Section 4503.181 of the Ohio Revised Code (R.C.) permits owners of vehicles bearing historical license plates to display a model year plate for a fee. Only one model year plate is required to be displayed. This license plate must be a legible and serviceable plate issued by the state of Ohio and inscribed with the date of the year corresponding to the model year when the vehicle was manufactured. R.C. 4503.19 requires that a “distinctive number” be issued to a motor vehicle. Therefore, the distinctive historical plates and registration card must be in the vehicle and available upon demand by a law enforcement officer.

To comply with the motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles has adopted the following procedure.

- Dealer plates are not permitted.
- The vehicle must be registered with regular historical plates.
- Those who desire to display a model-year plate will locate and obtain a suitable plate by their own means. If the license plate is painted, the colors applied must be the original color combinations. New plates were not manufactured in 1943 and 1952; however 1942 and 1951 plates will be accepted for these two years. No model year plates were issued after 1974, however any vehicle that has a historical license plate is eligible for model year plates as long as it is authentic and meets the requirements for that year.
- Submit a copy of the model-year license plate and a copy of the historical license registration card. Since registration is required for both the historical and model year plate, the fee for registration is $6.00 if obtained at our office, plus the current cost of postage if the registration must be mailed.
- Complete and have notarized the model-year affidavit on back.
- The model-year plate may be displayed when you receive the registration from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Only one model-year plate is required to be displayed on the rear of the historical motor vehicle at all times.
- Model-year plate numbers for a military vehicle are the Ohio historical plate numbers issued to the vehicle painted on the front and rear of the vehicle in accordance with size and style specifications established for numerals and letters as stated in R.C. 4503.22.
- Validation and County stickers are not applicable. If a customer has a validation/county sticker to display on the model year plate, this is not recorded by the BMV.

If your vehicle is not displaying regular historical license plates, the application/affidavit for a regular historical registration and model year historical registration may be submitted at the same time and the model year registration services will be provided at no charge. If you wish to be sent an application for a regular historical license plate, contact the number below or go to your local deputy to obtain registration. This application is also available at your local Deputy Registrar’s office and can be obtained on the Web site: http://bmv.ohio.gov/forms-numerical.aspx

If we can be of further assistance, please contact:

OHIO BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Attn: Registration Support Services
P.O. Box 16521
Columbus, Ohio 43216-6521
Telephone: (614) 752-7518
HISTORICAL “MODEL YEAR” LICENSE PLATE AFFIDAVIT

NAME _______________________________ DAYTIME PHONE # _______________________________ COUNTY _______________________________

ADDRESS _______________________________ CITY _______________________________ STATE OHIO _______________________________ ZIP CODE _______________________________

CURRENT HISTORICAL PLATE # (leave blank if plate is to be issued) _______________________________ DATE VEHICLE PURCHASED _______________________________ CERTIFICATE OF TITLE # _______________________________

VEHICLE SERIAL # _______________________________ YEAR _______________________________ MAKE _______________________________ VEHICLE TYPE _______________________________

MODEL YEAR LICENSE PLATE # _______________________________ PLATE COLOR _______________________________ LETTER / NUMBER COLOR _______________________________

I certify that the model-year license plate listed above was originally issued by this state and is serviceable and legible. I am aware that I may not display this plate until I receive the registration card for the model-year plate.

PROOF OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
YOU WILL LOSE YOUR DRIVER LICENSE IF YOU DRIVE WITHOUT INSURANCE OR OTHER ACCEPTABLE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY COVERAGE

- In Ohio, it is illegal to drive any motor vehicle without insurance or other financial responsibility (FR) coverage.
- It is also illegal for any motor vehicle owner to allow anyone else to drive the owner’s vehicle without FR coverage.
- PROOF OF COVERAGE IS REQUIRED: Whenever a police officer issues a traffic ticket • At all vehicle inspection stops • Upon traffic court appearances.
- ANY DRIVER OR OWNER WHO FAILS TO SHOW PROOF OF INSURANCE OR OTHER COVERAGE WILL: • Lose his or her driver license until requirements are met on first offense, ONE YEAR on second offense and TWO YEARS on additional offenses • Lose his or her license plates and vehicle registration • Pay reinstatement fees of $100.00 for first offense, $300.00 for second offense, $600.00 for third and subsequent offenses • Pay a $50.00 penalty for any failure to surrender his or her driver license, license plates, or registration AND • Be required to maintain special FR coverage (“High-risk” insurance or equivalent) on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) for THREE or FIVE YEARS.
- ONCE THIS SUSPENSION IS IN EFFECT: Any driver or owner who violates the suspension will have his or her vehicle immobilized and his or her license plates confiscated for at least 30 DAYS first offense and 60 DAYS second offense. For third or subsequent offenses, the vehicle will be forfeited and sold and the person will not be permitted to register any motor vehicle in Ohio for FIVE YEARS.
- IF YOU ARE INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT WITHOUT INSURANCE OR OTHER FR COVERAGE: In addition to all the penalties listed above, you may have • A SECURITY SUSPENSION for TWO YEARS or more and • A JUDGMENT SUSPENSION INDEFINITELY (until all damages have been satisfied).
- THESE PENALTIES ARE IN ADDITION TO ANY FINES OR PENALTIES IMPOSED BY A COURT OF LAW.
- WARNING: THESE LAWS DO NOT PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOU MAY BE INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT WITH A PERSON WHO HAS NO INSURANCE OR OTHER FR COVERAGE.
- WHEN REQUIRED, PROOF OF COVERAGE MAY BE SHOWN BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: • AN INSURANCE POLICY showing automobile liability insurance of at least $25,000 bodily injury per person, $50,000 injury two or more persons, and $25,000 property damage • AN INSURANCE IDENTIFICATION CARD (same coverage) • A SURETY BOND OF $30,000 issued by any authorized surety company or insurance company • A BMV BOND SECURED BY REAL ESTATE having equity of at least $60,000 • A BMV CERTIFICATE FOR MONEY OR GOVERNMENT BONDS in the amount of $30,000 on deposit with the Ohio Treasurer of State • A BMV CERTIFICATE OF SELF-INSURANCE, available only to companies or persons who own at least twenty-six motor vehicles.

*AFFIDAVIT*

I, __________________________________________ (owner signature) am the owner of the above listed historical vehicle which HAS BEEN or WILL BE (circle one) registered with state of Ohio historical license plates. I am requesting that the above listed model-year license plate number be registered to this historical vehicle. I understand that the original historical registration card and historical license plates must be carried in the vehicle at all times and shown upon request from a law enforcement officer.

I affirm that the owners (or lessees of leased vehicle) now have insurance or other proof of financial responsibility (FR Coverage) covering this vehicle and will not operate or permit the operation of this vehicle without FR Coverage; and will not be used as a commercial vehicle unless so registered. WARNING: Applicant giving false information is subject to prosecution R.C. 2913.42. Application must be signed by the owner(s) as named on the Certificate of Title.

Notary:

Sworn to and subscribed in my presence this _______ day of _________________________, 20____ in _________________________County, State of _________________________.

(Notary Seal)

Signature of Notary Public __________________________________________ My commission expires _________________________

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RESTRICTED