

Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo #16-02

Persons with Disability (PWD) Permits

DATE: June 28, 2016

FROM: Mindi Nguyen, Administrative Assistant to Director, MVD

TO: All Driver Services staff, OVMCS staff and County Treasurers

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains legislation passed in 2016 (Senate File 2187) that expands the circumstances in which a veteran can apply for a persons with disability (PWD) permit.

SUMMARY

Affects the way a veteran with a disability rating may obtain a PWD parking permit. **This legislation is effective July 1, 2016.**

LINK TO LEGISLATION

Iowa Acts, 2016, SF 2187, Section 1. Section 321.189, subsection 8:
<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=86&ba=SF2187>

CURRENT

In order to obtain a PWD permit, this requires an individual to provide us with a signed letter from a licensed medical provider (medical doctor, osteopathic doctor, physician's assistant (PA), advanced registered nurse practitioner (NP), or chiropractor) or physician, PA, NP, or chiropractor licensed in a contiguous (bordering) state documenting a qualifying disability.

NEW

Legislation, effective July 1, 2016, allows a disabled veteran to submit a certificate of disability from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in lieu of a signed medical provider's statement.

RESOLUTION

Legislation provides for the Department (DOT) to adopt rules to establish acceptable VA disability certification in application for a PWD permit.

RESULT

The Iowa DOT will not implement the acceptance of a VA disability certification in lieu of a signed medical provider's statement until rules are developed and effective. Rules and further guidance are expected in early 2017.

HELPFUL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following questions and answers provide additional information that will be helpful to you and to customers.

CAN A DISABLED VETERAN STILL BRING US THE SIGNED MEDICAL PROVIDER'S STATEMENT TO APPLY FOR A PWD PERMIT?

Yes. The change will just allow a disabled veteran an additional way to apply for a PWD placard. They can still provide us with the signed medical provider's statement or once rules are adopted and implemented, they can elect to provide us with a qualifying VA disability certification instead of the signed medical provider's statement.

WHEN WILL WE HAVE TO START ACCEPTING THE VA DISABILITY CERTIFICATION?

The development of adopting rules and guidance for qualifying VA disability certification is in progress. The expected implementation date is early 2017. As we get closer to implementation, additional guidance and training will be provided.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF A DISABLED VETERAN BRINGS ME A VA DISABILITY CERTIFICATION BEFORE THE RULES ARE ADOPTED AND ACCEPTANCE IS IMPLEMENTED?

It is possible that this may happen. If you do receive a request to accept a VA disability certification before we're ready, politely advise the customer that the legislation provides for the Iowa DOT to adopt rules and guidance on the acceptance of VA disability certifications. We are currently developing rules and expect the process to be completed in early 2017. Advise the customer that they can bring us a signed medical provider's statement in the meantime.