

Amnesty Program Information

On June 24, 2015, the Governor signed into law a one-time Amnesty program for unpaid traffic and non-traffic infraction tickets. Here is what you should know:

When will the amnesty program be available?

Start: October 1, 2015 End: March 31, 2017

Who can participate in Riverside County's Amnesty program?

There are two groups of people who can participate in the amnesty program:

- Persons with tickets issued within Riverside County whose appearance date or fine due date was
 on or before January 1, 2013, and who have not made a payment after September 30, 2015, may
 be eligible to have their fines reduced by 50 or 80 percent depending on income (or receipt of
 specified public benefits) and their driver's license reinstated..
- Persons who made a voluntary or involuntary payment on a ticket after September 30, 2015 are
 not eligible for a fine reduction but may be eligible to have their driver's license reinstated if they
 are in good standing on a payment plan with the Court or affiliated collection agency.

Who cannot participate in the Amnesty program?

Any person who currently owes unpaid victim restitution on any Riverside County case will be ineligible. Any person with an outstanding non-qualifying misdemeanor or felony warrant in Riverside County will also be ineligible.

What if I made a payment after September 30, 2015?

You are ineligible for a fine reduction if any payments were made after September 30, 2015. However, you may be eligible for license reinstatement.

What cases will be eligible for Amnesty?

Any infraction ticket issued within Riverside County may qualify for the Amnesty program. Cases where there is a failure to appear and the appearance date was on or before January 1, 2013, or cases where there is a failure to pay and the fine due date was on or before January 1, 2013, are eligible.

The program also extends to misdemeanor vehicle code violations. However, the following violations are not eligible for the program:

-Vehicle Code Section 23103, 23104 and 23105 (Reckless driving).

-Vehicle Code Section 23152 and 23153 (Driving under the influence)

What tickets will not be eligible?

Parking tickets are not eligible for the Amnesty program.

How much will I have to pay?

Under the Amnesty program, eligible participants will not have to pay any outstanding civil assessments owed on the case. Once the civil assessment amount is deducted, the remaining balance owed will be reduced by 50 or 80 percent depending on income or receipt of specified public benefits.

- The discount will be 80 percent for those who certify that: (1) they make no more than 125 percent of the federal poverty level \$14,712 for an individual, or \$30,312 for a family of four or (2) they receive specified public benefits.
- The discount will be 50 percent for all other eligible participants.

How do I participate in the amnesty program?

Beginning on October 1, 2015, you may contact the Court to determine your eligibility to participate in the Amnesty program. People who are eligible for Amnesty will have their <u>application</u> processed without seeing a judge.

Will there be a fee to participate? A \$50 Amnesty Program fee will be charged once per participant. The Department of Motor Vehicles will also charge a \$55 driver's license reinstatement fee as it does for any license reinstatement.

Will there be an installment payment option?

Yes, a payment plan option will be available through the Court and payments scheduled under the plan will be based on a person's ability to pay.

More information will be posted here as it becomes available.

For additional assistance you may speak to a telephone operator at 951.222.0384. Operators are available from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except court holidays. You may also visit a courthouse near you. For information about each courthouse such as maps, directions, and phone numbers please consult the 'General Information' page on the Court's website.