

## Missouri State University: Modernizing Campus Parking Virtual Permits are Here!

### Permits will go on sale July 1, 2026, with the effective date of August 1, 2026

To enhance convenience and sustainability, Missouri State University Transportation Services is moving to virtual parking permits.

Virtual permits eliminate the need for stickers and hangtags, allow users to update vehicles online without visiting an office, reduce waste, and simplify parking enforcement.

This system uses advanced License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology, where specialized cameras read your license plate to instantly verify that you have a valid permit.

### What Does This Mean For You?

- **No More Stickers:** You will no longer receive a physical decal or hangtag. **Your license plate is your permit.**
- **Existing Portal, New Process:** While you will still log into the same T2 Systems online portal to purchase your permit, the information you provide and how you park on campus will be subject to new, precise requirements.

### What Is Not Changing

- Parking lot designations remain the same.
- Existing parking regulations remain in effect with some modifications reflecting the absence of physical permits.
- You must still purchase and maintain a valid permit.

### Your Step-by-Step Transition Guide

The success of your virtual permit relies entirely on the accuracy of your vehicle registration.

#### 1. Visit the MSU Parking Portal: Starting July 1, 2026.

Access the online MSU Parking Portal as you always have. Log in using your university credentials (your active BearPass login). The new virtual permits will be valid starting **August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**. You will have all of July to obtain the new permit. Your current physical permit still needs to be displayed until August 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### 2. Update Vehicle & Plate Information: Treat characters precisely.

You *must* verify that your license plate is entered correctly in the T2 system. The system requires an exact character match.

- Enter all letters and numbers **without** dashes or spaces (e.g., if your plate is 'ABC-123', enter 'ABC123').
- **CRITICAL RULE:** When entering your plate number, carefully distinguish between the number 0 (zero) and the letter O. The parking system requires an exact match to the plate information.

- **Visual Guide: Understanding Your Missouri License Plate**
- The most common reason for an accidental citation during an LPR rollout is misidentifying the numbers '0' and the letter 'O' when entering data into the permit portal. Use the following graphic to ensure your entry is correct.



- **Missouri license plates use the tall, narrow zero (0). Always enter this character as a number in the MSU portal.**

### 3. Adjust Your Parking Habit: Necessary for LPR camera read.

Your plate must be visible to the enforcement vehicles driving the lot lanes.

- **If you have only one plate:** You must park with the plate facing the driving aisle. Backing into a space or pulling through so the empty bumper faces the lane will result in a citation.
- **If you have two plates (front and rear):** You may park facing either direction.

### Information for Faculty & Staff

#### Payroll Deduction & Annual Renewal Process

While the technology reading your plate is changing, the way full-time employees pay for parking remains the same, with one major operational update regarding permit duration:

- **Convenient Payroll Deduction:** Full-time faculty and staff will continue to pay for their parking permits through standard payroll deduction.
- **Discontinuation of Multi-Year Permits:** To ensure the License Plate Recognition (LPR) database remains accurate and secure, **multi-year permits are being discontinued.**
- **Mandatory Annual Renewal:** Every employee must log into the MSU Parking Portal annually to renew their permit and verify their vehicle details. When sales open on **July 1st**, you must review your account, update your vehicle(s) information, license plate number(s), and officially renew your virtual permit for the upcoming academic year.

**Why the change to annual renewal?** Because your license plate is now your physical credential, outdated vehicle information in our system will lead to accidental citations. Forcing a quick annual check ensures that if you bought a new car, changed your plates, or need to remove an old vehicle, it is caught before the semester begins.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### The New System

#### Why is MSU making this change?

Virtual permits are faster to acquire (no lines, no mailing time) and more sustainable. LPR technology provides real-time data on lot usage, allowing Transportation Services to optimize parking availability in the long term.

#### Will parking permit rates increase because of this technology?

No. Parking rates are determined independently of the enforcement technology. The shift is strictly for operational efficiency.

#### Are physical permits still available if I prefer one?

No. Effective July 1, 2026, all permit validations will be virtual. State-issued disability placards must still be displayed on your mirror (if a hangtag) in addition to your active MSU virtual permit.

#### What happens if I type the character 'O' (letter) instead of '0' (number) in the portal?

The system will record the wrong permit. When the enforcement camera scans your plate (which is a number '0'), the system will flag the vehicle as "unpermitted," and a citation may be issued. The onus is on you, the registrant, to enter your data correctly (see the visual guide above), but the Parking Office will of course work to correct the information as soon as we are aware.

#### Can I register more than one vehicle to my permit?

Yes. Faculty, staff, and students may link multiple family vehicles to a single virtual permit. However, **only one vehicle associated with that permit may be parked on campus at any given time.** If both vehicles must be on campus simultaneously, one must park in a paid visitor space or use a separate permit.

#### What do I do if I am driving a temporary car (e.g., a rental or loaner)?

You must contact the Parking Office *before* parking and update your vehicle file with the new plate information. The change is instant, and your new plate will immediately be covered by your active virtual permit for the duration of the temporary vehicle's use.

#### What if I get a new vehicle or new plates?

It is your responsibility to update your permanent vehicle information in the portal immediately upon receiving new state registration. Failure to do so may result in an unpermitted vehicle citation.

#### Can I back into my parking space?

You may only back in if your vehicle has a current, legal license plate affixed to the front bumper. If your vehicle only has a rear license plate, you *must* park with your nose in, allowing your rear plate to face the driving lane.

#### Are motorcycles required to have virtual permits?

Yes. All vehicles parked on campus, including motorcycles, are now subject to LPR virtual permit validation. Motorcycles must be registered in the portal by plate number.

**Important Note:** Your motorcycle only needs a **separate** permit if it is the only vehicle you will use. Just like another car, you can add a motorcycle to your vehicle permit with the same stipulation that only one vehicle per permit, including the motorcycle, is allowed on campus at the same time. Ensure you park with your motorcycle's license plate clearly facing the driving lane.

**Can I still park with my virtual permit on lots that are being used for events?**

Yes, though the lot staff will not have LPR to verify your license plate. We are working with the permit vendor to ensure that a permit verification email is sent with the permit purchase. This will serve as proof if you need to park on a lot being used for an event. There are some events that have reserved lots where the MSU permit does not apply.

**How will guest permits be issued?**

Guests can still get virtual permits through the online portal. Guests that have permits provided to them by university departments will still be paper and issued through the current process. We are working on a platform to go completely digital for guest permitting as well.