



Automobile Registration

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Automobile Registration

Reference Number: MTAS-1864

Revenue Class: Licenses and Permits

Fund: General

Account No.: 32110

Description: Municipalities may require by ordinance an automobile regulatory fee or inspection fee for all vehicles owned or operated by residents who live within its corporate boundaries.

Authorization: T.C.A. § 6-55-501 *et seq.*; T.C.A. § 7-51-701 *et seq.*

Requirements or Restrictions: Non-residents cannot be required to pay such fees (T.C.A § 6-55-502(c) and T.C.A. § 7-51-702).

Current Rate: Varies.

Frequency of Payment: Usually annually.

Late Pay Penalty: N/A

Exemptions: Varies.

Collection: Varies. The municipality may enter into an agreement with the county authorizing the county clerk to collect the motor vehicle regulatory fee at the same time the clerk sells a state license.

Use Restrictions: Some municipalities dedicate revenue to streets and highways, but this is not required by T.C.A.

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

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