



Nebraska & Iowa Window Tint Law Guide

A side-by-side reference for legal visible light transmission (VLT), reflectivity, and film rules across both states we serve — so you can choose a shade that looks great and stays street-legal.

- NEBRASKA
- IOWA

WINDSHIELD	
NEBRASKA	Non-reflective tint permitted only above the manufacturer's AS-1 line (roughly the top 5"). Clear/untinted below the line.
IOWA	Tint permitted only above the AS-1 line (top ~6"). No full-windshield film, regardless of shade.
FRONT SIDE WINDOWS	
NEBRASKA	35% VLT minimum Must allow more than 35% of light in.
IOWA	70% VLT minimum Must allow at least 70% of light in — one of the strictest front-window standards in the U.S.
REAR SIDE WINDOWS	
NEBRASKA	20% VLT minimum Exception: no minimum on multipurpose vehicles, vans, or buses.
IOWA	No limit Any level of darkness is legal on rear side windows.
REAR WINDOW	
NEBRASKA	20% VLT minimum Exception: no minimum on multipurpose vehicles, vans, or buses.
IOWA	No limit Any level of darkness is legal; dual outside mirrors recommended for visibility.
REFLECTIVITY	
NEBRASKA	Front and rear side windows may not exceed 35% luminous reflectance.
IOWA	Current DOT standard is stated as a transparency (VLT) test rather than a separate reflectance percentage.
RESTRICTED TINT COLORS	
NEBRASKA	Red, yellow, or amber film is prohibited above the AS-1 line on the windshield.
IOWA	Same restriction: red, yellow, or amber film is prohibited above the AS-1 line.
MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS	
NEBRASKA	Available with a licensed physician's signed statement/affidavit on file.
IOWA	No new exemptions granted since July 4, 2012. Only previously approved Form 432020 exemptions remain valid.
FILM CERTIFICATION / STICKER	
NEBRASKA	Manufacturers are not required to certify film; no compliance sticker required.
IOWA	No certification or window sticker required.
PENALTY FOR VIOLATION	
NEBRASKA	Traffic infraction/citation; non-compliant tint can be cause for correction at a stop.
IOWA	Scheduled fine (roughly \$127-135, court costs vary); repeat violations can lead to DOT registration suspension.

NEBRASKA GOOD TO KNOW

SUVs, vans, and trucks get real flexibility in the back — rear side and rear glass can be tinted to any darkness. Front doors still have to stay at 35% VLT or lighter, and reflectivity is capped at 35% on every window behind the windshield.

IOWA GOOD TO KNOW

Iowa's front-window rule (70% VLT) is one of the strictest in the country, so front doors stay very light. The upside: rear side windows and the rear glass are completely unregulated, giving you full creative freedom on the back half of the vehicle.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Crossing state lines doesn't change your vehicle's registration state standard — Nebraska- and Iowa-registered vehicles are held to their home state's law wherever they're driven. If you split time between Omaha and the Iowa side of the metro, we'll help you land on a shade that satisfies both, or make sure your film matches the state your vehicle is titled in.

This guide is provided for general informational purposes only and reflects our understanding of Nebraska Revised Statute §60-6,257 and Iowa Code §321.438 / Iowa DOT administrative standards as of 2026. Tint laws change periodically and enforcement can vary by officer and jurisdiction. This is not legal advice — Tint City is a window film installer, not a law firm. For a binding determination, confirm current requirements with the Nebraska State Patrol, Iowa DOT, or your local county authority before installation.

Not sure what's legal on your vehicle?

We'll walk you through **compliant shade options** for your exact year, make, and model — free with every consultation.

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