

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Transportation

13-619.1.

(a) (1) The owner of a motor vehicle, or a lessee of the vehicle under a lease not intended as security, or a director, officer, employee, or partner of a business entity that owns the vehicle may apply to the Administration for the assignment of a special registration number and special registration plates under this section for a vehicle included in one of the following classes:

(i) A Class A (passenger) vehicle;

(ii) A Class E (truck) vehicle with a one ton or less manufacturer's rated capacity;

(iii) A Class M (multipurpose) vehicle; or

(iv) A Class D (motorcycle) vehicle.

(2) To be eligible for a special registration DESCRIBED under subsection (c)(2)(i) of this section, an applicant shall provide proof that is satisfactory to the Administration that the applicant is a recipient of an individually earned, combat-related, armed forces medal.

(3) To be eligible for a special registration DESCRIBED under subsection (c)(2)(ii) of this section, an applicant shall provide proof that is satisfactory to the Administration that the applicant is an honorably discharged veteran of a branch of the armed forces of the United States.

(4) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SPECIAL REGISTRATION DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(2)(III) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT SHALL PROVIDE PROOF THAT IS SATISFACTORY TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE APPLICANT IS A RECIPIENT OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE GOLD STAR FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES, PARENTS, AND NEXT OF KIN OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN COMBAT.

(b) (1) In addition to the annual registration fee otherwise required under this title, an owner of a vehicle assigned a special registration under this section shall pay a fee as determined by the Administration each time new registration plates are issued for the vehicle. The fee shall be calculated to recover the costs incurred by the Administration in carrying out the provisions of this section.