



DISABILITY PLACARD PROVISIONS & PENALTIES

As of July 1, 2018



RMV DISABILITY PLACARD ENFORCEMENT & ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Registry of Motor Vehicles Provisions Under M.G.L. c. 90, § 2

- Allows the Registrar to seek information or documentation from an applicant to establish medical necessity. Applications shall not be processed until the documentation or information is provided.
- Allows the Registrar to investigate allegations that an individual has falsely obtained a placard. In addition to other penalties, the Registrar may revoke the placard.
- Permits the Registrar to waive the requirement that a state vehicle transporting persons with disabilities display the name of the agency on the vehicle. The vehicle may only use a parking space for persons with disabilities when persons with disabilities are in the vehicle.

DISABILITY PLACARD ABUSE PENALTIES

Making a false statement on an application or renewal for a disability placard (90/2/G, Civil Motor Vehicle Infraction [CMVI])

M.G.L c. 90, § 2

1st offense: **\$500 fine**

2nd offense: **\$1,000 fine**

Any application or renewal for a placard is signed under the penalties of perjury.

Misuse of placard or using a deceased person's placard (90/2/B, CMVI)

M.G.L c. 90, § 2

1st offense: **\$500 fine**; 60-day **license suspension**

2nd offense: **\$1,000 fine**; 120-day **license suspension**

Subsequent offenses: **\$1,000 fine**; 1 year **license suspension**

Registrar may revoke a placard if used improperly by another person

Misuse of placards includes drivers using:

- Expired, altered, or counterfeit placards
- Placards when the placard holder has not immediately been picked up or dropped off
- Placards that have been reported lost or stolen
- Multiple placards

Obstructing a placard number or expiration date (90/2/F, CMVI)

M.G.L c. 90, § 2

\$50 fine (includes reversing the placard)

Failure to return a revoked or canceled placard (90/2/H, CMVI)

M.G.L c. 90, § 2

\$100 fine

Making, stealing, altering, forging, or counterfeiting a placard or placard application, or possessing such a placard or application (90/24B/D)

M.G.L c. 90, § 24B

Up to a **\$500 fine** or **imprisonment** in the state prison for up to 5 years or in a jail or a house of correction for up to 2 years (Felony: Criminal or Arrest Citations may be issued)

Impersonating another to obtain a disability placard

M.G.L c. 90, § 24B

Up to a **\$500 fine** or **imprisonment** in the state prison for up to 5 years or in a jail or a house of correction for up to 2 years (Felony: Criminal or Arrest Citations may be issued)

Making, stealing, forging, or counterfeiting a placard with intent to distribute

M.G.L c. 90, § 24B

Penalties for acts involving:

- 5 or fewer placards (90/24B/F): Up to a **\$500 fine** and/or up to 1 year in a house of correction
- 6-10 placards (90/24B/G): Up to a **\$1,000 fine** and/or **imprisonment** in the state prison for up to 5 years or in a house of correction for up to 2 ½ years
- 10+ placards (90/24B/H): **\$10,000 fine** and/or up to 10 years in the state **prison** (Felony: Criminal or Arrest Citations may be issued)

To report placard abuse, please call (855) 963 - 2580 | THE PLACARD ABUSE TASK FORCE