

**321.134 Monthly penalty.**

1. On the first day of the second month following the beginning of each registration year a penalty of five percent of the annual registration fee shall be added to the annual registration fees not paid by that date and an additional penalty of five percent shall be added the first day of each succeeding month, until the fee is paid. A penalty shall not be less than five dollars. If the owner of a vehicle surrenders the registration plates for a vehicle prior to the plates becoming delinquent, to the county treasurer of the county where the vehicle is registered, or to the department if the vehicle is registered under [chapter 326](#), the owner may register the vehicle any time thereafter upon payment of the annual registration fee for the registration year without penalty. To avoid a penalty or an additional penalty in the case of a delinquent registration through a county treasurer, if the last calendar day of a month falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, the payment deadline is extended to include the first business day of the following month. For payments made through a county treasurer's authorized internet site only, if the last day of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, the electronic payment must be entered by midnight on the first business day of the next month. All other electronic payments must be entered by midnight on the last day of the month preceding the delinquent date.

2. The annual registration fee for trucks, truck tractors, and road tractors registered by the county treasurer, as provided in [sections 321.120, 321.121, and 321.122](#), may be payable in two equal semiannual installments if the annual registration fee exceeds the annual registration fee for a vehicle with a gross weight exceeding five tons. The penalties provided in [subsection 1](#) shall be computed on the amount of the first installment only and on the first day of the seventh month of the registration period the same rate of penalty shall apply to the second installment, until the fee is paid.

3. If a penalty applies to an annual vehicle registration fee provided for in [sections 321.120, 321.121, and 321.122](#), the same penalty shall be assessed on the fees collected to increase the registered gross weight of the vehicle, if the increased gross weight is requested within forty-five days from the date the delinquent vehicle is registered for the current registration period.

4. Notwithstanding [subsections 1 through 3](#), if a vehicle registration is delinquent for twenty-four months or more, a flat penalty and fee shall be assessed for the delinquent period in addition to the current annual registration fee. The flat penalty and fee shall be one hundred fifty percent of the current annual registration fee.

5. The department shall waive the penalties imposed by [this section](#) for an owner who is in the military service of the United States and who has been relocated as a result of being placed on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. The department shall adopt rules to implement [this subsection](#), including, if necessary, procedures for refunding penalties collected prior to March 29, 2004.

[SS15, §1571-m7; C24, 27, 31, 35, §4931; C39, §5009.02; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §321.134]

82 Acts, ch 1062, §26, 38; 83 Acts, ch 24, §6, 12; 89 Acts, ch 185, §4; 90 Acts, ch 1230, §18; 2002 Acts, ch 1043, §2; 2004 Acts, ch 1013, §23, 35; 2004 Acts, ch 1092, §4; 2007 Acts, ch 143, §13; 2008 Acts, ch 1113, §100; 2012 Acts, ch 1093, §13, 40; 2013 Acts, ch 90, §257; 2013 Acts, ch 103, §10; 2017 Acts, ch 92, §1

Referred to in [§321.39, §321.123, §331.557, §331.653](#)  
Subsection 1 amended