Information about your title

Electronic Lien and Title system

Michigan uses an Electronic Lien and Title system. This means if you have a lien on your vehicle, you won't receive a paper title. There's nothing else you need to do. The Secretary of State will maintain the electronic version of your title until your lender releases the lien. When you pay off the loan, verify your mailing address with your lender. Your lender will release the lien electronically and a paper title will be automatically mailed to you.

If you do not have a lien on your vehicle, a paper title will be mailed to the address you provided. If you don't receive your new title in 60 days, call 888-767-6424.

Sales and use tax

Final determination of the correct tax liability will be made by the Michigan Department of Treasury. You may be required to document your tax return or prove you are entitled to the exemption claimed. If you cannot support your claim, minimum penalties can be imposed including criminal prosecution or assessing up to 175% of the tax due.

Exemption for transfer between relatives: An exemption from use tax is allowed when the new owner is the spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, child, stepparent, stepchild, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, grandparent, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent-in-law, legal ward, or legally appointed guardian of the previous owner. Documentation proving the relationship may be requested by the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Your title or this application for title must be presented to purchase or transfer plates.