

# Changes to heavy vehicle registration

Commencing 1 August 2019, the Motor Vehicle Registry will adopt the following changes to Heavy Vehicle Registration.

- Remove heavy vehicle registration labels  
Registration labels will no longer be issued or need to be displayed on heavy vehicles more than 4.5 tonnes (GVM)
- Introduce National Heavy Vehicle (NHV) number plates  
Owners will have the option to apply for NHV number plates for their heavy vehicle.

These changes will align the NT with other Australian jurisdictions, improve business efficiencies for owners and registered operators, and facilitate a consistent approach to national registration arrangements for heavy vehicles.

## Removal of heavy vehicle registration labels

### Why are the registration labels for heavy vehicles being removed?

Removal of the labels will align the Northern Territory with all other Australian jurisdictions, and streamline the registration process for operators. The registration status of a NT registered vehicle can be accessed conveniently 24/7 through MVR online services.

### Do I still need to register my vehicle?

Yes. All vehicles operating on the Northern Territory (NT) roads must be registered.

It is an offence to drive an unregistered or uninsured vehicle in the NT; you can be fined or may have to go to court.

Upon registration or renewal of a vehicle registration certificates will be provided to owners and registered operators.

### How can I check if my vehicle is registered?

There are a number of ways to check the registration status of a NT vehicle, this includes:

- [NT REGO app](#)
- [Rego Check Online](#)
- by phone 1300 654 628 (Monday to Friday, 8am-4pm)
- in person at a Motor Vehicle Registry Office

If your heavy vehicle is registered with a NHV number plate, you can also check its registration status by accessing the:

- [National Heavy Vehicle Regulator \(NHVR\) Registration Checker app](#)
- [Registration Services module on the NHVR Portal](#) - (<https://www.nhvr.gov.au/road-access/registration/nhvr-portal-registration-services-module>)

### Will I still get my renewal reminder notice?

You will continue to receive a courtesy renewal notice 4-6 weeks before the expiry due date of a vehicle.

You can also choose to receive SMS reminders, these are sent 7 and 2 days before the registration expires. If the registration is not renewed by the registration due date, additional SMS reminders will be sent 2 and 7 days after the expiry date.

To nominate to receive SMS reminders, go to [MVR QuickPay](#), phone the Contact Centre 1300 654 628 or visit your local MVR office.

### What happens if I am driving someone else's vehicle?

It is your responsibility to ensure any vehicle you are driving is registered.

Driving an unregistered vehicle is an offence attracting an infringement fine. If the matter goes to court, heavier penalties can apply.

### Do I need a registration label when travelling interstate?

You must continue to display a registration label on a heavy vehicle until 31 July 2019. From 1 August 2019 you will not need to display a registration label in any state or territory.

### Do the changes apply to special purpose vehicles as well?

Yes. Special purpose vehicles will no longer need to display a registration label as of 1 August 2019.

## Introduction of new National Heavy Vehicle (NHV) number plates

As of 1 August 2019 NHV number plates will be available for the registration of heavy vehicles and trailers (more than 4.5 tonne), that are currently eligible for a general issue number plate (this does not include Plant, Special Purpose, or Commercial Passenger Vehicles).

The plates will look similar to the example below:



Northern Territory general issue and personalised number plates will still be available and operators will have a choice of which number plate type they would like to display. NHV number plates cannot be personalised.

### Do I need to have the new NHV number plates?

No. The right to display these nationally recognised plates is voluntary and by application.

### How to apply

Owners and registered operators can apply for a NHV number plate at any time by completing the form R48 - Application for right to display a National Heavy Vehicle number plate.

Learn more about how to [Register your heavy vehicle in the NT](#)

### Fees

There is a nationally consistent fee of \$25 for the issue of a set of NHV number plates, in addition to the normal Northern Territory [heavy vehicle registration fees](#).

For more information on NT heavy vehicle registration fees go to:  
[nt.gov.au/driving/fees/heavy-vehicle-fees](http://nt.gov.au/driving/fees/heavy-vehicle-fees)

### Benefits of having NHV plates

NHV number plates can be transferred with registrations into any other State or Territory apart from Western Australia. Additionally, owners and registered operators opting for a NHV number plate, will have free access to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) Portal Registration Services Module. For information on this service, please visit the [NHVR website](https://www.nhvr.gov.au/road-access/registration/nhvr-portal-registration-services-module) (<https://www.nhvr.gov.au/road-access/registration/nhvr-portal-registration-services-module>).

### What happens when I transfer the registration of a heavy vehicle with a NHV plate to another jurisdiction?

If you are transferring it to Western Australia, a new number plate will be issued and the relevant fees will apply.

If you are transferring it to any other jurisdiction, the vehicle can keep the same NHV plate and no number plate fees will apply.

### What happens to the NHV plate when I sell a vehicle?

As long as the vehicle is registered at the time of sale, and the purchaser is in a jurisdiction other than Western Australia, the number plate can transfer with the registration. If the vehicle is unregistered at the time of sale, the purchaser may need to be issued with new plates when registering the vehicle.

### Information sharing with the NHVR

To be eligible to be issued with a NHV number plate, owners and registered operators must consent for all information collected for the purposes of inspecting and registering the vehicle to be shared with the NHVR, for purposes of performing its functions under the *Heavy Vehicle National Law* (HVNL). Please refer to the [R48 Application for right to display a national heavy vehicle number plate](#) form for more detail on this consent.

### Heavy vehicle law in the Northern Territory

Vehicles registered in the Northern Territory with NHV number plates are registered under the *Motor Vehicles Act 1949* of the Northern Territory. The HVNL (as it is applied in participating jurisdictions) is not a law of the Northern Territory.

While operating a heavy vehicle in the Northern Territory, you must comply with Northern Territory law. For information about operating a heavy vehicle in the Northern Territory, please visit [www.nt.gov.au](http://www.nt.gov.au)

For information about operating a heavy vehicle in Western Australia, please visit [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au) or for all other States and the Australian Capital Territory, please visit [www.nhvr.gov.au](http://www.nhvr.gov.au).

Further information on the NHV plates can be found on the [NHVR website](https://www.nhvr.gov.au/road-access/registration) (<https://www.nhvr.gov.au/road-access/registration>).