

Washington County Attorney

Washington County Courthouse

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Collections Program FAQ

1. Will I go to jail if I miss 1 payment?

No. After 90 days of non-payment, we will send you a letter asking you to bring your payment agreement up to date. If after another 30 days there is still no payment, your payment plan may be revoked. If at any time your circumstances have changed and you find yourself unable to make your payments, please call us! We will work with you!

2. Do I have to pay off all of my fines to reinstate my driver's license?

No! We offer a Driver's License Reinstatement Program (also known as CAPP), which allows you to obtain your driver's license or temporary restricted license while you're on a satisfactory payment plan. However, failure to make payments could result in the payment agreement being revoked, and your license going back under suspension.

3. I was on a payment plan previously, and it was revoked due to non-payment. Can I get on another payment plan?

Yes! If you have a previously revoked payment agreement, we ask for either 3 consecutive months of payment OR \$100 down to start a new plan.

4. I lost my job/income. Will my payment agreement be revoked?

Not necessarily. If you call our office and explain the situation, we are happy to work with you. There may be an option to lower your monthly payments during a transition period.

5. I'm on a payment plan. Do I still need a lift notice to get my tags?

Yes. Even if you are on a satisfactory payment plan, you will need a 10-day lift notice to renew your tags. We are able to send a lift notice to any county in Iowa. We do ask that your payment agreement be current in order for us to issue a lift notice. However, if there are circumstances that prevent this, please call our office to work out a plan to move forward. We want you to succeed.

6. My fines are with a third party (Iowa Department of Revenue CCU). Can you still do a payment plan?

Maybe. We have the ability to ask for fines back from a third party. If they agree, they are sent back to our office, and we are able to do a payment plan for you (which also saves you 25% in fees!). Please don't hesitate to ask for a payment plan, even if your fines are with a third party. We can still try to help.

7. Some of my fines are from other counties. Can I combine them all onto one payment plan?

Maybe. Fines that are suspending, or have the potential to suspend, your driver's license in other counties can be combined onto one payment plan with permission from that county. We are happy to do our best to make that possible, however, it is not a guarantee.

8. Do I have to make my payment on the same day each month?

No. As long as you make a payment within the month every month, your payment is considered on time.

9. Can you take payments out of my account/card automatically each month?

No. We are unable to do automatic payments. However, several people choose to do an automatic withdrawal from their bank, and have a check sent to our office every month. That process is between you and your bank, however, and the county attorney's office is not responsible for that process. There are several convenient options for making your payments. You may pay at www.iowacourts.gov, you may send in a check or money order, or you can stop into the courthouse. If you need to drop off a payment after hours, there is a drop box outside of the West door of the courthouse where you can do so. Please do not place cash in the drop box or send cash through the mail.