



TOWN OF ACTON

472 Main Street
Acton, Massachusetts, 01720
Telephone (978) 264-9622
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Assessors Office

The Assessors Office has received your correspondence requesting an abatement on your motor vehicle excise tax bill. The rules and laws relating to abatements of motor vehicle excise are set out in Chapter 60A Section 1 of Massachusetts General Laws. Please read the items below to determine what is needed in order to process your abatement.

Cancellation of Registration: Simply canceling the registration of the motor vehicle does not entitle you to an abatement. In order to receive an abatement the vehicle must be disposed of i.e. sold, salvaged or registered in another state.

Vehicle is Sold, Traded or Donated: If one of the noted has occurred we will need the person or organization name place on the abatement application. If the license plate was transferred to a new vehicle, we will need a copy of the registration or new bill number. If the license plate has been returned we will then need a copy of the "Plate Return Receipt" or a lost plate affidavit provided to you by the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Vehicle Registered in Another State: If the vehicle is registered in another state other than Massachusetts we will need a copy of the new registration as well as, the plate return receipt from Massachusetts after you return your license plates to the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Vehicle Garaged in Another Town/Moved Out of Acton: If you have moved and/or your vehicle is garaged in another town this must have taken effect before January 1 of the tax bill year. If you have moved after that date, the tax monies are due to the town of Acton. In order for us to abate your tax bill we will need proof of residence in another town i.e. utility bill, lease agreement. Once we have abated the bill it will then be sent to the new town in Massachusetts and they will re-bill you. Please note that it is your responsibility to notify the RMV of any type of mailing or garage change.

Vehicle is Stolen: If the vehicle is stolen you must provide us with a certificate of cancellation of the registration as well as a police report stating that the vehicle was stolen.

An abatement application has been enclosed. Please fill in the required fields and mail or drop the form at the Assessors Office in Town Hall. Please feel free to contact the Assessors Office with any questions or concerns you may have.

Assessors' Use only
Date Received
Application No.

Name of City or Town

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE ABATEMENT APPLICATION

CALENDAR YEAR _____
General Laws Chapter 60A

Return to: Board of Assessors
Must be filed with assessors by December 31 of
the calendar year following the excise year (or 30
days after the bill is issued if that date is later)

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete **BOTH** sides of application. Please print or type.

A. TAXPAYER INFORMATION.

Name(s) (as shown on bill)	Telephone No. ()		
Address (as shown on bill)			
No.	Street	City/Town	Zip Code
Mailing address (if different)		City/Town	Zip Code
No.	Street	City/Town	Zip Code

B. BILL INFORMATION. Complete using information as it appears on tax bill.

Tax year	Plate/registration number
Tax date	Vehicle identification number
Issue date	Vehicle year
Bill number	Model

C. SIGNATURE.

Subscribed under the penalties of perjury	
Signature of applicant	Date

YOU MUST ALSO COMPLETE SECTION D ON REVERSE SIDE

DISPOSITION OF APPLICATION (ASSESSORS' USE ONLY)

Calendar year _____	Assessed excise \$ _____	Board of Assessors
Bill number _____	Abatement \$ _____	_____
Valuation _____	Adjusted excise \$ _____	_____
Months assessed _____	Certificate number _____	Date

FILING THIS APPLICATION DOES NOT STAY THE COLLECTION OF YOUR EXCISE.
TO AVOID INTEREST, CHARGES AND COLLECTION ACTION, YOU MUST PAY EXCISE AS BILLED BY THE DUE DATE.

D. REASON(S) ABATEMENT SOUGHT. Check reason(s) you are applying and provide the specified documentation.

<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle sold or traded	Bill of sale and plate return receipt from Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) or new registration form if plate transferred to another vehicle
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle stolen or total loss	Police report or insurance settlement letter and plate return receipt, C-19 Form (Affidavit of Lost or Stolen Plate from RMV) or new registration form
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle repossessed	Notice from lienholder and plate return receipt, C-19 Form or new registration form
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle junked	Receipt from junk yard and plate return receipt, C-19 Form or new registration form
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle returned (Lemon Law)	Letter from dealer certifying return and plate return receipt or new registration form
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved from <u>billing city/town</u> before January 1 of tax year	Date of move: _____ / _____ / _____ Proof of residency before January 1 of tax year of bill (e.g., utility bill, voter registration, lease) and proof RMV was notified before January 1 of address change for registration NOTE: You are not entitled to an abatement if you moved to another Massachusetts city or town during the same calendar year of the excise tax. You must notify the RMV within 30 days of moving and before January 1 to be billed by your new city or town next year.
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved from Massachusetts	Date of move: _____ / _____ / _____ Registration from new state or country
<input type="checkbox"/> Exemption	Type: _____ Documentation establishing qualifications
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Explain: _____ Relevant documentation

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE: You must pay an excise tax for any calendar year you own and register a motor vehicle in Massachusetts. The excise is assessed as of January 1, or the first day of the month the vehicle is registered if registered after January 1. Bills are issued by the city or town where you reside or have your principal place of business based on Registry of Motor Vehicle registration records as of that assessment date. The excise valuation is a percentage of the manufacturer's recommended list price of the vehicle when new (not the sales price or current market value). The percentages are: 50% for the calendar year before the model year, 90% for the model year, 60% for the second year, 40% for the third year, 25% for the fourth year, and 10% for the fifth and following years. Excises for vehicles registered after January 1 are pro-rated from the first day of the month the vehicle is registered until December 31.

ABATEMENTS. You may be entitled to an abatement (or a refund if the excise has been paid) if the vehicle is valued at more than the percentage of manufacturer's list price that applies for the calendar year. Abatements may also be granted if you (1) transfer ownership of the vehicle, (2) move out of Massachusetts, (3) re-register the vehicle, or (4) report the theft of the vehicle, during the calendar year. Abatements for those reasons may also require you to cancel or transfer the registration, report the plate lost or stolen, or take other action in that year. You are **not** entitled to an abatement if you (1) cancel your registration and retain ownership of the vehicle, or (2) move to another Massachusetts city or town, during the calendar year. Abatements are pro-rated from the first day of the month after the last eligibility requirement takes place until December 31. No excise may be reduced to less than \$5.00. No abatement or refund of less than \$5.00 may be made.

DEADLINE. Your abatement application must be filed with the board of assessors on or before December 31 of the calendar year following the excise year (or 30 days after the bill is issued if that date is later). **This deadline cannot be extended or waived by the assessors for any reason. If your application is not timely filed, you lose all rights to an abatement and the assessors cannot by law grant you one.** An application is filed when received by the assessors.

PAYMENT. Filing an application does not stay the collection of your excise. Failure to pay the excise when due may subject you to interest, charges and collection action, including non-renewal of your registration and driver's license. To avoid any collection charges or action, you must pay the excise in full within 30 days of the bill's issue date. You will receive a refund if an abatement is granted.

DISPOSITION. The assessors have 3 months from the application filing date to act unless you agree in writing to their request to extend the action period for a specific time. If the assessors do not act on your application within the original or extended period, it is deemed denied. You will be notified in writing if an abatement has been granted or denied.

CONTACT THE ASSESSORS' OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR EXCISE BILL OR ABATEMENT RIGHTS