

Authorized Medical Certifiers

Medical certification and recertification requirements for handicapped parking privileges must be satisfied by the certification of a licensed physician, a licensed physician assistant, a licensed nurse practitioner, a licensed ophthalmologist, a licensed optometrist or the Division of Services for the Blind or by a disability determination by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that the applicant is handicapped.

For an initial application for temporary placard only, the certification that the applicant is handicapped may be made by a licensed certified nurse midwife.

Disability Parking Placards

A licensed medical provider certifies that the applicant is a person with an affliction, disability or handicap defined under G.S. 20-37.5. The Disability Parking Placard is issued for five years and requires a medical provider's re-certification upon re-issuance to continue parking in disability accessible areas. Applicants will be mailed a renewal application to be re-certified by their medical provider. Applicants may renew their Disability Parking Placard up to 90 days prior to the expiration date of the placard.

Temporary Disability Parking Placards

A licensed medical provider certifies that the applicant is a person with an affliction, disability or handicap defined under G.S. 20-37.5. The Temporary Disability Parking Placard is issued for a period of one to six months. If an extension is needed beyond the expiration date, a new application with medical provider's re-certification will be required. Upon expiration, Temporary Disability Parking Placards should be destroyed.

Total and Permanent Disability Parking Placards

A licensed medical provider certifies that the applicant is a person with an affliction, disability or handicap defined under G.S. 20-37.5 and is of a total and permanent nature. The Total and Permanent Disability Parking Placard is issued for five years and does not require a medical provider's re-certification upon re-issuance to continue parking in disability accessible areas. Applicants will be mailed a renewal application. Applicants may renew their Total and Permanent Disability Parking Placard up to 90 days prior to the expiration date of the placard.

Parking Privileges for Handicapped Drivers and Passengers

G. S. 20-37.6 (a) General Parking – Any vehicle that is driven by or is transporting a person who is handicapped and that displays a distinguishing license plate, a removable windshield placard, or a temporary removable windshield placard may be parked for unlimited periods in parking zones restricted as to the length of time parking is permitted. This provision has no application to those zones or during times in which the stopping, parking, or standing of all vehicles is prohibited or which are reserved for special types of vehicles. Any qualifying vehicle may park in spaces designated as restricted to vehicles driven by or transporting the handicapped.

Rules that govern the Parking Placard for the Afflicted, Disabled or Handicapped Person

- The placard is portable from one vehicle to another.
- Hang the placard from the rearview mirror or place on the driver's side dash if there is no rearview mirror.
- The placard registration card must remain with each placard while in use.
- The fee is \$20.00 to replace the registration card for your placard if it becomes lost.
- The fee to replace a lost/stolen placard itself is \$5.00.
- Damaged placards will be replaced at no fee.
- Any organization certified by State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency that regularly transports handicapped persons may apply. G. S. 20-37.6 (c)