

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES
Digital Signatures for Certificate of Title Documents

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Driver and Vehicle Records Division

November 1, 2021

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Digital Signatures for Certificate of Title Documents
Prescribed by the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on the use of digital signatures on documents related to the issuance of certificates of title.

What is a Digital Signature?

A digital signature is a cryptographic signature (a digital key) used to authenticate the user, provide nonrepudiation, and ensure message integrity. This is the strongest signature because it protects the signature by a type of tamper-proof seal that breaks if the message content were to be altered.

Nebraska Digital Signature Authority

The use of digital signatures is governed by the Nebraska Digital Signatures Act, [Neb.Rev.Stat. §86-611](#) and [Nebraska Administrative Code, Title 437](#).

Use of Digital Signatures for Documents Related to the Issuance of Certificates of Title

Digital signatures meeting all requirements of the Nebraska Digital Signatures Act may be accepted as follows:

- Digital signature services must be provided by an approved certification authority. List is available on the Nebraska Secretary of State's website at: <https://sos.nebraska.gov/licensing/digital-signatures-certification-authorites>.
- Digital signatures must be retained in a format which cannot be altered and indicates any unauthorized attempts to alter.
- Electronic records associated with the digital signature must be retained for five years and available to the Department of Motor Vehicles upon request.
- Documents presented for title issuance must contain markings indicating a digital signature has been applied including the name of the individual who has signed.
 - If a document cannot be imprinted with digital signature information in the appropriate location a wet signature is required.
- When a digital signature is for an entity other than an individual (business, trust, etc.), the digital signature must identify both the entity and the individual signing.