

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I pay my Driver Responsibility fee?

The Department of Treasury collects Driver Responsibility fees. Customers may pay their fees:

By mail: Make out a check, cashier's check or money order payable to "State of Michigan – State Agency Collections" for the amount due. Please use the coupon and include the assessment number on your check or money order. Send it to:

Collection Division
Michigan Department of Treasury
P.O. Box 30199
Lansing, MI 48909-7699

By phone/fax: Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments: EFT is an electronic payment method that you may use to pay your Driver Responsibility fee. Instead of writing a check for the amount due you instruct your financial institution to transfer the funds from your account to ours by completing the EFT form provided on the Web site or with permission over the phone.

Credit card and debit card payments: Treasury does not accept payment by credit or debit card.

Please note that Driver Responsibility fee payments cannot be accepted by the courts or at Secretary of State branch offices.

Can I make arrangements to pay my Driver Responsibility fee over time?

If the total amount owed in Driver Responsibility fees is \$500 or more, a person can enter into an installment agreement with the Department of Treasury. Installment agreements allow periodic payments for up to 12 months from the date of the first fee notice.

Frequently Asked Questions

I received a ticket for "No Proof of Insurance," but I have insurance. Do I still owe the fee?

Under Public Act 52 of 2004, a "No Proof of Insurance" assessment will not be applied if you can demonstrate to the court before your appearance date that proof of insurance was valid at the time of the traffic stop. *Drivers who do not show their proof of insurance will be charged a fee of \$200 for two years.* It is the driver's responsibility to present proof of insurance, which was valid on the date the citation was issued, to the court before the appearance date.

What happens if the Driver Responsibility fee is not paid?

Drivers will receive a notice to pay the Driver Responsibility fee. If the driver fails to pay, or to enter into an installment agreement by the deadline in the notice, driving privileges will be suspended until full payment is made. Once a suspension is in effect, the driver will also be required to pay a \$125 reinstatement fee to the Department of State before the suspension is lifted.

Finally, the Department of Treasury can take further collection action, including wage levies, income tax offsets, and levies against bank accounts or other assets.

Where can I get information about my Driver Responsibility fee?

You can find further information on the Driver Responsibility Program at: www.Michigan.gov/driverresponsibility

Or, call the Department of Treasury at (800) 950-6227 or the Michigan Department of State at (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424).

MICHIGAN'S DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY LAW



Responsible Driving

In an effort to promote greater traffic safety, Michigan has a new Driver Responsibility Program to deter potentially dangerous driving behavior, thereby saving lives.

Effective Oct. 1, 2003, the Driver Responsibility Program calls for a fine for drivers who:

- Are convicted of specific qualifying offenses, or
- Accumulate seven or more qualifying points on their driving records.

ABOUT THE LAW...

Under Michigan law, drivers may face a separate fee after they are convicted or found responsible for certain traffic offenses. This fee is in addition to any other fine or penalty imposed by the court.

The court furnishes information about the traffic offense to the Department of State.

The Department of State, in turn, posts the offense to the driving record and forwards the fee information to the Michigan Department of Treasury for collection.

Fee notices are then mailed to drivers by Treasury.

Under the Driver Responsibility Law, there are two different types of fees:

Category 1 - Annual Fee for Seven or More Qualifying Points

It applies to drivers who accumulate seven or more points on their driving record. However, only points from violations count – not the points from Category 2 offenses. This fee is calculated once per year and will be imposed every year until the driver has less than seven points.

Points will remain on the driving record for two years from the date a driver is found guilty or deemed responsible for an offense.

Most violations have points. Some of the more common qualifying points violations are:

- Speeding (two to five points)
- Careless Driving (three points)
- Fail to Yield (two points)
- Improper Turn (two points)
- Disobeying a Traffic Signal (three points)
- Disobeying a Stop Sign (three points)

The fees begin at \$100 for seven points and increase by \$50 for each additional point on the record.

seven Points = \$100	8 Points = \$150	9 Points = \$200
10 Points = \$250	11 Points = \$300	12 Points = \$350
13 Points = \$400	14 Points = \$450	15 Points = \$500
16 Points = \$550	17 Points = \$600	18 Points = \$650

Category 2 - Annual Fees for Specific Qualifying Offenses

The second type of Driver Responsibility fee is imposed for specific traffic offenses as defined by law.

Drivers found responsible or guilty of one of the qualifying offenses will be assessed a Driver Responsibility fee of \$150, \$200, \$500 or \$1,000 for **two years in a row**.

Multiple Driver Responsibility fees are imposed if a driver has more than one qualifying offense.

Some of the more common qualifying violations are:

Operating While Intoxicated - \$1,000
Operating While Impaired - \$500
Driving While License Suspended - \$500
No Proof of Insurance - \$200
Drove With Expired Driver's License - \$150
Drove With Improper License - \$150

A complete list of qualifying offenses is at www.Michigan.gov/driverresponsibility.

Safe Driving: A Shared Responsibility

High-risk drivers are more likely to be involved in crashes and to receive additional convictions. Also, drivers incurring 12 or more points on their records are subject to a driver re-examination by the Department of State with a possible loss of driving privileges.

Don't put yourself or others at risk. Drive more safely by employing the tips listed below:

Don't drive distracted. Taking your eyes off the road or hands off the steering wheel presents obvious driving risks. Mental activities that take your mind away from driving are just as dangerous. Give driving your full attention.

Don't be an aggressive driver. Crowded roads leave little room for error. This can lead to hostility among drivers. Give other drivers the benefit of the doubt. Slow down and follow the traffic laws and the rules of the road.

Consider taking a driver refresher course. Classes are offered through local safety organizations.

As a traffic safety agency, the Department of State actively promotes responsible driving. The department encourages you to evaluate your driving habits to avoid additional traffic violations.

You may obtain a copy of your driving record by going to www.Michigan.gov/sos and select Driver License & State ID, or, by calling (517) 322-1624. You may also visit your nearest Secretary of State PLUS Office or SUPER!Center and purchase your driving record over the counter. The cost for a certified copy of a driving record is \$8. Go to www.Michigan.gov/sos to locate the nearest Secretary of State PLUS Office or SUPER!Center.

Remember, safety driving is the responsibility of all drivers.