



Tip of the Month May 2024

Minnesota Reintegration Driver's License

by Anna Odegaard, Senior Advocacy and Campaigns Strategist of Fines & Fees Justice Center

Effective April 1, 2024, individuals who have been released from jail or prison can be eligible for a Reintegration Driver's License, or RDL. This Tip of the Month briefly goes over what this means for potential VLN clients and includes a copy of the reintegration form.

What is the Reintegration Driver's License?

When people get out of jail or prison, they may not have valid driving status because their driver's license was suspended or revoked for violations committed prior to incarceration.

On April 1, 2024, Minnesota will begin issuing a special driver's license called a Reintegration Driver's License (RDL). This lets people being released from jail or prison drive legally, even if their driver's license is suspended for past violations.

Who is eligible?

You are eligible for an RDL if:

- your driver license is suspended for any combination of unpaid fines and fees, unpaid reinstatement fees (including the \$680 after a DUI), insurance-related violations, or multiple tickets in one year
- you spent at least 180 days incarcerated
- you apply within 365 days of release (or before April 1, 2025, if your release date was prior to April 1, 2024)

You are not eligible for an RDL if:

- you have to use ignition interlock
- your driver's license is cancelled IPS (inimical to public safety- meaning you are a risk to safety)
- you were convicted of criminal vehicle operation and are still in the mandatory revocation period
- there is an unpaid child support claim against you that hasn't been resolved.

How do I apply for a Reintegration Driver's License?

- Go to a Driver and Vehicle Services office and ask to apply for an RDL. You can find an office near you: <https://onlineservices.dps.mn.gov/eservices/#1>
- Contact the DVS Public Information Center (PIC) and ask for help applying for an RDL: 651-297-3298 or drivers.license@state.mn.us

Important Details about the Reintegration Driver's License:

- There is no cost for the RDL.
- You do not have to pay old traffic fines and fees to be able to get your RDL.
- You do not have to pay any reinstatement fees.
- The RDL is cancelled if you commit a new violation that would cause a suspension or revocation of your driver's license.
- The RDL is valid for 15 months. After 12 months, if your RDL has not been cancelled, you may apply for a regular driver's license. You do not have to pay old fines and fees or pay any reinstatement fees, but you will have to pay the application fee for a regular DL at this time.

A copy of the Reintegration Driver's License Form by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services can be accessed at the following page to be filled online or to print: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/forms-documents/Documents/Reintegration%20Form%20Fillable.pdf>