

Are Temporary Permits Available for Driving an Unregistered Imported Car?

There are generally **no temporary permits available in Maine** that allow you to legally drive an unregistered imported car on public roads while you attempt to re-register it, especially if the car does not comply with federal safety and emissions standards.

Key Points:

- In most states, including Maine, temporary permits (sometimes called temporary operating permits or trip permits) are only issued after you have started the registration process and paid the required fees.
- These permits are typically for newly purchased vehicles or vehicles in the process of registration, and the vehicle must be eligible for registration under state and federal law.
- For imported vehicles that do not meet federal standards or have had their registration cancelled, you would not be eligible for a temporary permit in Maine.
- Temporary permits in other states (like Florida or California) may be available for specific situations, but they generally require the vehicle to be eligible for registration and may not apply to imported vehicles that do not meet U.S. standards.

Summary:

If your imported car is unregistered and not eligible for registration in Maine, you cannot obtain a temporary permit to drive it on public roads. The only legal options are to keep the vehicle off public roads or transport it by trailer until it is properly registered and meets all applicable regulations.

1. https://www.reddit.com/r/DMV/comments/1ga4ntn/driving_imported_car_temporarily/
2. <https://www.deltabail.com/driving-a-car-without-registration-risks/>

3. <https://www.flhsmv.gov/driver-licenses-id-cards/commercial-motor-vehicle-drivers/international-registration-plan/temporary-trip-permits/>
4. http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0300-0399%2F0320%2FSections%2F0320.0715.html