

Attention Military Personnel

The Soldiers and Sailors Civil relief act exempts non Rhode Island residents, on active duty in Rhode Island, from motor vehicle excise tax. Any non-Rhode Island resident considering getting a RI license plate, or has already obtained a RI license plate, should file an application with the Newport assessors' office (if you're living in any other RI community, but assigned to the base in Newport you need to apply in the community you reside.).

This exemption exempts the military person, not their dependents. It does not exempt a vehicle owned by a leasing company and leased to a military person. It is only in force for the period you are permanently assigned to this station. The City acknowledges that one need time to travel to their next station and register their vehicle in that new State. However, after a reasonable time (30 days) it is assumed you have decided to keep the registration and accept the responsibility of paying the tax.

Plates and registration cards must be returned to the Rhode Island DMV, 100 Main Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860. You should request a cancellation receipt (TR-3). A copy of the TR-3 receipt should be mailed to the assessors' office at City Hall, 43 Broadway, Newport, RI 02840.