§1551. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

1. Certificate. "Certificate" means the certificate of an insurance company or a surety company authorized to transact business in this State under Title 24-A that certifies that the company has issued a motor vehicle liability policy covering the vehicle involved in the accident.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

2. Conviction. "Conviction" means conviction, adjudication or judgment, and includes but is not limited to a forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure a defendant's appearance in court, on a charge of violating a motor vehicle law that has not been vacated.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

3. Evidence of insurance. "Evidence of insurance" means:

A. A motor vehicle insurance identification card; or [PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

B. A motor vehicle liability insurance policy or binder issued pending the issuance of the actual policy or insurance identification card. [PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

4. Insurance identification card. "Insurance identification card" means an identification of insurance in paper or electronic form issued to an insured by an insurer pursuant to Title 24-A, section 2412, subsection 7; or an identification of proof of financial responsibility in paper or electronic form issued by the Secretary of State to a person who elects to provide proof of financial responsibility in accordance with section 1605.
[PL 2013, c. 72, §3 (AMD).]

5. Judgment. "Judgment" means a judgment that has become final without appeal by expiration of the time within which appeal might have been perfected, or by final affirmance on appeal, rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction of any state or of the United States.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

6. Motor vehicle liability bond. "Motor vehicle liability bond" means a bond certified as proof of financial responsibility in accordance with section 1605.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

7. Motor vehicle liability policy. "Motor vehicle liability policy" means a policy of liability insurance certified as proof of financial responsibility in accordance with section 1605, and includes, but is not limited to, a motor vehicle liability bond.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

8. Owner. "Owner" means a person who holds:

A. Legal title to a vehicle; [PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

B. A right to possession and a right to purchase a vehicle on performance of conditions stated in a conditional sale or lease agreement; or [PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

C. A mortgage on the vehicle, if the mortgagor is entitled to possession. [PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

9. OUI. "OUI" means operating under the influence of intoxicants or with an excessive alcohol level.
[PL 2009, c. 447, §30 (AMD).]

10. Person. "Person" means every person, firm, copartnership, association or corporation, but not the State or any political subdivision of the State.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

11. Policy. "Policy" means a motor vehicle liability insurance policy or motor vehicle liability bond.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

11-A. Portable electronic device. "Portable electronic device" means an electronic device that is portable in nature, including but not limited to a device for sending or receiving e-mail, a text messaging device, a mobile telephone and a computer.
[PL 2019, c. 486, §7 (AMD).]

12. Secretary of State. "Secretary of State" means the Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's deputy.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

13. State. "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia or a province of the Dominion of Canada.
[PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. B, §5 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 683, §A2 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 683, §B5 (AFF). PL 2009, c. 447, §30 (AMD). PL 2013, c. 72, §§3, 4 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 486, §7 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Special Session of the 132nd Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2025. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.