



TAX & TAG TIPS

FEBRUARY 2022

Money-Saving Tip: How to Avoid Insurance Lapse Fees

Second only to insurance not showing in the state's system, people are often shocked to learn that they have been assessed an insurance lapse fee by the state. Nothing can happen with the vehicle's registration until the lapse fine is paid or cleared.

Lapse fees happen automatically when the state's system detects a vehicle that is registered but does not show Georgia insurance coverage.

Here's my tip: Always cancel your vehicle registration BEFORE you cancel the vehicle's insurance to avoid being assessed an insurance lapse fee.

When it comes to trading in your vehicle to a dealer, be aware that dealers cannot access your registration to cancel it. So even if they tell you they will "take care of everything," that does not include canceling the registration. That is your responsibility.

Here's the easiest way to cancel a vehicle registration:

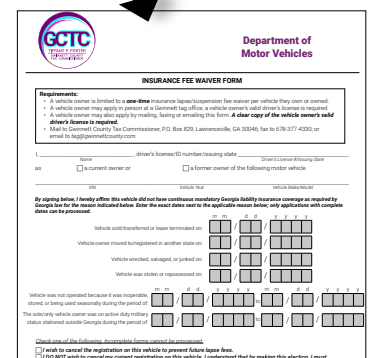
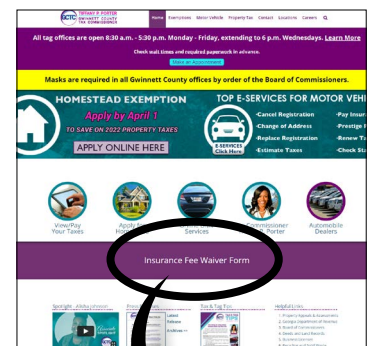
1. Go to my website: GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/eservices
2. In the "Vehicle Title and Registration" box, click on "Cancel Vehicle Registration."
3. Enter your vehicle and identity information and click "Submit."

If a lapse fee has already been assessed to your vehicle, you must pay or clear it prior to canceling the registration. If your insurance did lapse while the vehicle was in use, follow the process to pay the fine from the same e-Services page.

If you do not owe the fine, you can apply to have it removed by downloading and completing the "Insurance Fee Waiver Form" from the homepage of my website – GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com, and emailing a copy of the completed form and a copy of your valid driver's license to tag@gwinnettcountry.com.



Tiffany P. Porter, Esq.
Tax Commissioner



Best regards,

I want to help you conduct your tax and tag business with ease. Send your suggestions to TaxCommissioner@gwinnettcountry.com.



Apply for Homestead Exemptions by April 1

The best way to reduce your property tax bill is to apply for a homestead exemption. You are likely eligible if you own and occupy your home as your primary residence on or before Jan. 1 and apply by Apr. 1. It's quick and easy to apply online at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/Apply. If you already have an exemption in place, you do not need to reapply.



Does my Vehicle Need an Emissions Test in 2022?

Model years **1998-2019** must have a passing GA emissions test to register or renew in 2022. This applies to gasoline-powered vehicles up to 8,500 pounds. Visit CleanAirForce.com for testing locations and other emissions information.



We're Here to Help!

Customer Service Agents available 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays.

Property Tax: tax@gwinnettcounty.com • 770-822-8800
Motor Vehicles: tag@gwinnettcounty.com • 770-822-8818
Chat with us at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.



Tag Office Hours • All Locations

MON • TUE • THU • FRI	WED	SAT
8:30 - 5:30	8:30 - 6:00	Closed

Make an appointment or check tag office wait times in advance at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.