

Motor Vehicle Procedure Manual	
Registration	
Non-Resident Military Exemption	
RS-07	

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Legal Authority

[Section 320.10, Florida Statutes](#), provides an exemption from the registration tax imposed by [Section 320.08, Florida Statutes](#), for any motor vehicle or mobile home owned by, and operated exclusively for the personal use of, any member of the United States Armed Forces who is not a resident of this state and who is stationed in the state while in compliance with military or naval orders. The U.S. Armed Forces member exception in [s.320.10, F.S.](#), does not include motor vehicles or mobile homes owned exclusively by the spouse and/or dependent child.

[Section 320.072, Florida Statutes](#), provides an exemption from the Initial Registration fee for any nonresident United States Armed Forces member, their spouse or dependent child, who is not a resident of Florida. (see [RS-30](#) for additional information).

Description and Use

This procedure is provided to assist employees of the Tax Collector, License Plate Agent and the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) in providing information and instructions for the nonresident military exemption.

General Information

- A. A nonresident U.S. Armed Forces member may place children in the public schools of this state. The spouse or any member of immediate family of a nonresident service member may become employed. These actions do not make their motor vehicles subject to Florida registration. Under the [Servicemembers Civil Relief Act](#), the service member may display a current license plate from their home state, or from the state he or she is stationed in.

- B. When a nonresident U.S. Armed Forces member, whose motor vehicles currently are registered in his or her home state, is stationed in Florida and is shipped overseas from Florida and the service member's immediate family remains in Florida, it is not necessary that the spouse register his/her motor vehicle(s) in Florida even though the spouse may be employed or place children in the public schools. However, if such service member returns from overseas to a state other than Florida, the motor vehicles must be registered in Florida if they are operated in this state. For the purposes of these procedures, the term "immediate family" means the spouse of any service member and any natural, adoptive or stepchild of the service member.

- C. Vehicles used for business purposes by a nonresident U.S. Armed Forces member stationed in Florida are not eligible for the exemption.

Application Requirements

The following must be submitted to the county license plate agent:

A. EXEMPTION ELIGIBILITY:

A copy of the U.S. Armed Forces service member's military orders (which shows their assignment to a Florida military duty station) and their out-of-state driver license must be presented.

B. PROOF OF OWNERSHIP:

The six military branches include: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy and **Space Force**. Florida Statutes only refer to the United States Armed Forces, therefore this procedure and its constraints and benefits do not apply to uniformed services of foreign countries.

A NON-US Military member can obtain a "registration only" if the proof of ownership from out of country is in the NON-US Military member's name. Proof of out-of-country military status will be reviewed by the department as needed. See [RS-04](#).

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) allows a non-resident member of the United States Armed Forces to choose one of the following:

1. Follow [Procedures RS-04](#) for issuing a license plate on a registration only basis;
or;
2. Apply for a Florida title pursuant to provisions of [Chapter 319, Florida Statutes](#).

If a non-resident U.S. Armed Forces member purchases a motor vehicle out of the country and brings it to Florida with the out of country proof of ownership, (requesting a Florida "registration only"), they must first obtain a title for the motor vehicle in their home state. However, the out-of-country proof would be acceptable, if the member is applying for a Florida Certificate of Title.

C. FORM:

Form [HSMV 82002](#) (Rev. 2/22 or later), Initial Registration Fee Exemption Affidavit completed and signed by the U.S. Armed Forces member.

D. PROOF OF INSURANCE:

Proof of Florida insurance is required. Refer to [Procedure RS-36](#) for additional insurance requirements.

Issuance of License Plates

A regular series license plate will be issued whether the nonresident member applies for a title or registers the vehicle on a registration only basis. A specialty license plate may be issued at the applicant's request. Mobile homes must be issued a regular mobile home validation sticker using class code 50.

Renewal and Transfers of Nonresident Military Exemption Plates

If an out-of-state lien exists, the “renewal notice” will be printed with the following message: R/O NONRESIDENT MILITARY

Renewals and transfers may be processed by the county license plate agent.

The following is required:

- A. A copy of the current military orders verifying the applicant is assigned to a Florida military duty station.
- B. A copy of the applicant’s out-of-state driver license.

Replacement License Plates

Applications for replacement license plates may be processed by the county license plate agency.

The following is required:

- A. [Form HSMV 83146, Application for Replacement License Plate, Validation Decal or Parking Permit](#), completed.
- B. A copy of the vehicle registration certificate.

Refer to [Procedure RS-06](#) for additional information and fees.

Revision(s)

05/06/22: Relinked form HSMV 82002 and Procedure RS-06. Added Space Force as a new U.S. Armed Force.

01/07/19: Changed military services to United States Armed Forces to match Florida Statute.

04/30/18: Reviewed Statutes and added links.

02/01/08: Removed fees and referred to the fee chart on page 3.