



# Texas Department of Public Safety

Information for the News Media  
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## **DRP surcharge amnesty payments due APRIL 17** **Applies only to those already accepted in the program**

The deadline to make payments on the Driver Responsibility Program surcharge amnesty is this Sunday, April 17. Those who signed up for the amnesty must pay the money owed in full by that date or the amount owed will revert to the original amount—and their driver privileges will once again be suspended.

This one-time amnesty program applied to drivers who had a surcharge assessed between Sept. 30, 2004, and Dec. 31, 2008, and were delinquent on those payments. Those eligible for the surcharge amnesty only had to pay 10 percent of what they owed, up to \$250.

Almost 110,000 people—15 percent of those eligible—signed up for the amnesty by the April 7 deadline. Approximately 72,000 have already paid in full, with DPS collecting \$5.3 million. The remaining 37,000 people are expected to pay \$4.5 million.

The payment deadline of April 17 falls on Sunday. Payments will be accepted online or by phone until midnight on Sunday, using a check, credit card or debit card. They also can pay by mail using a check or money order, as long as the envelope is postmarked by April 17.

To pay online, visit [www.txsurchargeonline.com](http://www.txsurchargeonline.com), or call 1-877-207-3170.

Remember, if DPS does not receive the full amount owed by the April 17 deadline, then the original amount will once again be owed and driving privileges will be suspended.

The Driver Responsibility Program, which assesses fees for a variety of driving-related offenses, was passed by the Legislature in 2003, and directed the Department of Public Safety to administer the program. Traffic offenses that carry an automatic surcharge for three years include DWI-related offenses, no insurance, driving while license suspended, driving without a license and point accumulation. For example, the fee for a first-time DWI offender is \$1,000 per year for three years. The revenue generated by DRP goes to trauma centers, emergency medical services and the General Revenue Fund.

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