



Registries perform services for the government, including licensing and registration. To avoid registry fees, pay tickets online.

WHAT IS A REGISTRY?

FINES: What You Need to Know



I CAN'T...

- register or sell my car
- renew my licence
- apply for my driver's licence
- replace a lost driver's licence

...BECAUSE I HAVE OVERDUE TICKETS.

FINES NEVER GO AWAY UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION!

In Alberta, the Court sends overdue fines to registries. You will not be able to get registry services for your car until you pay your fines in full. It is best to make a plan right away to avoid late fees.

IF YOUR OVERDUE TICKET GOES TO A REGISTRY:

- The court adds late payment fees of \$20.00 or 20% of the ticket, whichever is greater.
- Registries charge a fee to pay (currently \$10.00 per ticket), and an extra fee to use a credit card (currently \$10.00).

ALL TICKETS include the violation or offence and a court date.

MOST TICKETS include fines. If your ticket does not, you **MUST** go to court, and a fine will be set in court.

- If your ticket has a fine, and you pay the fine before the court date, you do not have to attend court. (If you pay, it is the same as pleading guilty in court).
- You may choose to attend court:
 - To plead not guilty
 - To ask to reduce the fine

WHAT IF I CAN'T PAY?

Go to the courthouse listed on the ticket **ON** or **BEFORE** your court date.

ASK THE JUDGE TO:

- **REDUCE THE FINE.** The judge will consider the fine amount, your ability to pay, and the nature of the offence.
- Give you **MORE TIME TO PAY.**
- Give you a **PAYMENT PLAN**, so you can pay in installments.
- Let you complete a **FINE OPTIONS PROGRAM.** This program allows you to work off the fine.
 - You must plead guilty and it must be your first or second offence.
 - You get credits for your work. The credits add up to a voucher which you use to pay the fine.
 - You may get a fine or be arrested if you do not finish the program.

WHAT SERVICES ARE AFFECTED?

Any service related to motor vehicles: registering your car, renewing or replacing your licence, or selling your car.

HOW LONG UNTIL MY SERVICES ARE RESTORED?

- If you pay at a registry: immediately
- If you pay at a courthouse: 2-3 business days
- If you pay online: later that day. You must take your receipt to the registry to prove payment.
- If your income tax is garnished: up to 60 days
- If you don't use vehicle registry services, your personal property may be seized, or your wages, bank accounts, or tax returns may be garnished.