WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §17A-6-15a

§17A-6-15a. Temporary registration plates for auto mechanics; fees.

(a) Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of this article, an auto mechanic may make application for access to the division's electronic temporary plate issuance system established in §17A-6-15 for an auto mechanic temporary registration plate or plates as developed by the Division of Motor Vehicles. The auto mechanic temporary registration plate may be used to operate or move a vehicle upon the highways and streets of this state solely for the purposes of diagnosing mechanical or functional problems of a vehicle or testing a vehicle being repaired or serviced that is in the possession or bailment of the mechanic or his or her employer for repairs or diagnosis of a malfunction, conducted in the ordinary course of the business of the auto mechanic, if such vehicle does not have a valid registration plate physically displayed or available for display.

(b) An auto mechanic may make application upon a form prescribed by the commissioner for access to the electronic temporary plate issuance system. The application fee is $100. The applicant shall submit all necessary information required by the commissioner. The commissioner shall determine whether the applicant is a bona fide person or business eligible to access the electronic temporary registration plate system and does, as a regular incident to, or in the regular course of its business perform repairs, services, tests or diagnoses malfunctions of motor vehicles, and has need to operate motor vehicles which may not be properly registered, upon the highways and streets of this state in the performance of such activities.

(c) Upon the commissioner's approval, the qualified auto mechanic will be given access to the electronic temporary plate issuance system for one year which access may be renewed annually upon proper application and payment of a $100 renewal fee. The auto mechanic temporary registration plate fees shall be the same amount and format as those fees required of dealers participating in the electronic temporary plate issuance system. Each auto mechanic temporary registration plate shall expire at 11:59 pm on the date of issuance.

(d) The mechanic must furnish a certificate of insurance to the commissioner showing coverage as required in §17D-1-1 *et seq*. of this code on vehicles displaying the auto mechanic temporary registration plates while being operated.

(e) For purposes of this section, "auto mechanic" or "mechanic" means a person, including an individual or an entity that is registered to do business in this state that performs repairs, services, diagnoses malfunctions of, or performs mechanical services to motor vehicles.

(f) If any auto mechanic using the electronic temporary plate issuance system violates the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall have the authority to immediately terminate said auto mechanic's access to the electronic temporary plate issuance system.

WV Legislature