



Town of Mansfield
Office of the Board of Assessors
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Instructions for Filing for Motor Vehicle Excise Abatement

There are two (2) pieces of documentation that you must provide in order to be granted an abatement.

First, you must bring or send documentation to show:

1. Massachusetts Plate Return Receipt
2. New Registration showing old plate is on a new vehicle or
3. Lost Plate Affidavit (C-19) receipt

Second, you must also include proof of what you did with the vehicle, such as:

1. Trade-in papers showing old vehicle traded
2. Bill of Sale if vehicle sold or gifted
3. Donation receipt
4. Insurance Total Loss Statement Junkyard Receipt
5. Re-Registered in a new State, copy of new State Registration

The Excise Abatement will be based on the latest date on documentation for granting the abatement. An example of this is if you returned your license plate in September and did not sell your vehicle until November. In this case, we would use the November date thereby abating one month from the bill.

Please be advised that no abatement can be granted until we have all the paperwork to show disposition of the vehicle AND license plate. If you request an abatement and some paperwork is missing, we will return your documentation with a note stating what information is needed.

If you still own the vehicle, but it is not registered, even if the plates are turned in, you still must pay excise tax on it for the year. If you still own it next year you won't receive an excise bill, but it can be considered taxable under Personal Property. This is a state law, Chapter 60A, Section 1.

If you moved to another Town in Massachusetts, but your car was still registered in Mansfield as of January 1st, you must still pay Mansfield. If you moved out of State, you must send a copy of your new State registration AND Plate Return Receipt from Massachusetts.