



Ohio Revised Code

Section 4503.897

Effective: September 23, 2026

Legislation: Senate Bill 52 - 136th General Assembly

(A) The owner or lessee of any passenger car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other vehicle of a class approved by the registrar of motor vehicles may apply to the registrar for the registration of the vehicle and issuance of "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." license plates. The application may be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. Upon receipt of the completed application and compliance by the applicant with divisions (B) and (C) of this section, the registrar shall issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle registration and a set of "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." license plates and a validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone when required by section 4503.191 of the Revised Code.

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on the license plates, "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." license plates shall display an appropriate logo and words that are selected by representatives of the King arts complex, in consultation with the Ohio Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday commission, and approved by the registrar. "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." license plates shall display county identification stickers that identify the county of registration as required under section 4503.19 of the Revised Code.

(B) "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." license plates and a validation sticker, or validation sticker alone, shall be issued upon receipt of an application for registration of a motor vehicle under this section; payment of the regular license tax as prescribed under section 4503.04 of the Revised Code, any applicable motor vehicle license tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, any applicable additional fee prescribed by section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code, an additional administrative fee of ten dollars, and a contribution as provided in division (C)(1) of this section; and compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles.

(C)(1) Notwithstanding section 4503.79 of the Revised Code, for each application for registration and registration renewal notice the registrar receives under this section, the registrar shall notify the applicant that the applicant may provide a contribution of an amount determined by the applicant. If the applicant provides a contribution to the registrar, the registrar shall accept the contribution amount provided by the applicant and deposit the contribution into the state treasury to the credit of the license plate contribution fund created in



section 4501.21 of the Revised Code. If the applicant does not provide a contribution, the registrar shall not reject an application submitted under this section.

(2) The registrar shall deposit the administrative fee of ten dollars, the purpose of which is to compensate the bureau of motor vehicles for additional services required in the issuing of "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." license plates, into the state treasury to the credit of the public safety - highway purposes fund created in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code.
