only eligible for a 1-year registration.
 - ♦ the receipt (form FS-6T) you received from the Motor Vehicles office when you turned in your plates shows that you requested a refund.

STEP 2 - If you have one of the reasons for a refund described below, apply for the refund.

LICENSE FEE REFUND - If one of the reasons listed below applies to you, provide the information requested in Step 3 on page 2, sign the Certification, and return the form to DMV with any additional documents that are required.

- ♦ You can provide acceptable proof to support that you paid for the license twice or you paid the wrong fee; or
- ♦ You can prove that you paid a \$25.00 or \$50.00 license suspension termination fee in error; or
- ♦ You paid for a restricted use license, and the suspension or revocation on which it was based was rescinded; or
- ♦ You turned in a New York State driver license that is valid for 8 years, that is NOT CURRENTLY suspended or revoked, and that has an "Expires" date on it that is more than 4 years (48 months) after the date you turned in the license; or
- ♦ You applied for a license from another state, and your 8-year New York State driver license does not expire for at least 4 more years (48 months).
- ♦ You paid a civil penalty for driving without insurance/uninsured accident and the revocation on which it was based was rescinded.

IMPORTANT: If you have not turned in your 8-year New York State driver license, attach it to this completed form. If you have a driver license from another state, attach a photocopy of your new license to this completed form.

NOTE: Refunds are only available for licenses that are issued for 8 years. You cannot apply for a refund of a fee that paid for a driver license that is valid for any period of time less than 8 years (for example, a license that is valid for only 4 or 5 years). If you are eligible for a refund according to the conditions above, you will receive a refund equal to the amount you paid for the remaining 4 years of the 8-year license. You must apply for the refund no later than 51 months after the date your 8-year license was issued to you.

REGISTRATION FEE OR CIVIL PENALTY REFUND - If one of the reasons listed below applies to you, provide the information requested in Step 3 on page 2, sign the Certification, and return the form to DMV with any additional documents that are required.

- ♦ You requested credit: when you turned in your plates, you told staff in the Motor Vehicles office that you planned to use the registration again. However, you will not use the registration, which is valid for 1 or 2 full years. You must apply for the refund no later than 14 months after the date the registration was issued to you; or
- ♦ The registrant is deceased and the refund check must be made payable to the next of kin. Complete form AC-934 from the Office of the State Comptroller and attach it with a photocopy of the death certificate to this form; or
- ♦ The registrant is deceased and the refund check must be made payable "to the estate of" the deceased registrant. Attach a photocopy of the Death Certificate (Certificate of Death or Certification of Death) to this form.
- ♦ You paid the wrong registration fee, or paid twice; or
- ♦ You received custom plates and returned them unused, or you cancelled a custom plates order; or
- ♦ You can prove that you paid a civil penalty for an insurance lapse suspension in error; or
- ♦ You entered military service after you registered your vehicle. You will not use the registration and the registration is not revoked or suspended. Entry into military service must be documented by your commanding officer; or
- ♦ You surrendered your apportioned plates and unused registration to the IRP office within 2 months after the date of purchase or within 2 months after the beginning of the registration period.

NOTE: Customers will only receive a refund for 12 months of fees for the registration, use tax, and Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District fee. Most customers are not eligible for sales tax, title or license plate refunds.

TITLE FEE REFUND - Provide the information requested in Step 3 on page 2, sign the Certification, and return the form to DMV with any additional documents that are required. Your reason for a title refund may include, but not be limited to the following reasons:

- ♦ You were charged twice for an original title application; or
- ♦ You were charged twice for a duplicate title application.

IMPORTANT: You must provide a complete description of the transaction you did or attempted to do, how much you were charged for your transaction, and why you request a refund. Include additional sheets as needed.

NOTE: Filing this form does not guarantee your refund will be approved. Your refund request must be reviewed by the appropriate unit.

STEP 3 - Print or type the information requested below and sign the Certification.

Name of Registrant or License Customer

ROSALIND T. HAVEMEYER

Number and Street Address

318 Wurts St

City

Kingston

State

NY

Zip Code

12401

County

Ulster

Phone

(845) 555-0132

DRIVER LICENSE FEE REFUND (ONLY) →

License ID Number

619 482 205

**VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE
OR CIVIL PENALTY REFUND (ONLY)** →

Plate Number

JHR-4820

Date Vehicle Was
Last Driven, if applicable

08/18/2026

TITLE FEE REFUND (ONLY) →

VIN/HIN/Serial Number

5N1AT2MV6FC812743

Reason for Refund (from Step 2):

I sold this vehicle on 18 August 2026 and surrendered the plates by mail on 19 August 2026. At the counter I asked for credit rather than a refund, and I will not be using the registration again. Two-year registration issued 4 May 2026. FS-6T receipt enclosed.

IMPORTANT: READ THIS CERTIFICATION BEFORE SIGNING. Presenting a fraudulent claim is a felony (Penal Law Sec. 175.35). I certify that the above claim is true, that the above identified license or registration was not used during the period covered by the claim if for full reimbursement, that no part of the refund request had been paid unless stated, and that the balance is actually owed to me. I further state (for registration fee refund) that if the items above were surrendered after the new registration period had begun, the vehicle involved was not driven on the public highways between the first day of the registration period and the date of the surrender of registration, plates and sticker.

X

Signature of Customer Filing the Claim

If other than registrant or license customer, provide relationship

08/26/2026

Date

STEP 4 - Mail this completed and signed form with any additional information requested to:

New York State Department of Motor Vehicles
Refund Section
6 Empire State Plaza, Room 230
Albany, New York 12228-0126

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
(Do Not Write In This Space)**

Approved: Department of Motor Vehicles

Date

By: