

# **DMV Occupational Licensees (Prohibited Domain)**

DIGITAL CHANNELS BRANCH • DIGITAL SERVICES DIVISION • © 2026 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

**Issue Date: January 21, 2026**

## **New Information**

Effective January 1, 2026, occupational licensees are prohibited from using internet domain names that include the initials “DMV” or the words “Department of Motor Vehicles.” This change is in accordance with Assembly Bill 1272 (Dixon, Ch. 68, Stats. 2025), which expands existing law prohibiting the use of the initials “DMV,” the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) logo, or the words “Department of Motor Vehicles” in any business name or telephone number.

**NOTE:** A violation of *Vehicle Code* §25 is punishable as a misdemeanor.

## **Background**

DMV is notifying the automotive industry of new laws that took effect starting January 1, 2026.

## **References**

*Vehicle Code* §§25 and 40000.11  
*Business and Professions Code* §17527  
Assembly Bill 1272 (Dixon, Ch. 68, Stats. 2025)

## **Distribution**

Notification of this memo (available at [dmv.ca.gov](http://dmv.ca.gov) by searching Vehicle Industry Services) was sent through the California DMV Automated Email Alert System in January 2026 to:

- Vehicle Dealers
- Vehicle Manufacturers
- Vehicle Distributors
- Vehicle Remanufacturers
- Lessor-Retailers
- Dismantlers
- Transporters
- ATV Schools
- Driving Schools
- Traffic Schools
- Traffic Violator Schools
- Registration Services
- Vessel Agents