Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles
First-Class Service from the First State

TO: All Dealerships

FROM: Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV)

SUBJECT: Model Year Changeover and Inspection Exemption Program

EFFECTIVE: October 1, 2026

Effective October 1, 2026, the annual model year changeover will affect the number of years certain new and used vehicles may be registered. Please review the information below and share it with your title specialists and sales staff.

New 2027 Model Year Vehicles

A new 2027 model year vehicle may be registered for up to seven (7) years if the vehicle:

- Is registered at 10,000 pounds or less; and
- Has never been titled or registered in any state.

New 2021–2026 Model Year Vehicles

New vehicles with a model year of 2021 through 2026 may be registered for up to six (6) years, depending on the model year, if the vehicle:

- Is registered at 10,000 pounds or less; and
- Has never been titled or registered in any state.

The registration fee is calculated by multiplying the annual registration fee by the number of years the vehicle is registered.

Dealers should use the DMV Fee Calculator to determine the appropriate registration fee:

https://dealers.dmv.de.gov/Dealer/FeeCalculator/Index1

Out-of-State Used Vehicles – Inspection Exemption Program

Also, effective October 1, 2026, qualifying out-of-state used vehicles with model years 2021 through 2027 may be registered for up to six (6) years without a full vehicle inspection, depending on the vehicle's model year.

To qualify, the vehicle must be registered at 10,000 pounds or less.

Although a full inspection is not required, these vehicles must have their Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) verified before they can be titled in Delaware.

To help avoid delays for your customers, dealers should have the VIN verified at a DMV inspection lane before selling the vehicle. Delaware dealers may also apply for approval to perform their own VIN verifications.

Obtaining VIN verification before the vehicle is sold will help ensure the Delaware title can be issued if the customer is unable to bring the vehicle to a DMV inspection lane for VIN verification after the sale.

Please Share With Your Staff

The attached tables show the number of registration years available for vehicles that qualify for the Inspection Exemption Program.

Please make sure your title specialists and sales staff are aware of this program and receive copies of the attached charts so they can provide customers with accurate information.

DMV Model Year Registration Chart

In accordance with 21 *Del.C.* §2109(c)

Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles

Vehicle Registration weight of **10,000 pounds or LESS**
Titled between **October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027**

Vehicle Model Year	Registration Options
2027 (CO)	1 to 7 Years
2027 Previously Titled (used)	1 to 6 Years
2026 (new or used)	1 to 6 Years
2025	1 to 5 Years
2024	1 to 4 Years
2023	1 to 3 Years
2022	1 to 2 Years
2021	1 Year Only
2020 and Older	Standard Registration Period Applies

- Vehicles with a Certificate of Origin (CO), an out-of-state title transfer, or a current Delaware title may qualify for an exemption from a full Delaware DMV inspection based on the vehicle model year as shown above
- Model year 2020 and older vehicles require a full Delaware DMV inspection
- Registration options are restricted by initial Delaware title date

For vehicles qualifying for the inspection exemption, VIN verification is still required. VIN verification may be completed at a Delaware DMV or by an authorized Delaware dealer using Form MV212.

Registration weight of **10,001 pounds or GREATER**
Titled between **October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027**

Vehicle Model Year	Registration Options
2022 - 2027	1 to 2 Years
2021	1 Year Only
2020 and Older	Standard Registration Period Applies

- Vehicles with a Certificate of Origin, an out-of-state title transfer, or a current Delaware title may qualify for an exemption from a full Delaware DMV inspection based on the vehicle model year as shown above
- Model year 2020 and older vehicles require a full Delaware DMV inspection
- Registration options are restricted by initial Delaware title date

For vehicles qualifying for the inspection exemption, VIN verification is still required. VIN verification may be completed at a Delaware DMV or by an authorized Delaware dealer using Form MV212.

***The Delaware DMV inspection exemption applies to the Delaware DMV inspection associated with registration and does not waive any separate Federal DOT periodic inspection requirements that may apply. Vehicles subject to 49 C.F.R. §396.17 must undergo a qualifying periodic inspection at least once every 12 months, regardless of the Delaware registration period.