

Silent Service Plates FAQs

Do I have to be a Submariner to be eligible for the USSVI plates?

Not only a Submariner, but you must be or have been designated %Qualified in Submarines.+ The only exception to this is a Dues Paying or Life member of the United States Submarine Veterans of World War II (USSVWWII).

Are Associate members of USSVWWII eligible for the plates?

No . they must be a member of USSVI, and %Qualified in Submarines.+

If my membership in USSVI lapses, do I loose my plates?

Yes. Continuing usage of the plates is contingent upon continued membership in good standing in USSVI.

What is the cost to switch over to %Silent Service+plates?

It will cost you \$65.00 to transfer your current plates to %Silent Service+plates. If you wish, DMV will issue you the next off-the-shelf plate number available. In either case, you will then have to continue with your biennial re-registration, at the normal fee.

What if I want my name, initials, or boat's name on the plates?

These are referred to as %Anity+plates, and you can get them with %Silent Service+plates, for \$130.00, (\$65 for the changeover to %Anity+, and \$65 for the changeover to %Silent Service+), with biennial re-registration at the normal fee.

I currently have %Anity+plates with my boat number on them. What's it going to cost me for %Silent Service+plates?

\$65.00 for the changeover to %Silent Service+, with biennial re-registration at the normal fee.

I'd like to get my boat's number on %Anity+plates. How can I find out what's available?

Go to this URL: ><http://www.ct.gov/dmv/cwp/view.asp?a=811&q=245200><. This will take you directly to DMV's USSVI sample plate page. Click on %Programs and Services+, and then click on %Anity Plate Lookup.+ (Ignore the %Plate Style Selection.+) Determine the availability of what you would like. If it's not available, you might try a few acceptable variations. There is no way that DMV can reserve a particular combination for you. If four sailors from the USS SPONGEBOB ordered %SPONGE+for their %Anity+plates at the same time, %SPONGE+would be issued to the first envelope opened. The other three would get the 2nd, 3rd or 4th choice indicated on their applications.

I currently have Combination, Handicapped, or another special plate. Can I still get %Silent Service+plates?

Yes . but must actually have the special plates first, and then apply for the %Silent Service+plates.

How long will I have to wait for my new plates?

Unless there is a problem, the coordinator's turn-around time is minimal before approval and forwarding to DMV. Their delay may be anywhere between 4-8 weeks.

How many characters may I order for %Vanity+plates?

In all cases, a max of six. However if your combination of numbers and letters (as shown on the application card) is six, and you want it on a Combination, Handicapped, ARRL or other special plate, there may not be room for the special logo and the USSVI logo. Somethings\$ gotta give, and it will be the 6th character on the %Silent Service+plates. If this occurs, you will be contacted by DMV.

Are there any hidden costs?

No, not for the plates! Once you've paid the \$65.00 for the %Silent Service+Plates, and the \$65.00 for vanity plates (if ordered), the only cost is your normal re-registration.

What about USSVI dues?

Normal dues are \$30, 00 per year, which includes payment to Groton Base and National. Life Membership is available from National, but then continues at \$10.00 per year for Groton Base. When you get to the point of having been %Qualified in Submarines+for over 50 years, there are no dues requirements.

My current registration is near expiration. Will this have any affect on applying?

Yes! If you are within 45 days of the expiration of your current registration, wait until you actually re-register your vehicle before applying for the changeover to %Silent Service+plates.

How do I order or get more information about the %Silent Service+plates?

(1) Call Carl Hochstetler, (860) 271-9381. If no answer, leave a message with your name and phone number, and you will be contacted ASAP, or (2) e-mail him at plates@subvetsgroton.org with your name and phone number, and hed\$ call you. In either case, hed\$ send you the paperwork you need for the %Silent Service+ plates, and USSVI membership (if needed.)