# **Driver's License Suspension** Reform Act (DLSRA):

The DLSRA:

- Ends driver's license suspensions for failure to pay unpaid traffic fines
- **Reinstates driver's licenses**
- Creates an Installment Payment Plan to pay outstanding fines and fees

#### Who Does the DLSRA Apply to?

The DLSRA applies to individuals whose license has been suspended for:

- Failure to pay fines, fees, or surcharges for traffic violations (FTP); and
- Failure to Appear (FTA), including:
  - <sup>o</sup> Failure to answer a traffic summons
  - <sup>o</sup> Failure to answer an appearance ticket
  - Failure to appear at a traffic hearing

#### If my license was suspended for Failure to Pay Fines Fees, Surcharges (FTP)?

- <u>Contact</u> the traffic court or agency in which you received your traffic ticket to check the status of your license suspension. You can also order your DMV abstract for a \$7 fee. Visit DMV Abstract for instructions on how to do so.
- You will be entered into an installment payment plan.

#### If my license has been suspended for Failure to Appear (FTA)?

The DLSRA DOES NOT end license suspensions for FTA suspensions. To clear your current FTA suspension, you can:

- At any time, simply appear at the Traffic Court or Agency clerk's office/window at which you are instructed to appear; or
- Enter into an installment payment plan to pay any fines, fees, or surcharges attached upon conviction.

\* The DLSRA requires traffic courts and agencies to send TWO notices after June 29, 2021 before issuing new FTA suspensions. The first notice must be sent at least 30 days before the suspension date.\*

#### What is the Installment Payment Plan?

- The DLSRA gives individuals the right to enter into an installment payment plan to pay all of your fines, fees, and surcharges attached upon conviction.
- The payment plan requires you to pay 2% of your net monthly income <u>OR</u> \$25 a month (whichever is higher).

#### How to Enter into the Installment Payment Plan?

• Contact the traffic court or agency where your ticket instructed you to appear (see below). As of June 29, 2021, the traffic courts are sending written notice about eligibility and instructions on how to enter into a payment plan.

#### Monroe County Town & Village Courts

For information on the status of your license and how to enter into an installment payment plan, please use the contact information provided.

**Brighton Town Court** Rochester, NY 14618 (585) 784-5152

**Brockport Village Court 49 State Street** Brockport, NY 14420 (585) 637-1044

**Chili Town Court** 3235 Chili Avenue Rochester, NY 14624 (585) 889-1999

**Clarkson Town Court** 3655 Lake Road Clarkson, NY 14430 (585) 637-1134

East Rochester Town Court 120 West Commercial Street East Rochester, NY 14445 (585) 586-3553

Fairport Village Court 31 South Main Street Fairport, NY 14450 (585) 223-0316

**Gates Town Court** 1605 Buffalo Road Rochester, NY 14624 (585) 426-0410

**Greece Town Court** 4 Vince Tofany Boulevard Rochester, NY 14612 (585) 227-3110

**Hamlin Town Court** 1650 Lake Road Hamlin, NY 14464 (585) 964-8641

Henrietta Town Court 95 Methodist Hill Drive Rochester, NY 14623 (585) 359-2640

Honeoye Falls Village Court Perinton Town Court **5 East Street** Honeoye Falls, NY 14472 (585) 624-1711

**Irondequoit Town Court** 1300 Titus Avenue Rochester, NY 14617 (585) 336-6040

Mendon Town Court 16 West Main Street Honeoye Falls, NY 14617 (585) 624-6064

Ogden Town Court 269 Ogden Center Road Spencerport, NY 14472 (585) 617-6118

**Parma Town Court** 1300 Hilton Parma Road Hilton, NY 14468 (585) 392-9470

**Penfield Town Court** 1985 Baird Road Penfield, NY 14526 (585) 340-8623

1350 Turk Hill Road Fairport , NY 14450 (585) 223-0770

**Pittsford Town Court** 3750 Monroe Avenue Pittsford, NY 14534 (585) 248-3884

**Riga Town Court** 6460 East Buffalo Road Churchville, NY 14428 (585) 293-3884

**Rush Town Court** 5977 East Henrietta Road Rush, NY 14543 (585) 533-1130

**Sweden Town Court 18 State Street** Brockport, NY 14420 (585) 637-1070

Webster Town Court

1002 Ridge Road Webster, NY 14580 (585) 872-7020

Wheatland Town Court

22 Main Street Scottsville, NY 14546 (585) 889-3074

**Rochester Traffic Violations Agency** 

200 East Main Street, Suite B-002 Rochester, NY 14604 (585) 428-6555

#### Driver's License Suspension Reform Act (DLSRA): Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. What is the Driver's License Suspension Reform Act (DLSRA)?

On December 31, 2020, Governor Cuomo signed into law the Driver's License Suspension Reform Act (DLSRA). The DLSRA:

- Ends driver's license suspensions due to unpaid traffic fines and reinstates driver's licenses.
- Makes an installment payment plan available for those to enter into to pay all traffic fines, fees, and surcharges.
- <u>**Does not**</u> lift license suspensions for failure to answer a traffic summons or an appearance ticket or not appearing in traffic court.

#### 2. Does the DLSRA Apply to Me?

The DLSRA applies to you if your driver's license has been suspended for the following reasons:

- For not paying a fine, fee, or surcharge for a traffic violation.
- For not answering a traffic summons or appearance ticket or not appearing at a traffic hearing.

To find out if the DLSRA applies to you, contact the New York DMV by phone at (800) 698-2931 or online at <u>MyDMV</u> to check the status of your case if your driver's license has been suspended. You can also check if the DLSRA applies to you by ordering your DMV abstract online for a \$7 fee (\$10 if ordering by mail). Your driving abstract contains the traffic court or traffic violations agency that issued the suspension. To order your DMV abstract and instructions on how to do so, visit <u>DMV Abstract</u>.

### 3. What can I do if my Driver's License was suspended for unpaid traffic fines?

You can contact the traffic court or traffic violations agency at which your traffic ticket instructs you to appear at for information on how to enter into an installment payment plan.

### 4. Can my license be suspended if I currently have unpaid traffic fines? And if not, what are my options?

No. If you have unpaid traffic fines, your license can no longer be suspended due to nonpayment of any traffic fines. Traffic courts and traffic violations agencies are not enforcing driver's license suspensions due to unpaid traffic fines. However, your license may still be suspended for other reasons. Starting June 29, 2021, you may enter into an installment payment plan to pay any outstanding fines, fees, and surcharges.

### 5. How will I know if my license suspension due to unpaid traffic fines has been cleared?

If your driver's license was suspended for unpaid traffic fines, the DMV will automatically lift the suspension. There is a \$70 reinstatement fee that the DMV is waiving for unpaid traffic fines. Starting June 29, 2021, the DMV will be sending written notice to all individuals with license suspensions due to unpaid traffic fines to inform them of their cleared license suspension and their right to enter into an installment payment plan.

### 6. If I have not answered a traffic summons or responded to my traffic tickets, can my license be suspended?

Yes, the DLSRA <u>does not</u> end license suspensions for "failure to appear." Your license can be suspended for the following reasons:

- Failure to Answer a Traffic Summons
- Failure to Answer a Traffic Appearance Ticket
- Failure to Appear at your Traffic Hearing

# 7. How will I be notified about my license being suspended for Failure to Appear?

The DLSRA requires additional notice before your license can be suspended for "failure to appear," including not answering a traffic summons or appearance ticket, or not appearing in court. Before suspending a license for "failure to appear," the DMV must:

- Send two additional notices after the return notice; and
- Send the first notice at least 30 days before the suspension date.

## 8. What can I do if my license has been suspended for Failure to Appear?

You can clear your driver's license suspension based on failure to appear by:

- Simply going to the traffic court or traffic violations agency at which your traffic ticket instructs you to appear at and inform the court clerk's office/window that you are appearing for the purpose of clearing your license suspension.
- Entering into a payment plan for unpaid fines (if your license was suspended for failure to appear, the court/agency may have entered a default judgment that included a sentence of fines to be paid). Starting June 29, 2021, the DMV will be sending written notice to all individuals with licenses suspensions due to failure to appear to inform them of their right to enter into an installment payment plan.

The \$70 reinstatement fee <u>will not</u> be waived for suspensions based on failure to appear. If you are unable to pay this fee at the time you are appearing, the traffic court is <u>still required</u> to accept and certify your appearance and the fee will be included in an installment payment plan.

#### 9. What is the timeline for the termination of the license suspensions?

- <u>BEFORE</u> June 29, 2021: the DMV is automatically lifting all suspensions of driver's licenses, privileges to operate, and registrations for unpaid traffic fines and fees.
- <u>AFTER</u> June 29, 2021: the DMV will send written notice to all people with driver's license suspensions for unpaid traffic fines to inform them of their right to enter into payment plans. If you do not receive notice, contact the traffic court or traffic violations agency at which your traffic ticket instructs you to appear.

### 10. What is the installment payment plan under the DLSRA?

The DLSRA gives individuals the right to enter into an installment payment plan to pay all of their traffic related fines, fees, and mandatory surcharges.

- You will be required to pay 2% of net monthly income OR \$25 a month (whichever amount is higher). Your net income is calculated by the total income from all sources and assets minus the deductions required by law.
- You may be required to submit a financial disclosure report for purposes of calculating net income.

# 11. How will I know if I am eligible for the installment payment plan?

You can contact the traffic court or traffic violations agency at which your traffic ticket instructs you to appear at to request information on the status of your license suspensions and how to enter into an installment payment plan. Starting June 29, 2021, the DMV will be sending written notices to all individuals with license suspensions due to unpaid traffic fines and failure to appear.

#### 12. What do I do if I can no longer afford my payments?

If you are unable to pay your monthly payments:

- Contact the traffic court or traffic violations agency at which your traffic ticket instructs you to appear.
- You may petition the Court to reduce your monthly payments if you have experienced a decrease in income. <u>Note</u>: this can only occur two times in one year.

#### 13. What happens if I miss a payment?

If you miss a payment, the traffic court/traffic violations agency will not take any action until after 90 days of the missed payment. The court/agency may only take "additional collection activity" once the 90 days have passed since the required payment date. "Additional collection activity" may vary based on the court/agency's practices and procedures.