

## TEXAS DRIVER LICENSE ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

### Texas Department of Safety (TXDPS) - Suspensions / Reinstatement Fees:

Access TXDPS Website at: <https://www.dps.texas.gov/>

- Hover over the section titled “Driver License”
- Click on Driver License Status
- You will arrive at a page titled: Texas Department of Public Safety - Driver License Division - License Eligibility
- Enter your Driver License Number
- Enter your Date of Birth
- Enter the last four digits of your Social Security Number

This will lead you to a page that tells you the status of your license according to TXDPS. It will show the dates of suspensions, when they expire, and the amount of money owed in reinstatement fees. Print these pages for your records.

The amounts owed to TXDPS must be paid in full. Per suspension, the amounts usually equate to about \$125.00.

#### NOTES about Surcharges / Suspensions:

- If you have an unexpired Driver License suspension, that suspension must expire prior to TXDPS returning your Driver License.
- All fees must be paid prior to your Driver License being returned to you.

### Texas Municipal Services Bureau (MSB) - Surcharges:

Texas MSB is a private corporation and a collection agency for TXDPS. Access Texas MSB at: <https://www.txsurchargeonline.com/onlineservices.aspx>

- Enter your Texas Driver License Number
- Enter your Date of Birth
- Enter your last name
- Enter your Zip Code

After entering the above data, you will arrive at your Account Page. This page will list all the surcharges you may owe.

MSB Indigency / Incentive Reduction Program: There is a link at the top of your account page and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section you can access regarding this Program. Decisions are made about qualifications for this Program based on information such as income level. If you qualify for the Program, print the documentation for your records.

#### Options When Facing Surcharges:

- Pay them in full.
- Make monthly payments

If you choose to make monthly payments, a credit card or a bank card is required. Once the payments are current, the suspension will lift and you will be eligible for the return of your Driver License.

NOTES about Surcharges / Suspensions:

- Many surcharges are annual, for two or three years, and each year has its own account number associated with it.
- All fees must be paid prior to your Driver License being returned to you.

#### Texas Failure to Appear Website:

Access the Texas Failure to Appear Website at: <http://www.texasfailuretoappear.com/search.php>

- Enter your Texas Driver License Number
- Enter your Date of Birth

This website will verify whether or not there is record of a Failure to Appear by you. When your Driver License is due for renewal on your birthdate, if you have ever failed to appear in a Court for a charge/ticket, there will be a hold on the renewal. This hold is referred to as an OMNI hold. For further information about the OMNI hold, access the following: <http://www.omnibase.com/>

If you are in the Failure to Appear database, you will need to contact the Court(s) where the Failure to Appear occurred and clear up the cases. Any ticket/charge involving a possible surcharge, if it results in a conviction, another suspension and associated surcharges will be created.

It is important to access this website because: If you have been previously convicted of Driving While License Invalid and are convicted of this offense again, you may be jailed, fined, ordered to pay Court Costs and associated fees, and placed on community supervision for up to two years for a Class B Misdemeanor. That same conviction will result in another Driver License Suspension, and the incurrence of at least \$750.00 in surcharges, payable by \$250.00 per year.

#### Ignition Interlock Installation / Driver License Suspensions – Notice of Cancellation:

If you have an ignition interlock installation requirement as a Condition of Bond or Condition of Community Supervision, you will receive a “notice of cancellation” letter from TXDPS. When TXDPS becomes aware of the requirement for the installation, a \$10.00 fee is required to prevent the cancellation of your Driver License.

The requirement for the installation of the ignition interlock remains until the signing of an Order by the Court directing TXDPS to remove the requirement.

#### Occupational Driver’s License (ODL) – Judge’s Order:

According to TXDPS, they have the authority to permit the granting of an ODL twice during a person’s lifetime. Many people have ODLs. This permits the driver to survive the suspension period resulting from the conviction. It also allows them to drive when they cannot pay surcharges. The ODL is granted by the Judge. When a Judge grants an ODL, your license is completely legal. If the ODL is sent to TXDPS, they will demand all reinstatement fees be paid immediately and all surcharges be brought to current status. If the ODL is not sent to TXDPS, there will not be a record of the ODL in their database; and there is potential for arrest, because of this fact.

Offense Convictions - Related Surcharges:

Individuals who receive a conviction for one of the offenses listed in the chart below will pay an annual surcharge for three years from the date of conviction. Points are not assessed for these offenses because the surcharge is automatic upon conviction.

Convictions are added to the driver record once TXDPS receives notification from the court. As a result, there may be a delay between the date of the actual conviction and when the conviction is added to a driver record.

Type of Conviction	Surcharge*
<b>1st Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)</b> Texas or out-of-state conviction for DWI, Intoxication Assault or Manslaughter	\$1,000
<b>Subsequent DWI</b> Texas or out-of-state conviction for DWI, Intoxication Assault or Manslaughter	\$1,500
<b>DWI with Blood Alcohol Concentration of 0.16 or More</b> Texas or out-of-state conviction	\$2,000
<b>No Insurance</b>	Up to \$250
<b>Driving While License Invalid (DWLI)</b> Driver license is canceled, suspended, denied or revoked	\$250
<b>No Driver License</b> No driver license or commercial driver license, or an expired license	Up to \$100
<b>*The surcharge amount is assessed every year for three years.</b>	

Legislation - No Insurance and No Driver License Convictions(s):

Senate Bill 1187: Effective June 01, 2017, Individuals convicted of No Insurance but who had insurance at the time of the offense can submit proof of insurance to DPS. The suspension and surcharge fee for the No Insurance offense will be waived. Any fees paid towards a No Insurance surcharge, prior to submission and processing will not be refunded. In some instances, fees paid after processing is complete may be refunded and or re-applied to other outstanding surcharge accounts.

House Bill 7: This bill affects all No Insurance and No Driver License surcharges with offense dates on or after September 1, 2015. House Bill 7 allows individuals to reduce their No Insurance surcharge to \$125 per year, if they obtain a motor vehicle liability insurance policy and prepay 6 months of insurance. The insurance policy must be obtained no later than 60 days from the date of offense. To receive reductions, individuals must provide evidence of both documents to the Department.

This bill also allows individuals to reduce their No Driver License surcharge to \$50 per year, if they obtain a driver's license no later than 60 days from the date of offense. To receive reductions, individuals must submit a copy of the temporary permit to the Department of Public Safety's Enforcement and Compliance Service. Valid driver license also includes an Occupational, Commercial, and Interlock/Restricted.

TXDPS Driver Record Annual Review – Surcharges:

TXDPS reviews surcharge cases annually. A surcharge will be assessed if an individual's driver record:

- Continues to reflect six or more points, or
- If the underlying conviction for the surcharge is still within three years.

The amount of a surcharge can vary with each annual assessment if convictions are added or removed from the driver record. The number of points on a record can vary each year based on convictions that are added or removed. Please be aware there is a lapse in time from the date you are convicted for an offense and the date your conviction is reported to TXDPS by the Courts. As a result, points may be added to or deducted from your record for offenses committed in the previous 12-month period.

Useful Websites:

<https://gritsforbreakfast.blogspot.com/>

<https://www.msbselfserve.com/>

<https://www.txsurchargeonline.com/onlineservices.aspx>

<https://txapps.texas.gov/txapp/txdps/dleligibility/login.do>

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/drp.html>