

NM DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION REFORM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN CAN I START DRIVING AGAIN?

After September 1, 2023, confirm your license is reinstated before driving. Licenses currently suspended for FTA or FTP **ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL REINSTATED**. Driving before confirming your reinstatement could lead to a "Driving on a Suspended License" charge.

DO I HAVE TO DO ANYTHING?

No, license reinstatements will happen automatically. After September 1st, check that your license has indeed been reinstated, and then you are free to drive. You may be able to drive sooner.

AM I ELIGIBLE IF MY LICENSE WAS SUSPENDED A LONG TIME AGO?

Yes, all license suspensions for FTA/FTP are eligible for automatic reinstatement. However, if your license has been suspended for over 5 years, you may have to follow additional MVD requirements.

AM I ELIGIBLE IF MY LICENSE WAS REVOKED?

License revocations are not eligible for automatic reinstatement.

AM I ELIGIBLE IF I HAVE MULTIPLE ADVERSE ACTIONS ON MY LICENSE?

License suspensions/revocations resulting from DWI(s) and other forms of dangerous driving are not eligible for reinstatement. Actions other than FTP or FTA are not affected by the new law; they will require compliance with the normal reinstatement requirements for each separate action, including the \$27 reinstatement fee. In order to be eligible, the adverse action relating to the current suspension must be an FTA or FTP.

WHAT IF MY LICENSE WAS REVOKED FOR A DWI?

You are not eligible for automatic reinstatement if your license is currently revoked for a DWI.

DOES THIS CHANGE IN LAW ALTER MY OBLIGATION TO PAY UNDERLYING FINES TO THE COURT OR TO MVD?

No. While your suspension has been cleared and the reinstatement fee waived, your underlying fines remain in place. There may also be a bench warrant for your arrest for the FTA or FTP.

DOES THIS CHANGE IN LAW QUASH ANY OUTSTANDING BENCH WARRANTS THAT RESULTED FROM MY FTA OR FTP?

No. While your suspension has been cleared and the reinstatement fee waived, you may still have an active bench warrant for your arrest. In order to quash your warrant, contact the court or an attorney.

WHAT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS OR ENCOUNTER PUSHBACK AT THE MVD OR IN TRAFFIC COURT?

Please contact the Fines and Fees Justice Center, New Mexico Team at license@ffjc.us

If you believe the MVD or the court violated your rights pursuant to this change, we want to hear from you!