

**WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MANUFACTURERS? (TITLE 49 U.S.C. § 30111):**

Title 49 U.S.C. § 30111 authorizes NHTSA to issue safety standards for new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle equipment. All motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment manufactured or imported for sale in the United States must comply with all applicable FMVSS. Certain motor vehicles must also comply with regulations at 49 C.F.R. § 541, Theft Prevention and § 581, Bumper Standard.

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (49 C.F.R. § 565.4):**

Each vehicle manufactured in one stage shall have a VIN that is assigned by the manufacturer. Each vehicle manufactured in more than one stage shall have a VIN assigned by the incomplete vehicle manufacturer. Each VIN shall consist of seventeen (17) characters which conforms to U.S. standards.

**PURPOSE (49 C.F.R. § 567.1):**

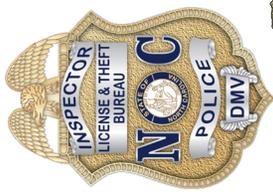
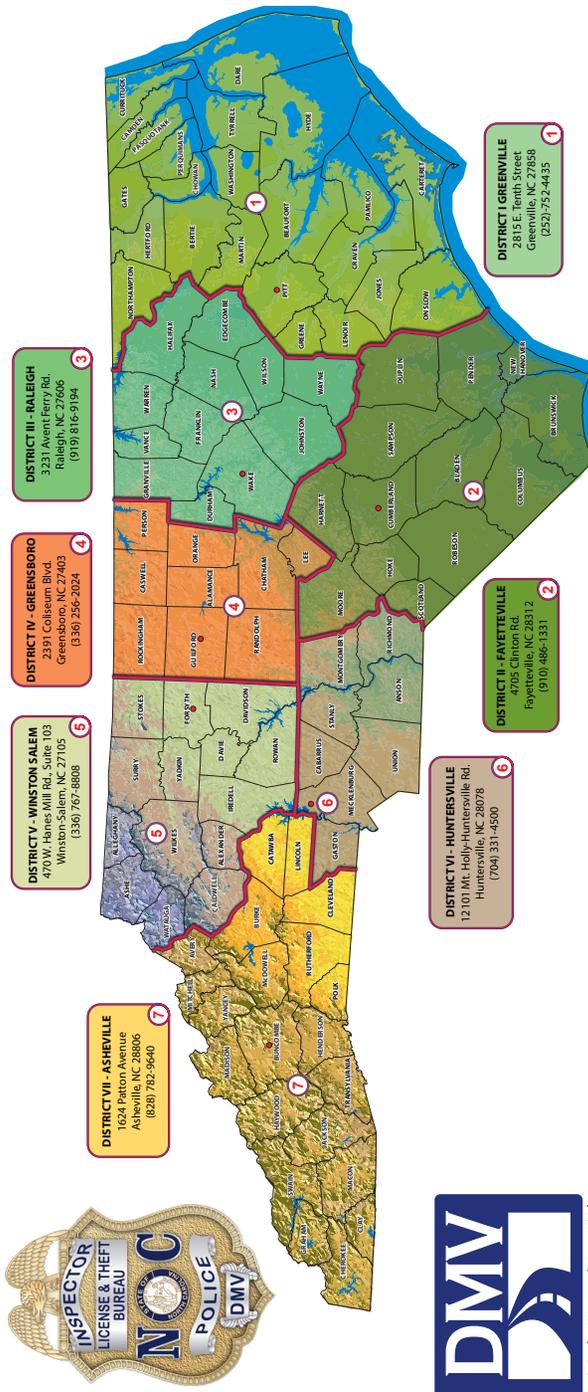
The purpose of this part is to specify the content and location of, and other requirements for, the certification label or tag to be affixed to motor vehicles.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR MANUFACTURERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES (49 C.F.R. § 567.4):**

Each manufacturer of motor vehicles shall affix to each vehicle a label, of the type and in the manner described below, containing the statements specified in paragraph (g) of this section.

The label shall, unless riveted, be permanently affixed in such a manner that it cannot be removed without destroying or defacing it. The location of the label shall be such that it is easily readable without moving any part of the vehicle except an outer door.

The lettering on the label shall be of a color that contrasts with the background of the label. The label shall contain the following statement in the English language "This vehicle conforms to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards in effect on the date of manufacture shown above."



North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles

**For further guidance, consider contacting the License & Theft Bureau office nearest to you.**

**LOW-SPEED VEHICLES OR A GOLF CART**



North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles

### WHAT IS A LOW-SPEED VEHICLE (LSV)?

N.C. General Statutes, Chapter 20-4.01 (27)(g), states a low-speed vehicle is a four-wheeled electric vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 miles per hour but less than 25 miles per hour. A Golf Cart on the other hand, is defined in N.C. General Statutes, Chapter 20-4.01 (12a) as a vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 miles per hour.

### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO LICENSE MY LSV?

N.C. General Statutes Chapter 20-87 (12) states the fee for a low-speed vehicle is the same as the fee for private passenger vehicles of not more than 15 passengers.

### CAN I REGISTER MY GOLF CART?

**No.** N.C. General Statutes Chapter 20-54 (8) states the Division shall refuse registration or issuance of a certificate of title or any transfer of registration if the vehicle is a golf cart or utility vehicle.

### ARE THERE ANY EXCEPTIONS TO WHERE I CAN OPERATE MY GOLF CART?

**Yes.** Some municipalities have been authorized by the General Assembly to regulate the operation of golf carts and all terrain vehicles. You will need to contact the local government in your area to determine if they have been authorized. If authorized, ask what criteria is stipulated, but remember, this does not mean that NCDMV can license or title your golf cart.

### CAN I RETROFIT MY GOLF CART TO MEET LSV REQUIREMENTS?

**No, you cannot.** This can only be accomplished through a manufacturer that has been licensed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to build a LSV. You can locate a licensed manufacturer through the NHTSA Website.



### WHERE CAN I OPERATE MY LSV AND WHAT EQUIPMENT IS REQUIRED?

N.C. General Statutes Chapter 20-121.1 governs the operation of a low-speed vehicle on certain roadways as well as required equipment. The operation of a low-speed vehicle is authorized with the following restrictions:

1. A low-speed vehicle may be operated only on streets and highways where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less...This subdivision does not prohibit a low-speed vehicle... from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street being crossed has a posted speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour.
2. A low-speed vehicle... shall be equipped with headlamps, stop lamps, turn signal lamps, tail lamps, reflex reflectors, parking brakes, rearview mirrors, windshields, windshield wipers, speedometer, seat belts, and a vehicle identification number. Any such required equipment shall be maintained in proper working order.
3. A low-speed vehicle... shall be registered and insured in accordance with G.S. 20-50 and G.S. 20-309.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other subdivision of this section, the Department of Transportation may prohibit the operation of low-speed vehicles...on any road or highway if it determines that the prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety.
5. Low-speed vehicles must comply with the safety standards in 49 C.F.R. § 571.500.

### WHAT EXACTLY IS 49 C.F.R. 571.500?

49 C.F.R. § 571.500 is Section 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations and Part 571.500 which specifies what equipment must be present and what the braking and crash test requirements are for a LSV.

### STANDARD NO. 500; LOW-SPEED VEHICLE

#### Scope:

This standard specifies requirements for low-speed vehicles.

#### Purpose:

The purpose of this standard is to ensure that low-speed vehicles operated on the public streets, roads, and highways are equipped with the minimum motor vehicle equipment appropriate for motor vehicle safety.

#### Applicability:

This standard applies to low-speed vehicles.

#### Requirements:

(a) When tested in accordance with test conditions the maximum speed attainable in 1.6 km (1 mile) by each low-speed vehicle shall not more than 40 kilometers per hour (25 miles per hour).

(b) Each low-speed vehicle shall be equipped with:

1. Headlamps,
2. Front and rear turn signal lamps,
3. Taillamps,
4. Stop lamps,
5. Reflex reflectors: one red on each side as far to the rear as practicable, and one red on the rear,
6. An exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the vehicle or an interior mirror,
7. A parking brake,
8. A windshield that conforms to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard on glazing materials (49 CFR 571.205 - ANSI/SAE Z26.1-1996 specifications for either AS-1 or AS-4 glazing)
9. A VIN that conforms to the requirements of part 565 Vehicle Identification Number of this chapter, and
10. A Type 1 or Type 2 seat belt assembly conforming to Sec. 571.209 of this part, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 209, Seat belt assemblies, installed at each designated seating position.
11. Low-speed vehicles shall comply with the rear visibility requirements specified in paragraphs S6.2 of FMVSS No. 111.
12. An alert sound as required by § 571.141.

## Scan for more Information



[nhtsa.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov)



[ncdot.gov/dmv/title-registration/vehicle/Pages/vehicle-types.aspx](https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/title-registration/vehicle/Pages/vehicle-types.aspx)