

## Disability License Plates

While a parking placard can move from vehicle to vehicle with the disabled person, disability plates must be permanently affixed to the vehicle for which they are issued. Disability plates are issued only to persons with permanent disabilities who own a vehicle and have their name on the vehicle title; a parent or legal guardian of a minor with a disability; or an immediate family member who owns the vehicle, resides in the same household as the person with disabilities and is responsible for transporting them. Disability license plates allow the authorized holder to park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities, such as at malls, grocery stores, etc., and **DO NOT** exempt the authorized holder from parking meter fees and time limitations at parking meters unless the authorized holder displays the Meter-Exempt Parking Placard.



- **Disabled Veteran Plates** are issued only to veterans who provide proof of a service-connected disability that is certified by a licensed physician. Disabled Veteran Plates allow the authorized holder to park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities, such as at malls, grocery or retail stores. The same parking limitations and parking restrictions apply as for regular disability plates.



## Penalties for Misuse

- The minimum fine for parking in a space reserved for persons with disabilities without disability license plates or a parking placard is \$250. Local municipalities may increase the fine up to \$350.
- Unauthorized use of disability plates or parking placards can result in a \$600 fine and driver's license suspension for a first offense.
- Police officers may confiscate a placard, and the Secretary of State's office may suspend or revoke license plates or parking placards being used illegally.

The following are Class A misdemeanors for a first offense and may result in a fine of up to \$2,500 and a one-year driver's license suspension. Violators may be charged with a Class 4 felony for a second offense.

- Using a deceased person's disability license plates or parking placard.
- Altering a parking placard.
- Possessing a fake, fraudulent, lost or stolen parking placard.
- Duplicating or manufacturing a parking placard.
- Selling or otherwise distributing a fraudulent parking placard.

**The fraudulent use of disability license plates and parking placards is a serious problem.**

**Medical professionals are part of the solution!**

**For more information or to obtain an application for the Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities:**

**Office of the Secretary of State  
Persons with Disabilities  
License Plates/Placard Unit  
501 S. Second St., Rm. 541  
Springfield, IL 62756  
217-782-2709  
800-252-8980  
888-261-5280 (TTY)**

[WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM](http://WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM)

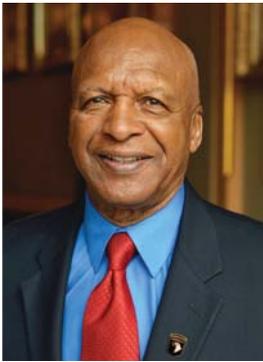
**JESSE WHITE**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

## A Guide for Medical Professionals

## Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities



**JESSE WHITE**  
SECRETARY OF STATE



The fraudulent use of disability license plates and parking placards is a matter I take very seriously. Medical professionals play an integral role

in preventing the abuse of parking privileges for persons with disabilities by ensuring that a patient is qualified before approving him or her for disability plates or a parking placard.

My office has developed an electronic application to help medical professionals more easily submit a patient's parking placard application.

The Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities is vital to many Illinois residents with disabilities to help them maintain their independence and stay active. By working with medical professionals, disability organizations and law enforcement, we can ensure that those who qualify for special parking privileges have the access they deserve.

*Jesse White*  
Jesse White  
Illinois Secretary of State

# A GUIDE FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

## PARKING PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

### Application/Certification Process

In order to obtain a parking placard or disability license plates, a licensed physician must complete Parts 2 and 3 of the Persons with Disabilities Certification for Parking Placard/License Plates. This process can now be done electronically or by using the paper system. Visit [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com) and select the Disability Parking Certification link to access the electronic application.

The physician must:

- State the patient's medical diagnosis.
- Check the appropriate qualifying medical conditions.
- Specify the appropriate length of the disability — either permanent, permanent meter-exempt or temporary. If temporary, the physician must state the duration of the disability, which may not be more than six months.
- Sign and date the application where required and include the physician's license number. Copies or stamps of a physician signature are not accepted.
- Include the physician's name, address and telephone number.

Certification forms are available at Secretary of State facilities, at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com), or by contacting: Secretary of State, Persons with Disabilities License Plates/Placard Unit, 501 S. Second St., Rm. 541, Springfield, IL 62756; 800-252-8980.

**Physicians who knowingly misuse the application process or who make false statements to help someone obtain disability plates or a parking placard may be fined up to \$1,000.**

### Program Eligibility

In order to obtain a parking placard or disability license plates, a licensed physician, physician assistant or advanced practice nurse must certify that a person meets at least one of the qualifying medical conditions. Please keep in mind, a person with an impairment is **not** automatically eligible for disability plates or a parking placard.

When considering a patient's eligibility for the program, a licensed physician must certify that the applicant has **one** of six specific medical conditions that severely impairs his or her ability to walk.

### Types of Parking Placards

The Secretary of State's office issues four types of parking placards:

**1. Meter-Exempt Permanent Placards** are issued to persons with permanent disabilities who have significant impairments that cause difficulty in accessing a parking meter. The Meter-Exempt Permanent Placard

allows the authorized holder to park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities, such as at malls, grocery stores, etc., and the placard exempts the authorized holder from payment of parking meter fees and time limitations. In order to be eligible for this placard, the person with the disability must possess a valid Illinois driver's license, and their physician must certify they meet at least **one** additional qualifying medical condition listed on the application.

**2. Permanent Placards** are issued to persons with permanent disabilities, and allow the authorized holder to park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities, such as at malls, grocery stores, etc. This placard **DOES NOT** exempt the authorized holder from parking meter fees and time limitations at parking meters.

**3. Temporary Placards** are issued to persons with a temporary disability and are valid for the length of time indicated by the certifying physician, not to exceed six months if issued by the Secretary of State. The Temporary Placard allows the authorized holder to park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities, such as at malls, grocery stores, etc., and **DOES NOT** exempt the authorized holder from parking meter fees and time limitations at parking meters.

**4. Organization Placards** are issued to organizations that transport persons with disabilities free of charge and expire on April 30, 2018. **No physician signature is required for an Organization Placard.** The Organization Placard allows the authorized agent to park in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities when transporting persons with disabilities and **DOES NOT** exempt the authorized agent from parking meter fees and time limitations at parking meters.

