

March 2010

VEHICLE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NONRESIDENTS TEMPORARILY EMPLOYED IN THE STATE

This memorandum provides information regarding motor vehicle registration requirements in selected states for nonresidents temporarily employed in the state.

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Century Code Section 39-04-18 provides that nonresidents generally do not need to license motor vehicles in the state except if the owner or operator is gainfully employed or stationed in the state. Section 39-04-21 provides that temporary motor vehicle registrations are to be issued in such manner as prescribed by the director of the Department of Transportation. Current fees charged for a North Dakota temporary license permit are \$10 per month plus a \$3 permit fee for passenger vehicles and trucks under 22,000 pounds. Permits may be issued for one month up to one year and can be renewed as often as is necessary. If a nonresident establishes residency in the state, the permit is no longer valid.

WYOMING

Wyoming statute provides that any nonresident owner, lessee, or operator of a vehicle that is not a commercial vehicle and is employed in the state on a temporary basis may purchase a temporary worker motor vehicle registration permit in lieu of regular registration requirements. To be eligible for the temporary worker registration permit, the vehicle must be registered in another state and be properly insured. The fee for a temporary worker permit is \$50 per month, and the temporary registration may not exceed 120 days per vehicle.

MONTANA

Montana law provides that a person may not operate a motor vehicle that is registered in another jurisdiction on Montana highways if the vehicle is used for hire, compensation, or profit or is used by a person engaged in gainful occupation or business enterprise in the state unless the motor vehicle is registered in Montana. The nonresident owner of the motor vehicle used for employment purposes must pay the

appropriate registration fees at a prorated rate. Nonresident vehicle owners are able to register by calendar quarter, and the vehicle must display the license plates of both the home state and Montana.

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota statutes generally provide that persons residing in the state for more than 90 days are considered residents of the state for motor vehicle registration purposes. However, nonresidents required to apply for registration may apply for an interstate title certificate that allows their vehicle to be registered on a temporary basis in South Dakota. The nonresident applying for the interstate title certificate must submit a permit application and a copy of a valid title or registration from another jurisdiction, plus all applicable fees due. The registration rates under this provision are generally the same as the resident rates.

REGISTRATION FEES

The following table provided by the Department of Transportation compares information regarding 2008 motor vehicle registration fees in selected states for certain vehicles:

2008 Motor Vehicle Registration Fee Comparison			
State	Fee Type¹	2007 Ford Taurus - 3,415 Pounds	2007 ¾ Ton Pickup - 12,000 Pounds Gross Weight
North Dakota	State fee	\$93	\$142
Montana	State fee ²	\$328	\$217
South Dakota	State fee	\$42	\$55
Wyoming	County fee ³	\$299	\$506

¹Other fees and taxes may apply to vehicles based on state or local tax and fee regulations.

²A flat fee is charged by the state plus additional fees may be charged by the county the vehicle is registered in. Montana registration rates are based on vehicles registered in Deer Lodge.

³Wyoming registration rates are based on vehicles registered in Laramie County.