



Pennsylvania Lost Vehicle Title Replacement

If your vehicle title is lost, stolen, or damaged, you can apply for a duplicate title through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). Use this checklist to prepare your application.

QUICK ANSWER

To replace a lost Pennsylvania vehicle title, complete Form MV-38O (Duplicate Certificate of Title) and submit it at a PennDOT Driver License Center or authorized agent with valid photo ID and payment for the duplicate title fee. Check the PennDOT website for the current fee schedule and any additional requirements.

KEY FACTS

State	Pennsylvania
Agency	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
Process	See official source
Notary required	Not specified
Bill of sale	Not specified
Odometer disclosure	Not specified
Last reviewed	May 10, 2026

QUICK REFERENCE

NOTARY Not specified	BILL OF SALE Not specified	ODOMETER Not specified	INSPECTION Not specified
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PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Required checklist

- ☐ **Government-issued photo ID** REQUIRED
Required to verify your identity.
- ☐ **Payment for application fee** REQUIRED
Check the official state DMV for the current fee amount.
- ☐ **Form MV-38O — Duplicate Certificate of Title** REQUIRED
[Form MV-38O](#)
Required to apply for a replacement title in Pennsylvania.
- ☐ **Current vehicle registration (if available)** CONDITIONAL

FEES

Duplicate title fee (Check PennDOT fee schedule for the current duplicate title fee.)

STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

- 1 Download or obtain the state's duplicate title application form.
- 2 Complete the form with your vehicle's VIN, year, make, model, and your owner information.
- 3 Gather required ID and any supporting documents.
- 4 Submit the form and pay the duplicate title fee at a state DMV office or by mail.
- 5 Receive your duplicate title in the mail (timing varies by state).

COMMON MISTAKES

- Using the wrong form — Pennsylvania requires Form MV-38O (Duplicate Certificate of Title), not a general vehicle application.
- Forgetting to bring valid government-issued photo ID to the PennDOT office or authorized agent.



- Not addressing an active lien first — if there is an outstanding lien on the vehicle, the lienholder may need to be involved before a duplicate title can be issued.

OFFICIAL SOURCES

PennDOT — Duplicate Title

<https://www.penndot.pa.gov/TravelInPA/Pages/Duplicate-Title.aspx>

PennDOT — Vehicle Registration

<https://www.penndot.pa.gov/TravelInPA/Pages/Motor-Vehicle-Registration.aspx>

PennDOT

<https://www.penndot.pa.gov>