**Definitions**

**Reconstructed vehicle.** A vehicle that has been assembled or constructed largely by means of essential parts, new or used, derived from vehicles or makes of vehicles of various names, models and types or that, if originally otherwise constructed, has been materially altered by the removal of essential parts or by the addition or substitution of essential parts, new or used, derived from other vehicles or makes of vehicles. For the purposes of this paragraph, "essential parts" means integral and body parts, the removal, alteration or substitution of which will tend to conceal the identity or substantially alter the appearance of the vehicle.

**Historic vehicle.** A vehicle bearing a model year date of original manufacture that is twenty-five years old or older -or- a vehicle included in a list of historic vehicles filed with the director by a recognized historic or classic vehicle organization during the month of December of each year -or- a reconstructed vehicle that the director determines, on application by the owner, retains at least the basic original body style as manufactured twenty-five years or more before the date of the application.

**Classic car.** A car included in the 1963 list of classic cars filed with the director by the classic car club of America. The director shall revise the list every five years.

**Horseless carriage.** A motor vehicle manufactured in 1915 or before.

**Specially constructed vehicle.** A vehicle not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles.

**Street Rod.** A vehicle with a body design that retains at least the basic original style as manufactured in 1948 or earlier and that has been modified for safe road use. This modification may include: 1) modification of the drive train and suspension and brake systems, 2) Modifications to the body through the use of materials such as steel or fiberglass, or 3) Any other safety or comfort features.
Titling & Registration

From Arizona Motor Vehicle Division:

**Classic Car**

2 Plates Issued. $25 initial application fee/ $10 annual renewal. Vehicle must be on the list of classic cars filed with the Motor Vehicle Division by the Classic Car Club of America, [www.classiccarclub.org](http://www.classiccarclub.org). This list is updated every five years. May require a vehicle inspection.

Also available with a disability symbol.

**Historic Vehicle**

2 Plates Issued. $25 initial application fee/ $10 annual renewal. Vehicle must indicate a model date of original manufacture that is at least 25 years old. May require a vehicle inspection. Also available for motorcycles.

Also available with a disability symbol (including motorcycles).

**Horseless Carriage**

2 Plates Issued. $25 initial application fee/ $10 annual renewal. Vehicle must have been manufactured in 1915 or before. May require a vehicle inspection.

Also available with a disability symbol.

**Street Rod**

2 Plates Issued. $25 initial application fee/ $25 annual renewal, in addition to regular registration fees. Vehicle must have a body design which retains at least the basic original style as manufactured in 1948 or earlier and which has been modified for safe road use. May require a vehicle inspection.

Only available as a personalized plate (maximum 7 characters). Also available with a disability symbol.
Vehicle Inspection Types

**Level I:** Can be performed at any MVD or authorized Third Party office. Level I inspections are for out of state vehicles without proof of title and/or registration, and for bonded titles. A Level I inspection matches the public vehicle identification number and a secondary vehicle identification number to the vehicle ownership documents to determine the identity of the vehicle.

There is no fee for a Level I inspection conducted at an MVD office. Third Party providers may charge a fee.

**Level II:** This inspection can only be performed at Enforcement Services vehicle inspection locations. Level II inspections consist of matching the public vehicle identification number, a secondary vehicle identification number and the confidential vehicle identification number to the vehicle ownership to determine the identity of the vehicle.

**Level II Inspections have a $20.00 fee and if a new Arizona number needs to be assigned, a $5.00 fee will be added. Appointments are recommended, but not required.**

**Level III:** This inspection can only be performed at Enforcement Services vehicle inspection locations. A Level III inspection consists of a Level II inspection plus verification of vehicle identification numbers on, at the discretion of the inspector, some or all component parts to determine the identity of the vehicle and that the vehicle is properly equipped for highway use. Level III inspections could occur when a vehicle is restored salvage, or a recovered stolen vehicle or has been involved in a collision.

Level III Inspections have a $50.00 fee. Level III Inspections are by appointment only. Please call ahead to schedule an appointment.
R17-4-203. Certificate of Title and Registration Application

A. In addition to the requirements of A.R.S. §§ 28-2051 and 28-2157, a person applying for an Arizona motor vehicle title certificate and registration shall complete a form supplied by the Motor Vehicle Division that contains the following information:

1. Vehicle information:
   a. Tab number;
   b. Initial registration month and year;
   c. Vehicle make, model, year, and body style;
   d. Mechanical or structural status indicating whether the vehicle is:
      i. Dismantled,
      ii. Reconstructed,
      iii. Salvaged, or
      iv. Specially constructed;
   e. Gross vehicle weight;
   f. Fuel type;
   g. Odometer information;
   h. Current title number and titling state.

2. An owner's or lessee's legal ownership status.

3. Lienholder information:
   a. Lienholder names and addresses, and
   b. Lien amount and date incurred.

4. If a mobile home, the physical site.

5. Co-ownership information:
   a. A statement of whether any survivorship rights in the vehicle exist; and
   b. A statement providing co-ownership legal status prescribed in R17-4-205(B).

6. Owner certification information verifying:
   a. Ownership,
   b. Inclusion of all liens and encumbrances, and
   c. Seller-verified odometer reading.

7. Applicant signatures.

8. An acknowledgement that:
   a. The applicant agrees or disagrees to the Division's release of the applicant's name on a commercial mailing list; and
   b. The applicant has read a printed explanation of odometer reading codes.

9. Other information required by the Division for internal processing and recordkeeping.

B. An applicant may voluntarily provide the following information on the form:

1. Applicant's birth date;
2. Applicant's driver license number; and
3. Applicant's federal employer identification number, if the applicant is taking title as a sole proprietor, partnership, corporation, or other legal business entity.

Historical Note
New Section recodified from R17-4-205 at 7 A.A.R. 3479, effective July 20, 2001 (Supp. 01-3).
§ 28-2051. Application for certificate of title; vision screening test

A. A person shall apply to the department on a form prescribed or authorized by the department for a certificate of title to a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer. The person shall make the application within fifteen days after the purchase or transfer of the vehicle, trailer or semitrailer except that a licensed motor vehicle dealer shall make the application within thirty days after the purchase or transfer. All transferees shall sign the application, except that one transferee may sign the application if both of the following apply:
   o 1. The application is for the purposes of converting an out-of-state certificate of title to a certificate of title issued pursuant to this article.
   o 2. The ownership or legal status of the motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer does not change.

B. The application shall contain:
   o 1. The transferee’s full name and either the driver license number of the transferee or a number assigned by the department.
   o 2. The transferee’s complete residence address.
   o 3. A brief description of the vehicle to be issued a certificate of title.
   o 4. The name of the manufacturer of the vehicle.
   o 5. The serial number of the vehicle.
   o 6. The last license plate number if applicable and if known and the state in which the license plate number was issued.
   o 7. If the application is for a certificate of title to a new vehicle, the date of sale by the manufacturer or dealer to the person first operating the vehicle.
   o 8. If the application is in the name of a lessor:
      ▪ (a) The lessor shown on the application as the owner or transferee.
      ▪ (b) At the option of the lessor, the lessee shown on the application as the registrant.
      ▪ (c) The address of either the lessor or lessee.
      ▪ (d) The signature of the lessor.
   o 9. If the application is for a certificate of title to a specially constructed, reconstructed or foreign vehicle, a statement of that fact. For the purposes of this paragraph, “specially constructed vehicle” means a vehicle not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles.
   o 10. If an applicant rents or intends to rent the vehicle without a driver, a statement of that fact.
   o 11. Other information required by the department.

C. Unless subsection B, paragraph 8 of this section applies, on request of an applicant, the department shall allow the applicant to provide on the certificate of title of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer a post office box address that is regularly used by the applicant.

D. A person shall submit the following information with an application for a certificate of title:
   o 1. To a vehicle previously registered:
(a) The odometer mileage disclosure statement prescribed by section 28-2058.
(b) If the applicant is applying for a certificate of title pursuant to section 28-2060, the applicant’s statement of the odometer reading as of the date of application.

2. To a new vehicle:
(a) A manufacturer’s certificate of origin showing the date of sale to the dealer or person first receiving the vehicle from the manufacturer. Before the department issues a certificate of title to a new vehicle, a manufacturer’s certificate of origin shall be surrendered to the department.
(b) The name of the dealer or person.
(c) A description sufficient to identify the vehicle.
(d) A statement certifying that the vehicle was new when sold.
(e) If sold through a dealer, a statement by the dealer certifying that the vehicle was new when sold to the applicant.

E. The department may request that an applicant who appears in person for a certificate of title of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer satisfactorily complete the vision screening test prescribed by the department.

§ 28-2411. Personalized street rod vehicle special plates

A. The department shall issue personalized street rod vehicle special plates to a person who owns a vehicle with a body design that retains at least the basic original style as manufactured in 1948 or earlier and that has been modified for safe road use. This modification may include:

1. Modification of the drive train and suspension and brake systems.

2. Modifications to the body through the use of materials such as steel or fiberglass.

3. Any other safety or comfort features.

B. A person who complies with subsection A may apply for personalized street rod vehicle special plates by indicating on the application the letters, numbers or combination of letters and numbers requested as a registration number. The department shall determine the number of positions allowed on the personalized street rod vehicle special plates. The personalized street rod vehicle special plates shall not conflict with existing plates and shall not duplicate registration numbers. The department may refuse to issue or may suspend, cancel or revoke any combination of letters or numbers or any combination of letters and numbers that carries connotations that are offensive to good taste and decency, any combination that is misleading or any combination that duplicates other plates.

C. If a person who has been issued personalized street rod vehicle special plates sells, trades or otherwise releases ownership of the vehicle on which the plates have been displayed and relinquishes the plates to the new owner of the vehicle, the person shall release the person's priority to the letters, numbers or combination of letters and numbers that is displayed on the personalized street rod vehicle special plates in the manner prescribed by the director. The person to whom the plates are relinquished shall apply to the department for issuance of the plates to the new applicant.

**HISTORY:** Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1995
§ 28-2481. *Historic* value license *plate* fees

In addition to the payment of all other fees required by law, the following fees are required for license plates issued pursuant to this article:

1. For each pair of original license plates, twenty-five dollars.
2. For each annual renewal of the license plates, ten dollars.

**HISTORY:** Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1995
§ 28-2482. License plates for horseless carriages; definition

A. The department shall issue license plates for a horseless carriage on application and in the manner and at the time prescribed by the department. The license plates are in lieu of the regular license plates issued by the department.

B. The registration numbers and license plates assigned to horseless carriages shall be manufactured from Arizona copper and shall run in separate numerical series beginning with "horseless carriage no. 1". The license plates shall be of a distinguishing color.

C. On renewal of the registration of a horseless carriage, the department shall annually issue symbols or devices as provided in section 28-2355.

D. For the purposes of this section, "horseless carriage" means a motor vehicle manufactured in 1915 or before.

HISTORY: Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1996
§ 28-2483. License plates for classic cars; definition

A. The department shall issue special license plates for a classic car on application and in the manner and at the time prescribed by the department. The license plates are in lieu of the regular license plates issued by the department.

B. The registration numbers and license plates assigned to classic cars shall be manufactured from Arizona copper and shall run in separate numerical series commencing with "classic car no. 1". The license plates shall be of a distinguishing color but different from the color selected for license plates issued under section 28-2482 or 28-2484.

C. On renewal of registration of a classic car, the department shall annually issue symbols or devices as provided in section 28-2355.

D. For the purposes of this section, "classic car" means a car included in the 1963 list of classic cars filed with the director by the classic car club of America. The director shall revise the list every five years.

HISTORY: Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1996
§ 28-2484. License plates for historic vehicles; definition

A. The department shall issue special license plates for a historic vehicle on application and in the manner and at the time prescribed by the department. The license plates are in lieu of the regular license plates issued by the department.

B. The registration numbers and special license plates assigned to the historic vehicles shall be manufactured from Arizona copper and shall run in separate unique numerical series. The license plates shall be of a distinguishing color but different from the color selected for license plates issued under section 28-2482 or 28-2483.

C. On renewal of registration of a historic vehicle, the department shall annually issue symbols or devices as provided in section 28-2355.

D. The director shall grant the final approval of a vehicle to be licensed under this section.

E. For the purposes of this section, "historic vehicle" means any of the following:

1. A vehicle bearing a model year date of original manufacture that is twenty-five years old or older.

2. A vehicle included in a list of historic vehicles filed with the director by a recognized historic or classic vehicle organization during the month of December of each year.

3. A reconstructed vehicle that the director determines, on application by the owner, retains at least the basic original body style as manufactured twenty-five years or more before the date of the application.

HISTORY: Laws 2000, Ch. 343, § 25.
§ 28-2486. Retention of old certificate of title

A. The owner of a vehicle may retain the old canceled certificate of title if:

1. The application for a new title is granted.

2. The old title is marked "canceled" on its face.

3. A photostatic copy paid for by the applicant is made of the canceled certificate of title.

B. The photostatic copy is deemed to be the original for purposes of canceled title records of the department.

§ 28-2487. Model year date license plates

An owner of a vehicle that is eligible for registration pursuant to section 28-2483 or 28-2484 may use a license plate previously issued by this state with the date of the year corresponding to the model year date when the vehicle was manufactured in lieu of the license plates issued pursuant to section 28-2483 or 28-2484. To qualify for the license plate authorized by this section:

1. The department shall approve the license plate and determine that the model year date license plate is legible and serviceable and that the license plate numbers do not conflict with other numbers currently assigned to license plates issued by the department. The department may consult with an organization of old car hobbyists in determining whether the date of the year of the license plate to be used corresponds to the model year date when the vehicle was manufactured.

2. The owner of the vehicle shall comply with the requirements for the registration of the vehicle.

HISTORY: Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1996
§ 28-2488. Relinquishment of special plates

If a person who has been issued special plates pursuant to this article sells, trades or otherwise releases ownership of the vehicle to which the special plates have been assigned, the person may relinquish the plates to the new owner of the vehicle. On relinquishing the special plates, the person releases priority to the letters, numbers or combination of letters and numbers that is displayed on the special plates in the manner prescribed by the director. The person to whom the special plates are relinquished shall apply to the department for issuance of the special plates to that person.

**HISTORY:** Laws 2000, Ch. 198, § 6.
§ 28-2485. Safety requirements; compliance

Notwithstanding any other law, a motor vehicle that is eligible to be licensed under this article is in compliance with the safety requirements of the laws of this state relating to motor vehicles if the original safety equipment placed on the motor vehicle by the manufacturer of the motor vehicle is in good operating condition or if the original equipment has been replaced by equipment equal to or more efficient than the original equipment.

HISTORY: Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1995
§ 28-943. Single beam road lighting equipment

Head lamps that are arranged to provide a single distribution of light are permitted on motor vehicles manufactured and sold before January 1, 1951, and on neighborhood electric vehicles, in lieu of multiple beam road lighting equipment specified in this article, if the single distribution of light complies with the following requirements and limitations:

1. The head lamps are aimed so that when the vehicle is not loaded none of the high intensity portion of the light projects, at a distance of twenty-five feet ahead, higher than a level of five inches below the level of the center of the lamp that is aimed and in no case higher than forty-two inches above the level on which the vehicle stands at a distance of seventy-five feet ahead.

2. The intensity is sufficient to reveal persons and vehicles at a distance of at least two hundred feet.

HISTORY: Last year in which legislation affected this section: 1997
§ 28-947. Special restrictions on lamps

A. A person shall direct a lighted lamp or illuminating device on a motor vehicle, other than a head lamp, spot lamp, auxiliary lamp or flashing front direction signal, that projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than three hundred candlepower so that no part of the beam strikes the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than seventy-five feet from the vehicle.

B. A person shall not drive or move a vehicle or equipment on a highway with a lamp or device on the vehicle that is capable of displaying a red or red and blue light or lens visible from directly in front of the center of the vehicle. Lights visible from the front of a vehicle shall be amber or white. This section does not apply to either of the following:

1. An authorized emergency vehicle or a vehicle on which a red or red and blue light or lens visible from the front is expressly authorized or required by this chapter.

2. A fire engine that is solely used for hobby or display purposes and that has been issued a **historic vehicle** license plate pursuant to section 28-2484 if either of the following applies:

   (a) The lights are covered and are not activated while a person is transporting or driving the vehicle to or from a parade, authorized assemblage of **historic vehicles** or test.

   (b) The lights are activated only in a parade, for an authorized assemblage of **historic vehicles** or for testing purposes.

C. Except as provided in subsection D or E of this section, flashing lights on motor vehicles are prohibited except either:

1. On authorized emergency vehicles, school buses or snow removal equipment.

2. As warning lights on disabled or parked vehicles.

3. On a vehicle as a means for indicating a right or left turn.

D. A vehicle may have lamps that may be used to warn the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing. The vehicle may display these lamps as a warning in addition to any other warning signals required by this article. The lamps used to display the warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights or any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps used to display the warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or red lights or any shade of color between amber and red. These warning lights shall be visible from a distance of at least one thousand five hundred feet under normal atmospheric conditions at night.
E. A person may equip a motorcycle with a means of modulating the intensity of a head lamp beam between the higher and lower brightness at a rate of two hundred to two hundred eighty cycles per minute. A person shall not modulate the head lamp beam during the hours of darkness as prescribed in section 28-922.

**HISTORY:** Laws 2005, Ch. 247, § 1.
§ 28-954. Horns and warning devices

A. A motor vehicle when operated on a highway shall be equipped with a horn that is in good working order and that is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of at least two hundred feet. Any horn or other warning device shall not emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or a whistle.

B. If reasonably necessary to ensure the safe operation of a motor vehicle, the driver shall give an audible warning with the driver's horn but shall not otherwise use the horn when on a highway.

C. A vehicle shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use on a vehicle a siren, whistle or bell, except as otherwise permitted in this section.

D. A vehicle may but is not required to be equipped with a theft alarm signal device that is arranged so that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal.

E. An authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren, whistle or bell that is capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of at least five hundred feet and that is of a type approved by the department. The siren shall not be used except when the vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when necessary to serve a civil traffic complaint. During these events the driver of the vehicle shall sound the siren when reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach of the emergency vehicle.

F. A siren shall be allowed on a fire engine that is solely used for hobby or display purposes and that has been issued a [historic vehicle] license plate pursuant to section 28-2484 if either of the following applies:

1. The siren is covered and is not activated while a person is transporting or driving the vehicle to or from a parade, authorized assemblage of [historic vehicles] or test.

2. The siren is activated only in a parade, for an authorized assemblage of [historic vehicles] or for testing purposes.

§ 28-957.01. Windshields required

A. The following vehicles shall be equipped with an adequate windshield:

1. A passenger vehicle, except a motorcycle, an all-terrain vehicle and a golf cart manufactured or modified before June 17, 1998.

2. A motor truck or truck tractor, except fire trucks, fire engines or other fire apparatus, whether publicly or privately owned.

B. This section does not apply to an implement of husbandry or to an antique, **classic or horseless carriage automobile** if it was not originally equipped with a windshield.

**HISTORY:** Laws 2000, Ch. 343, § 9.
§ 28-958.01. Rear fender splash guards

A. A person shall not operate a truck, trailer, semitrailer or bus on a highway unless the vehicle is equipped with rear fender splash guards that comply with the specifications provided in this section.

B. The splash guards:

1. Shall be attached in a manner that prevents the splashing of mud or water on the windshield of other motor vehicles.

2. Shall extend to a length of not more than eight inches from the ground.

3. Shall be wide enough to cover the full tread or treads of the tires being protected.

4. Shall be installed close enough to the tread surface of the tire or wheel to control the side throw of the bulk of the thrown road surface material.

5. May be constructed of a flexible rubberized material.

6. Shall be attached in a manner that, regardless of movement either in the splash guards or the vehicle, the splash guards retain their general parallel relationship to the tread surface of the tire or wheel under all ordinary operating conditions.

C. This section does not apply to:

1. A vehicle commonly known as a pickup truck with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand pounds or less, except that this section applies if the pickup truck has been modified from the original bumper height design to raise the center of gravity of the pickup truck.

2. A truck tractor or converter dolly when used in combination with another vehicle.

3. A single, tandem or triple axle trailer with fenders that are wide enough to cover the full tread or treads of the tires being protected and that extend to a length of not more than fourteen inches from the ground.

HISTORY: Laws 1998, Ch. 199, § 1; Laws 2008, Ch. 47, § 1.
**Emissions Exemptions**

Emissions inspections are required for vehicles registered in the metro Phoenix area (Area A) and the metro Tucson area (Area B) and must be inspected for emissions no more than 90 days prior to registration. Registration renewal applications issued by the MVD will include the statement “Emission Test Required” when the vehicle is required to be tested.

**Diesel Vehicles:**

Diesel vehicles are required to be tested annually, but are provided with the same exemptions as gasoline powered vehicles.

**Exemptions:**

1. New vehicles for the newest five (5) MYs
2. Pre-1967 MY vehicles
3. Vehicles designated as "collectible" with collectible vehicle insurance