

Vehicle Personal Property Tax: Questions & Answers

▶ Local Motor Vehicle License Fee (MVL)

An annual local **Motor Vehicle License fee** is imposed on all registered vehicles per the requirements in the Arlington County Code Section 14-69. The fee is included with the annual Vehicle Personal Property Tax and the bill is issued by the Arlington County Treasurer.

▶ \$100 Out-of-State License Plate Fee

An annual license fee of \$100 is imposed upon the owners of motor vehicles which do not display current Virginia license plates and are not exempt from doing so. This fee is in addition to the Vehicle Personal Property Tax and MVL fee. For more information and exemption details, call (703) 228-3135 or <https://taxes.arlingtonva.us/vehicles/100-tax-on-vehicles/>.

▶ Vehicles Sold or Moved

If your vehicle is sold or moved, please contact the Commissioner of Revenue within **30 days** so that taxes will no longer be assessed on the vehicle.

▶ Early Billing

Effective January 2019, personal property taxes for vehicles that have moved, disposed of, or sold during the first half of the year (through June 30th), will be assessed by the Commissioner of Revenue and vehicle owners will receive a final personal property tax bill from the Treasurer for the tax amount plus the local Motor Vehicle License fee (as applicable) which will be payable within thirty (30) days of billing. The tax amount is prorated based on the number of months the vehicle had taxable status in Arlington County. The total tax amount due is calculated using the Tax Rate (set by the County Board) and the State Tax Subsidy (PPTRA) amount from the previous tax year. If there are any changes to these amounts for the current tax year, the account will be adjusted appropriately. Vehicle personal property tax bills are applicable to the calendar year in which issued or on a pro-rated portion thereof. State law requires the Treasurer to collect late payment penalties and interest on any outstanding taxes not paid by the deadline.

▶ Corrections to Bills

If your tax bill is incorrect, immediately contact the Commissioner of Revenue at (703) 228-3135.

▶ DMV Select Office

Located on the second floor at window 218, DMV Select provides limited Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) services. DMV Selects do not issue Driver's Licenses, Learner's Permits or Identification Cards. Visit <https://taxes.arlingtonva.us/vehicles/dmv-select/> for a list of services. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m, Monday - Friday, except holidays.

Contact Information

For Assessment Information:

Office of the Commissioner of Revenue

Phone: **(703) 228-4017**

Fax: (703) 228-3148

Email: compliance@arlingtonva.us

Website: www.arlingtonva.us/cor

Address: 2100 Clarendon Blvd., 2nd Floor
Window 210
Arlington, VA 22201

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday,
except holidays

For Payment Information:

Office of the Treasurer

Phone: **(703) 228-4000**

Fax: (703) 228-7436

Email: treasurer@arlingtonva.us

Website: www.arlingtonva.us/treas

Vehicle Personal Property Tax

Questions & Answers

Compliance Division

www.arlingtonva.us/cor

Para obtener este panfleto en Español por favor
llame 703-228-4017



KIM E. KLINGLER
COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

2100 CLARENDON BOULEVARD, 2ND FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201

www.arlingtonva.us/cor

► What is Vehicle Personal Property Tax?

All cities and counties in Virginia have a personal property tax which helps fund local government. For Arlington County residents, the tax is assessed on all motor vehicles that are garaged (regularly parked) overnight, including cars, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor homes, trailers, semitrailers, motor scooters, boats, and aircraft. The tax also applies to vehicles that do not display Virginia license plates (these vehicles may also be required to pay an annual Out of State License Fee); are inoperable; or are "temporarily absent" from Arlington (removed for a short period with the intent to return). **Should a vehicle fail to be registered within 60 days of its arrival in the County, it may be subject to a late filing penalty equal to 10 percent of the applicable tax.**

The vehicle personal property tax year is from January 1st to December 31st, and vehicles are assessed based on the number of months they have a taxable situs in Arlington County. A period of half a month or more is considered a full month. A temporary absence from Arlington County will not make your vehicle eligible for proration. If the vehicle is moved to a non-prorating Virginia locality during the tax year, you will still owe taxes to Arlington County for the full year, and the non-prorating locality will begin to assess you as of January 1 of the next year.

► Assessments and Tax Rates on Vehicles

The Commissioner of Revenue's Personal Property Tax Division assesses the Vehicle Personal Property Tax and uses the clean loan value from the *N.A.D.A. Used Car Guide*, Guide to assess all vehicles. The Vehicle Personal Property Tax rate is set by the County Board.

► Personal Property Tax Relief Act (PPTRA)

The Virginia Commonwealth Car Tax Relief program was enacted in 1998. It applies to the first \$20,000 of the annual assessed value of cars, panel trucks, pick-up trucks and motorcycles, whether owned or leased. These vehicles must have a registered gross weight of 7,501 pounds or less, and must be used for non-business purposes. Motor homes, trailers, boats, and farm use vehicles do not qualify for tax relief. When a vehicle qualifies, Arlington's annual vehicle tax bill will show both the tax credit paid by the Commonwealth and the remaining tax amount owed by the owner.

To qualify, a vehicle must: (1) be owned by an individual, or leased by an individual under a contract requiring the individual to pay the tax; and (2) be used no more than 50% of the time for business purposes.

Qualifying vehicles shall receive 100% tax relief on the first \$3,000 of assessed value, with the balance of relief then being equally distributed for each dollar of value up to \$20,000 in value. For any value of a qualifying vehicle in excess of \$20,000, there shall be no tax relief. You must certify annually that your vehicle remains qualified to receive tax relief.

Vehicles eligible to receive special license plates from the VA DMV for the use of clean special fuel, vehicles specially equipped for use by disabled individuals, and vehicles leased by non resident full time active duty military service members may be eligible to receive additional tax relief.

► Personal Property Tax Exemptions

All vehicles normally garaged or regularly parked overnight in Arlington County must register with the Commissioner of Revenue's Office. However, customers may qualify for one of the following personal property tax exemptions.

Military exemption

If you are an active-duty member of the United States military and you have a legal residence outside of Arlington County, you may be exempt from Arlington County personal property taxes.

Student exemption

If you are a full-time student with a vehicle registered in a state that has personal property taxes and you are the sole owner of the vehicle, you may be exempt from Arlington County personal property taxes.

Government exemption

Any motor vehicle owned by the State or any political subdivision or by the United States government may be exempt from Arlington County personal property taxes.

Diplomat exemption

If you are a foreign diplomat and your vehicle is registered with the United States Department of State, you may be exempt from Arlington County personal property taxes.

To find out if you qualify for an exemption, call the Commissioner of Revenue's office at 703-228-4017 or find more detailed information at the Commissioner's website at www.arlingtonva.us/cor

Note: If your vehicle is leased, you do not qualify for personal property tax exemption.