Titling & VIN Assignment in Maryland
Received from the MDOT – MVA on July 22, 2026

Purpose: To establish ownership for a motorcycle that was built by someone who is not a manufacturer.

- Customer:
  - Transferor - Owner of the vehicle's frame.
  - Transferee - The individual who builds the motorcycle (or arranges to have it built) from parts that were owned or purchased.
- Comments: The Maryland State Police must inspect the completed motorcycle at the Glen Burnie MVA garage. At that time, any old VIN plates are removed and a new VIN plate is attached.

Application

- Maryland Certificate of Title - The section on the back entitled Application for Title and Registration must be properly completed; OR
- Application for Certificate of Title (form #VR-005) - The customer should use this form when the vehicle is titled in another state.
- Proof of ownership is associated with the frame, engine, and transmission used in constructing the vehicle. Used engines and transmissions require the submission of a title document or bill of sale identifying the part number. If the frame is built from scratch, a copy of the welders certification along with a letter from the welder indicating which parts they welded must be submitted.
  - Certificate(s) of origin - A certificate of origin is required when the frame is new. A certificate of origin is also required for a new engine and/or a new transmission that may have been used in constructing the motorcycle. All certificates of origin must conform to AAMVA guidelines; OR
  - Title - A properly assigned title (Maryland or out-of-state) is required when the frame is taken from a used vehicle; OR
  - Salvage certificate - A properly assigned salvage certificate (Maryland or out-of-state) is required when the frame is taken from a salvaged vehicle; OR
  - Registration document and bill of sale (non-title state ONLY) - A registration document and bill of sale may be submitted as proof of ownership ONLY if the state from which the frame was obtained did not issue a title (usually because of the vehicle's age).
    - Building frame from scratch - A copy of the welders certification along with a letter from the welder advising which parts they welded.
- Proof of purchase price
- a bill of sale and/or receipts for all parts and labor must be submitted to determine the value of the vehicle. The MVA reserves the right to require that the bill of sale be notarized.

Odometer disclosure

- If the vehicle is government owned, 10 years or older, or has a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) over 16,000 lbs, it is exempt from federal odometer disclosure requirements. However, a mileage statement is still required, which can be recorded on the Application for Certificate of Title (form #VR-005).

- Application for Assigned Vehicle Identification Number (form #VR-198)

- Motorcycle Equipment Certification (form #VR-094) required to certify that the motor has a rating of more than 1.5 brake horsepower and a motor capacity of at least 49cc.

- Maryland Safety Inspection Certificate - required if the vehicle is being registered at the same time. However, the new VIN plate must be attached, if applicable, before the vehicle is inspected.

- Power of attorney - must be submitted when a representative of the owner signs the titling forms on behalf of the owner. Note however that the representative cannot certify the odometer reading of the vehicle.

If none of these items can be provided, the last resort is to apply for a Court order. The court order specifically directs the MVA to issue a title for a vehicle to an individual who may lack one or more of the forms or information listed above and otherwise would qualify for the issuance of a title.