



South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles Application to Issue or Replace 45-Day Temporary Plates

45-A
(11/2024)

Pursuant to S.C. Code §§56-3-210, 56-3-1240(B).

FEE PAID	Date Plate Expires
Original Temporary Plate - \$10.00 Replacement Temporary Plate - \$5.00	10/27/2026

Conditions

- Temporary license plates cannot be used to test drive a vehicle or to operate a vehicle until it is sold.
- Temporary license plate and registration shall be valid for forty-five days from the date the vehicle is purchased.
- Liability insurance coverage must be in force for at least the minimum amounts required by South Carolina law.
- The Bill of Sale or Title indicating the date of purchase must be carried in the vehicle described above while in operation.
- Temporary license plates may not be recognized by other states. Individual sellers cannot purchase traceable temporary plates. Individual buyers must purchase plates.

Note: For newly purchased vehicles, a copy of the Bill of Sale or assignment document must accompany this form.

SECTION A — required for all customers

Purchaser's Name - Individual or Purchaser			Date of Issuance	
Curtis N. Ashmore			09/12/2026	
Residence Address		City	State	Zip Code
3117 Ridgeway Church Rd		Anderson	SC	29625
Mailing Address (if different from above)		City	State	Zip Code
Please Check One				
☒ I am a South Carolina resident ☐ I am an out-of-state resident				
Customer # or Driver's License #			Phone Number	
233741908			(864) 555-0132	
Year	Make	Vehicle Identification Number	Gross Vehicle Weight	DOT Number (if applicable)
2017	Honda Pilot	5FNYF6H52HB412907		
Insurance Company		Date of Sale	☒ Original Temporary Plate ☐ Replacement Temporary Plate	
Congaree Mutual Insurance Company		09/12/2026		
Replacement Reason:				
☐ Defective ☐ Lost/Stolen				
INTRASTATE COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES ONLY				☐ *Regular Sized Plate
*Large commercial motor vehicle owners operating their vehicle only within South Carolina may use a motorcycle-sized plate to be displayed inside the front, passenger windshield of the vehicle (Pursuant to SC Code §56-3-1240).				☐ *Motorcycle Sized Plate
☐ Yes, I wish to donate \$5.00, more or less, to Donate Life S.C. Amount of Donation \$				
I hereby certify that the information given in the application for a Temporary License Plate is true and correct. I understand that under applicable state and federal law, incorrect or false information given may result in civil liability and civil or criminal penalties. I also understand that no refunds are given for plates once purchased. Plate may not be placed upon vehicle until sale is complete.				
Curtis N. Ashmore				
Print Name of Applicant			Signature of Applicant	

SECTION B — to be completed by SCDMV employees

Issued By:	Office Number and Code:

How to fill out 45-A — Application to Issue or Replace 45-Day Temporary Plates

South Carolina · written against 45-A (11/2024), issued under S.C. Code Ann. 56-3-210 and 56-3-1240(B) </forms/south-carolina/45a-application-to-issue-or-replace-45-day-temporary-plates/>

Because the plate leaves with the seller, a South Carolina private buyer has nothing to drive home on unless they already own a tag. This is the form that fixes that - a \$10.00 temporary plate valid for forty-five days from the date of purchase, and the answer to the question every private buyer asks at the kerb. It also carries the line that stops sellers buying one on the buyer's behalf.

This sheet is not the form. Download the blank 45-A from the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles at <https://dmv.sc.gov/sites/scdmv/files/media/Forms/45-A.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	BUYER	Original or replacement	\$10.00 for the first plate, \$5.00 to replace a defective or lost one. Watch out: A replacement never runs past the original expiry date. Losing one in week five buys five dollars' worth of a few days.
2	BUYER	Section A, the purchaser	Name, date of issuance, residence and mailing addresses, resident or out-of-state tick, licence or customer number and phone. Watch out: An out-of-state buyer can have one - the form has a box for it - but it is still a South Carolina plate and may not be recognised once they cross the line.
3	BUYER	The vehicle	Year, make, vehicle identification number, gross vehicle weight, and a DOT number if the vehicle carries one. Watch out: Copy the VIN off the assignment the seller has just signed rather than off the advert. This form and the certificate are read together at the branch.
4	BUYER	Insurance company and date of sale	The insurer, and the day the vehicle was bought - which is the day the forty-five starts running. Watch out: Cover has to be in force before the plate is issued, at the state minimum. A policy starting tomorrow is not cover today.
5	BUYER	Bring the bill of sale	A copy of the bill of sale or the assignment document, attached to the form. Watch out: The same document then lives in the car. One of the printed conditions is that it must be carried in the vehicle while the temporary plate is in use.
6	BUYER	Sign the certification	Printed name and signature, under the acknowledgement about refunds and about not fitting the plate before the sale completes. Watch out: No notary, no witness. Section B underneath is the branch's and is left blank.

What gets this one rejected

- Bought by the seller. The conditions say individual sellers cannot purchase traceable temporary plates and individual buyers must purchase plates.
- No bill of sale or assignment attached. The note above Section A requires a copy of one for a newly purchased vehicle.
- Used before the sale completes. Two of the printed conditions say it: the plate cannot be used to operate a vehicle until it is sold, and it may not be placed upon the vehicle until the sale is complete.
- Dated to run past forty-five days from purchase. The expiry is fixed by the purchase date, not by the date the plate is issued.
- No insurance company named. Liability cover at the state minimum is one of the five printed conditions.
- Bought expecting a refund if the deal falls through. The certification says no refunds are given for plates once purchased.

☒ Amber is what you write ☐ Grey is a block somebody else completes The filled-in example is at the start of this sheet.