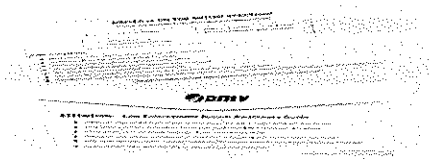
DMV BLUE ENVELOPE PROGRAM



What Is the Blue Envelope?

The Blue Envelope is a tool that helps drivers with autism during traffic stops or accidents. It informs officers that the driver may communicate differently and gives instructions to make the interaction easier.

The Blue Envelope Program was created under Code of Virginia § 46.2-203.3. Participation is voluntary and confidential.

Program Goals

- Enhancing Understanding – Officers have access to guidance printed on the envelope to promote empathy and patience.
- Reducing Anxiety – The envelope shows officers that the driver may need extra time or a calm approach.
- Streamlining Communication – The envelope includes tips to support effective communication during high-stress encounters.
- Encouraging Preparedness – It provides a structured way for drivers to keep all essential documents in one place and understand how to present them during a stop.

How to Get a Blue Envelope

You can request a Blue Envelope at any Virginia DMV customer service center (CSC). There is no cost, and no documentation is required. Caregivers or guardians may also request one on behalf of someone with autism. Browse our customer service center locations.

Preparing Your Blue Envelope

Follow these steps to make sure your envelope is ready for use:

1. Gather your documents

- Vehicle registration card

- Vehicle insurance card
- Emergency contact information
- (Recommended) A copy of your driver's license

2. Insert your documents
Fold and place the documents inside the envelope so they're easily accessible.

3. Add a support person's contact information
This should be someone an officer can call if needed.

4. Inform your support person
Let them know about the Blue Envelope Program and that their contact information may be included.

5. Store your envelope in a visible, easy-to-reach location
Consider your glove compartment, center console or driver's side sun visor.

Tips for a Safe Traffic Stop

For Drivers

- Practice presenting your Blue Envelope during mock stops with a caregiver or trusted adult.
- Practice saying, "I have a Blue Envelope," when you give it to the officer.
- Stay calm and follow the steps printed on the envelope.
- Listen to the officer. If you don't understand, it's okay to ask them to say it again.

For Law Enforcement

- Read the front of the envelope carefully before engaging.
- Use calm, direct language and allow extra processing time.
- Be aware of lights, sounds, and other potential stressors.
- Avoid sudden movements or raised voices.
- If necessary, contact the individual listed inside the envelope for assistance.

Information: https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/BlueEnvelope