

For purposes of the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Distributors, and Dealers Franchising Practices Act ([9 V.S.A. chapter 108](#), containing 9 V.S.A. §§ 4083–4100f):

- “‘Franchise’ means all agreements and contracts between any new motor vehicle manufacturer, written or otherwise, and any new motor vehicle dealer that relate to the operation of the franchise and purport to fix the legal rights and liabilities of the parties to such agreements or contracts, including agreements pursuant to which the dealer purchases and resells the franchise product, performs warranty and other service on the manufacturer's products, leases or rents the dealership premises or agreements concerning the dealership premises, or construction or renovation of the dealership premises.” [9 V.S.A. § 4085\(6\)](#).
- **“‘Manufacturer’ means any person, resident or nonresident, who manufactures or assembles new motor vehicles, or imports for distribution through distributors of motor vehicles, or any partnership, firm, association, joint venture, corporation, or trust, resident or nonresident, that is controlled by the manufacturer.”** [9 V.S.A. § 4085\(10\)\(A\)](#).
- **“‘New motor vehicle dealer’ means any person engaged in the business of selling, offering to sell, soliciting, or advertising the sale of new motor vehicles and who holds, or held at the time a cause of action under this chapter accrued, a valid sales and service agreement, franchise, or contract, granted by the manufacturer or distributor for the retail sale of said manufacturer’s or distributor’s new motor vehicles.”** [9 V.S.A. § 4085\(13\)](#).

23 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4 contains requirements for dealers:

Subchapter 4: Registration Of Dealers And Transporters

[§ 450. Definition](#)

[§ 450a. Dealer registration; eligibility](#)

(a) A person shall not be eligible to register as a dealer unless the person:

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(4) Owns real estate (as defined in 1 V.S.A. § 132) as his or her place of business or has a lease with an expiration date not earlier than the last day of the registration year for which registration is sought under the provisions of this subchapter, which includes a building of at least 1,200 square feet in size used primarily for the business of the dealership. The building shall have adequate facilities for the maintenance of the records required by law to be kept including those required by section 466 of this title.

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(c) In addition to the requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section, a person shall not be eligible to register as a dealer in cars or motor trucks unless the person is open for business at least 146 days during the calendar year. The applicant shall provide the Commissioner with the hours of operation of the business that the person shall maintain during the registration period at the time of the application.

[§ 451. Dealer's certificate](#)

[§ 452. Expiration](#)

[§ 453. Fees and number plates](#)

[§ 454. Dealer's use of vehicles or motorboats](#)

[§ 455. Use by others than dealer](#)

[§ 456. Employees' use of vehicles, motorboats restricted](#)

[§ 457. Temporary plates](#)

[§ 458. Temporary plate on sold or exchanged vehicles](#)

[§ 459. Notice, application, and fees to Commissioner](#)

[§ 460. Dealer's use of temporary plates restricted](#)

[§ 461. Destruction of temporary plates](#)

[§ 462. Cancellation, revocation, or suspension of dealer's registration](#)

[§ 463. Sale of vehicle to go out of State](#)

[§ 464. Return of number plates by dealer](#)

[§ 465. Loaning of plates, vehicles, or motorboats prohibited](#)

[§ 466. Records; custodian](#)

[§ 467. Dealer duty to report sales, return expired plates](#)

[§ 468. General prohibition](#)

[§§ 469-471. Repealed. 1995, No. 188 \(Adj. Sess.\), § 4.](#)

[§ 472. Evidence of authorization](#)

[§ 473. When registration is allowed, required; penalties](#)

[§ 474. Repealed. 1979, No. 30, Section 3, eff. April 17, 1979.](#)

[§ 475. Administrative penalties](#)

[§ 476. Motor vehicle warranty fee](#)

[§§ 481-485. Repealed. 1969, No. 259 \(Adj. Sess.\), § 12.](#)

[§ 491. Transporter application; eligibility; use of transporter plates](#)

[§ 492. Certificate; expiration](#)

[§ 493. Loan of plates prohibited](#)

[§ 494. Fees](#)

[§ 495. Suspension of registration](#)

[§ 496. Written records](#)

[§ 497. Rulemaking](#)