

# NJ FOP License Plate Registration Instructions and Requirements

## **FOP TAGS ARE FOR ACTIVE FOP MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING ONLY**

ALL FOP License Plate activity (except your annual registration renewals) MUST go through  
the State FOP Lodge Office

### **A. Initial FOP registration application requirements.**

1. Complete pages 1 & 2 of NJ MVC Form SP-23 (10/2022) ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf))
2. Attach the Members Letter of Responsibility for FOP Plates, completed and signed.
3. Attach a copy of the member's drivers license and current year FOP membership card.
4. Attach a copy of the current vehicle registration for the vehicle looking to be registered.
  - a. The registration must not expire within the next 90 days.
  - b. Plates can be registered in the child or spouse's name. The child or spouse must reside at the same address as the FOP member. A copy of the child or spouse driver's license must be included and must have the same address as the member.
  - c. If plates are requested for a child or spouse, the FOP member must submit the Members Letter of Responsibility letter with the dependents name and driver's license number.
5. If the vehicle is leased, a "Power of Attorney" or other similar letter from the leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle must accompany the application.
6. The cost for an initial FOP plate is \$75 and must be paid either by check or money order made payable to **NJ STATE FOP**
7. **Members are limited to no more than 7 FOP license plates (each with a different number).**
8. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

**The initial registration process includes the new colored plates.**

### **B. Transferring current FOP license plates to another vehicle.**

1. Complete pages 1 & 2 of NJ MVC form SP-23 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf)).
2. Attach the Member Letter of Responsibility, completed and signed.
3. Attach a copy of the registered owner's driver's license, as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
4. Attach a copy of the valid FOP registration with the FOP plate number you are transferring and a copy of the current registration for the vehicle the FOP plates are to be transferred to.
  - a. If the registration has less than 90 days, you must first renew the current (non-FOP) registration and then the FOP plate transfer can be completed.
5. If the vehicle is leased, a "Power of Attorney" or other similar letter from the leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle.
6. If the plates are coming off a leased vehicle, include a "License Plate Release" from the respective leasing company, even if replacement vehicle is leased through the same company.

7. The cost for an FOP plate transfer is \$5 and must be paid either by check or money order made payable to NJ MVC with an additional \$5 check or money order made payable to the NJ FOP Foundation. If you wish to have your FOP colorized, the fee would then be \$11 and must be paid either by check or money order made payable to NJ MVC.
8. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

### **C. Transferring FOP registration into your child or spouse's name.**

1. Complete pages 1 & 2 of NJ MVC form SP-23 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf)).
  - a. Enter the name of the person(s) the FOP license plate is being transferred to.
2. Attach the Member Letter of Responsibility, completed and signed.
3. Attach a copy of the registered owner's driver's license as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
4. Attach a copy of the FOP registration (expired or valid) with the FOP plate number you are transferring and a copy of the current registration for the vehicle the FOP plates are to be transferred to.
  - a. If the registration has less than 90 days, you must first renew the current (non-FOP) registration and then the FOP plate transfer can be completed.
5. If the vehicle is leased, a "Power of Attorney" or other similar letter from the leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle.
6. If the plates are coming off a leased vehicle, include a "License Plate Release" from the respective leasing company, even if replacement vehicle is leased through the same company.
7. Check or Money Order in the amount of \$75 made out to the NJ STATE FOP and includes an updated colorized license plate. If you do not want new plates, you must attach a letter stating that you do not want the colorized plate.
8. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

**NOTE: Turnaround time for remakes / upgrades is up to 8 weeks from the time NJ MVC processes the payment.**

### **D. Lease reissuance of FOP license plates (Same Leasing Company).**

1. These transactions apply when you are transferring FOP license plates from one leased vehicle to another leased vehicle.
2. Complete pages 1 & 2 of NJ MVC Form SP-23 (10/2022) ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf))
3. Attach the Members Letter of Responsibility for FOP Plates, completed and signed.
4. Attach a copy of the registered owner's driver's license as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
5. Attach a copy of the current vehicle registration for the vehicle looking to be registered.
  - d. The registration must not expire within the next 90 days.
  - e. Plates can be registered in the child or spouse's name. The child or spouse must reside at the same address as the FOP member. A copy of the child or spouse driver's license must be included and must have the same address as the member.
6. If plates are requested for a child or spouse, the FOP member must submit the Members Letter of Responsibility letter with the dependents name and driver's license number.
7. Attach a copy of the "License Plate Release" from the respective leasing company, even if replacement vehicle is leased through the same company, as well as documentation showing that the lease conditions have been satisfied.
8. Attached a "Power of Attorney" or other similar letter from the new leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle.
9. The cost for this transaction is as follows:

- a. If you do not need new license plates (same number), a check or money order is required in the amount of \$4.50 made payable to NJ MVC with an additional \$5 by check or money order made payable to NJ FOP Foundation. This is a registration transfer only.
  - b. If you want new colorized license plates (same number), you must submit page 1 of NJ MVC form SP-89 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-89.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-89.pdf)) to have the plates remade. A check or money order is required in the amount of \$15.50 made payable to NJ MVC with an additional \$5 by check or money order made payable to NJ FOP Foundation.
10. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked “Attn: FOP Plates.”

### **E. Lease reissuance of FOP license plates (Different Leasing Company).**

1. These transactions apply when you are transferring FOP license plates from one leased vehicle to another leased vehicle.
  2. Complete pages 1 & 2 of NJ MVC Form SP-23 (10/2022) ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf))
  3. Attach the Members Letter of Responsibility for FOP Plates, completed and signed.
  4. Attach a copy of the registered owner’s driver’s license as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
  5. Attach a copy of the current vehicle registration for the vehicle looking to be registered.
    - a. The registration must not expire within the next 90 days.
    - b. Plates can be registered in the child or spouse’s name. The child or spouse must reside at the same address as the FOP member. A copy of the child or spouse driver’s license must be included and must have the same address as the member.
  6. If plates are requested for a child or spouse, the FOP member must submit the Members Letter of Responsibility letter with the dependents name and driver’s license number.
  7. Attach a copy of the “License Plate Release” from the respective leasing company, even if replacement vehicle is leased through the same company, as well as documentation showing that the lease conditions have been satisfied.
  8. Attached a “Power of Attorney” or other similar letter from the new leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle.
  9. The cost of this transaction is as follows:
    - a. If you do not need new license plates (same number), a check or money order is required in the amount of \$4.50 made payable to NJ MVC with an additional \$5 by check or money order made payable to NJ FOP Foundation. This is a registration transfer only.
    - b. If you want new colorized license plates (same number), you must submit page 1 of NJ MVC form SP-89 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-89.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-89.pdf)) to have the plates remade. A check or money order is required in the amount of \$15.50 made payable to NJ MVC with an additional \$5 by check or money order made payable to NJ FOP Foundation.
10. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked “Attn: FOP Plates.”

### **F. Upgrading the old FOP license plate to the new colorized FOP license plate (same plate and vehicle).**

1. Complete page 1 of NJ MVC form SP-89 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-89.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-89.pdf)).
2. Attach the Members Letter of Responsibility for FOP Plates, completed and signed.
3. Attach a copy of the registered owner’s driver’s license as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
4. Attach a copy of the valid FOP registration with the FOP plate number you are updating.

5. Check or Money Order in the amount of \$11 made payable to **NJ MVC** and a check or money order in the amount of \$5 made payable to **NJ FOP FOUNDATION**.
6. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

**NOTE: Turnaround time for remakes / upgrades is up to 8 weeks from the time NJ MVC processes the payment.**

## **F. Reactivating expired FOP registration**

1. **IF** the registration is expired for **less than 1 year**, go to the nearest NJ Motor Vehicle Commission and reactivate the registration.
2. **IF** the registration has been **expired more than 1 year**, you must complete pages 1 & 2 of NJ MVC form SP-23 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf)).
3. Attach the Members Letter of Responsibility for FOP Plates, completed and signed.
4. Attach a copy of the registered owner's driver's license as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
5. If the vehicle is leased, a "Power of Attorney" or other similar letter from the leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle must accompany the application.
6. The cost for an FOP plate reactivation is \$35 and must be paid either by check or money order made payable to **NJ STATE FOP**.
7. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

**The \$30 includes new colorized plates however, if you do not want new plates,  
Please attach a note to the SP-23 form.**

## **G. Applying for personalized FOP Plates**

1. Initial FOP plate application process (See above) must be submitted and issued before personalized FOP plate can be issued.
2. Complete NJ MVC form SP-1 ([www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-1\\_SP2.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-1_SP2.pdf))
  - a. Submit up to 3 choices, keep it clean! 5 characters is the limit for personalized plates. They can consist of up to 3 letters and 2 numbers or 5 letters. The numbers must be 21 and up.
3. Attach the Members Letter of Responsibility for FOP Plates, completed and signed.
4. Attach a copy of the registered owner's driver's license as well as the members, if not the registered owner.
5. Attach a copy of the valid FOP registration for the vehicle the personalized FOP plates are to be issued to.
  - a. If the registration has less than 90 days, you must first renew the current registration and then the personalized FOP plate application can be completed.
6. If the vehicle is leased, a "Power of Attorney" or other similar letter from the leasing company authorizing the lease holder to have FOP plates issued to that vehicle.
7. If the plates are coming off a leased vehicle, include a "License Plate Release" from the respective leasing company, even if replacement vehicle is leased through the same company.
8. There is **NO** guarantee your selection will be accepted; final determination is at the discretion of the NJ MVC and/or the NJ STATE FOP.
9. The cost for personalized FOP plates is \$85 and must be paid either by check or money order made payable to **NJ STATE FOP**.
  - a. Reminder: A check or money order in the amount of \$145.00 made payable to **NJ STATE FOP** will be needed if you do not have current FOP plates. You are required to get an initial FOP plate and then the personalized license plates can be issued. Both forms (SP-1 & SP-23) can be submitted at the same time. The \$145 fee is for your initial and for your personalized plate.

- b. If you are replacing an existing FOP plate with a personalized Plate, only a \$85.00 check or money order is necessary.
10. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

## **H. Issuance of FOP plates to widow/widowers**

1. The widow/widower must complete the initial FOP plate process (see above).
2. The widow/widower must submit a letter from the lodge of the deceased member stating that the member was in good standing at the time of their passing.
3. Include a copy of the widow/widower's driver's license and current registration.
4. Include an original copy of the death certificate for the FOP member (this will be returned to you).
5. FOP plates are a courtesy that are extended to the widow or widower of an FOP member that passed while still being an active member in good standings. The following are the guidelines for issuance of a NJ FOP license plate to widow/widowers.
  - a. If the FOP member did not pass in the line of duty, the widow/widower are limited to 1 FOP plate and is allowed to use the plate for up to 5 years from the date the member passed away. After 5 years, the widow/widower must surrender the FOP plate and obtain regular plates.
  - b. If the FOP member was a line of duty death, the widow/widower may have up to 3 FOP plates issued to them. The widow/widower may continue to use the FOP plates until they pass or remarry.
6. All documents are to be mailed to the state office (address below) and marked "Attn: FOP Plates."

**NOTE: FOP Members who are members of out of state lodges MUST include a letter of good standing from their home lodge. This letter must be on the lodge letterhead and must have contact information for the lodge for verification and must be signed by the lodge secretary.**

**PERSON(S) WHO ARE NO LONGER ACTIVE FOP MEMBERS AND/OR MEMBERS THAT ARE NO LONGER IN GOOD STANDING MUST SURRENDER ALL NJ STATE FOP LICENSE PLATES ASSIGNED TO THEM TO NJ MVC AND MUST NOTIFY IN WRITING, THE NJ STATE FOP DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES THAT THE LICENSE PLATES HAVE BEEN SURRENDER TO NJ MVC (MUST SUPPLY PROOF) AND THAT STANDARD PLATES WERE OBTAINED FOR EACH VEHICLE THAT HAD NJ FOP LICENSE PLATES.**

**REGISTRATION AND TAGS WILL BE SENT TO YOU BY NJ MVC AS SOON AS THEY ARE DONE. The process of obtaining FOP plates will take about 6 – 8 weeks from the time the NJ STATE FOP receives the application. For checks made payable to NJ MVC, the processing time starts when NJ MVC cashes the form of payment.**

**Calling the state office or MVC does NOT speed up the process.**

**MAILING ADDRESS:** NJ State FOP  
ATTN: FOP PLATES  
108 W State St  
Trenton, NJ 08608

**Respectfully,  
Michael Serra  
Director of Member Services  
Fraternal Order of Police, New Jersey State Lodge  
108 West State St.  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
609-599-1222 ext 203**