

Personalized License Plates Annual Fee Increase FAQs

City and County of Honolulu • Department of Customer Services

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is the annual surcharge for a personalized license plate?

- Effective July 1, 2022, the annual, nonrefundable fee for a personalized license plate increased from \$25 to \$60 under state rules, Section 249.1 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes
- This \$60 fee applies to the initial application and all annual renewals of a vehicle's registration, and is in addition to all other registration/renewal fees.

What options do I have if I choose not to pay the increased annual surcharge for my personalized plates?

- You may return your personalized license plate to get a set of new standard license plates at any satellite city hall and pay a one-time \$5 new license plate fee in addition to all other registration/renewal fees.
 - If you exchange the personalized license plate for new standard license plate, you will no longer pay the \$60 annual personalized license plate surcharge.
- You can also choose to exchange your personalized license plate for a [Hawai'i Specialty Organization License Plate](#) or an [Organization Decal License Plate](#).
 - A portion of the initial and annual fees for these specialty plates is donated to the corresponding nonprofit organization.

If I decide to exchange my personalized tag for the standard license plates or organization special license plates, do I have to turn in both the front and rear personalized license plates?

- You are allow to keep the front personalized license plate as a memento if you would like, and turn in only the rear personalized license plate, being aware that:
 - You can no longer display the personalized front plate on any vehicle.
 - You must display only the newly issued standard license plates or specialty organization/decal plates on the front and rear of the registered vehicle.

Do I need an appointment at a satellite city hall to exchange my personalized license plate for standard or organization specialty plates?

- No, vehicle registration renewals with license plates exchange is considered an Express Service at our satellite city halls.
- However, if you are on a tight schedule, you can make appointment online through the [AlohaQ](#) appointment scheduling system to renew your registration, turn in your personalized license plate(s), and get either standard license plates or specialty organization/decal plates.