

PlatePay

OTA's All-Electronic Tolling System

What Is "PlatePay"?

"PlatePay" is the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority's (OTA) next step towards cashless tolling at selected toll plazas on the turnpike system. The all-electronic tolling system debuted in a limited fashion on Oklahoma turnpikes in January 2017. Electronic tolling replaces the cash collection method at the toll plaza. As a vehicle passes through a PlatePay toll plaza, cameras take a photo of the vehicle license plate. An invoice is then mailed to the owner of the vehicle based on the state's vehicle registration information.

Impact on Dealers

According to a PlatePay representative, invoicing is processed manually for vehicles displaying an Oklahoma 30-day temporary tag or a licensed metal dealer plate.

- Tolls for vehicles with a metal dealer plate will be invoiced to the dealership.
- Tolls for vehicles with a properly displayed Oklahoma 30-day temporary tag generally will not be invoiced. The Authority recognizes that the temporary tag indicates the vehicle has been sold and current state registration does not reflect the new owner.
- Tolls for vehicles with an improperly displayed Oklahoma 30-day temporary tag may or may not be invoiced. If the automated system detects the underlying permanent plate, i.e. if the temp tag is blowing up in the wind, the toll may be invoiced based on the permanent metal plate registration. If the automated system is unable to detect the permanent metal plate it will reject the photo, submit it for manual processing, and likely not be invoiced.

Incorrect Invoicing

Despite the OTA's best efforts, incorrect PlatePay invoicing will occur because of outdated vehicle registration information at the state. Therefore, the OTA includes an "Affidavit of Nonliability" in each toll invoice or notice of violation. When a dealer receives an invoice or notification for a vehicle that was sold prior to the event, the completed Affidavit of Nonliability and proof of the sale should be promptly returned to the OTA. Proof of the sale might include a copy of the signed Retail Purchase Agreement and/or a copy of the completed assignment section of the certificate of title.

Penalties

Failure to properly notify the OTA of an improper billing can subject the dealership to additional penalties and will cause a hold to be placed on the vehicle registration. Once the hold is placed, the new owner will not be allowed to register the vehicle until the toll issue is resolved.

Plate Pay versus PIKEPASS

PlatePay toll rates are significantly higher than PIKEPASS. At the Peoria/Elm interchange on the Creek turnpike, for example, a 2-axle vehicle is charged \$1.60 while a PIKEPASS holder is charged only \$0.75. If the vehicle has a PIKEPASS sticker, the PIKEPASS account will be charged rather than being invoiced by PlatePay.

Going Forward

Plate Pay is currently in the pilot project stage and is only operational at the Peoria/Elm interchange on the Creek Turnpike. Toll plazas on other turnpikes and other areas of the Creek Turnpike still operate as cash collection points in addition to offering the PIKEPASS lanes. Non-PIKEPASS account holders must still stop and pay cash at other toll plazas across the state.

All-electronic tolling is already in broad use across the United States and it is expected to become more prevalent in Oklahoma. The OTA will plan the expansion of PlatePay based upon the results of the Peoria/Elm test project. According to OTA, PlatePay is most feasible on heavily traveled urban turnpikes where PIKEPASS has a high penetration rate. The Creek Turnpike and the Kilpatrick Turnpike will likely be the first to be incorporated into the PlatePay system.