



Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

DO I NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TO APPLY?

NO. You do not need to be a member of the League to apply for the proposed new LWV specialty plate.

I JUST RENEWED MY REGISTRATION. CAN I STILL APPLY FOR THE PLATE?

YES. As we follow the steps outlined by the state to establish a new plate, your application for a new plate has no effect on your current registration. You do not need to wait for your current registration to expire to apply. You do not need to send anything to the DMV and applying for this new plate will not affect your current registration in any way.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO APPLY?

Approximately 15 minutes. You'll need your auto insurance policy card, current vehicle registration card, driver's license, and checkbook. Print and fill out the form, write a check, address and stamp an envelope, and drop it in the mail.

I HAVE TWO CARS AND I WANT PLATES FOR BOTH. CAN I JUST FILL OUT ONE FORM?

NO. You will need to fill out a separate application form for each car. You may write one check for both amounts.

WILL THE SPECIALTY PLATE FEE BE CHARGED EACH YEAR I KEEP THE PLATE?

YES. The specialty plate fee will be charged by the DMV each year you retain the plate along with your regular renewal fee. You may switch back to a standard plate at any time.

IS THE LICENSE PLATE FEE TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

NO. Although donations to the League of Women Voters of North Carolina, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) organization) are tax deductible, payments for the LWV specialty license plate are not.

WHEN I APPLY, WHAT HAPPENS TO MY CHECK? IS IT DEPOSITED OR HELD ON TO?

Your check will be deposited into a dedicated League of Women Voters of North Carolina (LWVNC) specialty plate bank account and a record of your payment will be kept.

WHERE WILL THE MONEY GO?

Until the plate is approved by the state, payments will be held by LWVNC. After we win approval and the plate is being sold by the state of North Carolina, sales from each plate will function as a fundraiser for the League. For each \$30 specialty plate that is purchased or renewed each year, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (NCDMV) will keep \$10 and the remaining \$20 will go to LWVNC, who will use the proceeds to support the cost of providing access to VOTE411.org, the Webby Award-winning on-line voter guide, to North Carolina voters.

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY PLATE(S)

Right now, we are in the preliminary stages of obtaining the plate so you will **NOT** receive your plate right away. The state of North Carolina requires organizations to prove there is a market for a specialty plate before they will agree to produce one.

These are the steps we need to take:

LWVNC must collect a minimum of **500 prepaid** plate applications. These will be submitted collectively to the NCDMV who reserves the right to alter the design as necessary. The NCDMV will then request legislative authorization from the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA). Once the special registration plate is authorized by the NCGA, the NCDMV will issue the plate within 180 days. Visit the NCDMV website to learn more about the process: <https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/title-registration/license-plates/Pages/legislative-process-special-plate.aspx>

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE PLATE IS NOT AUTHORIZED?

If the plate is not authorized by the NCGA, NCDMV will refund application payments to the League of Women Voters of North Carolina. LWVNC will then refund each individual who submitted a paid application and who requests to be reimbursed.

WHAT SHOULD I DO AFTER I APPLY FOR A PLATE(S)?

Encourage all your friends, family and social media followers to apply for a League specialty license plate! The sooner we get to 500 applications, the sooner we can move forward. We will provide regular updates on the status of the campaign.

THE PLATE IS AWESOME! WHO DESIGNED IT?

The plate was designed by Nan Fulcher, free-lance designer and owner of Pie Chart Graphic Design and winner of a statewide design contest for the new League specialty license plate. Click on this link to read an interview with Fulcher regarding her role in the license plate project: https://www.newsfororange.com/community/article_0e1bea3a-2daa-11ec-ab30-1fed08f48cb.html

Still have questions? Send a message to nclicenseplate@bwvnc.org or call 704-556-4600.