

Frequently Asked Questions

Nonresident Vessel Permit for Entity-Owned Vessels

- **How is vessel length measured when determining whether the vessel is at least 30 feet or is 164 feet or less?**

Vessel length is measured by the extreme length of the vessel, which is the maximum length from bow to stern (Length Overall). The length does not include bowsprits, rudders, outboard motor brackets, swim platforms that do not contain buoyant volume, and other similar fittings and attachments that are not part of the buoyant hull envelope. Below is a graphic that helps explain this:



- **How many days can a nonresident vessel be in Washington waters before obtaining a nonresident vessel permit?**

A nonresident vessel may be in Washington waters for up to 60 calendar days during any continuous 12-month period without obtaining a nonresident vessel permit. You must purchase a permit on or before the 61st day of use in Washington State or the vessel is subject to Washington's tax and registration requirements.

- **Does the permit's 60 day window run continuously, or does it stop for the days you are outside Washington waters?**

The permit is valid for 60 calendar days from the date of issuance and does not stop for periods you are outside Washington waters. Each permit clearly states the expiration date. Before the permit expires, you must obtain another permit or leave Washington waters to avoid Washington's tax and registration requirements.

- **Can two nonresident vessel permits be purchased at the same time or does the owner have to wait until one expires?**

Yes, two nonresident vessel permits can be obtained from a subagent or county auditor at the same time, totaling up to 120 days.

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■ **How much time must pass before an entity can obtain another nonresident vessel permit after receiving two such permits?**

Entity-owned nonresident vessels are limited to two nonresident vessel permits in a 36 month period. The permits are not required to be purchased consecutively. Nonresident entity-owned vessels may remain in Washington waters up to 60 calendar days during any continuous 12-month period without a nonresident vessel permit.

Examples:

- A qualifying entity-owned vessel could purchase two nonresident permits in 2016 and remain in Washington waters for 6 months that year. In three years (2019), the vessel would be eligible to remain in Washington waters for another 6 months with the purchase of two more nonresident vessel permits.
- A qualifying entity-owned vessel could purchase one permit in 2016 to remain in Washington waters for 120 days from entry and purchase a second permit in 2017 to remain in Washington waters for 120 days from entry. Another permit could not be purchased until 2019.



- Nonresident vessels are allowed 60 days of use in Washington every 12 months
- Qualifying nonresident vessels can obtain a 60 day nonresident vessel permit
- 36 months

■ **What if my vessel is longer than 164 feet?**

Nonresident entity-owned vessels longer than 164 feet do not qualify for a nonresident vessel permit. If you wish to remain in Washington waters longer than 60 days during any continuous 12-month period, you must register your vessel in the state and pay the applicable state taxes.

■ **How much does a nonresident vessel permit cost for entity-owned vessels?**

Permit fees are determined according to the length of the vessel as follows:

- \$25 per foot for vessels 30-99 feet
(A 46-foot vessel is subject to the \$25 fee: $46 \times \$25 = \$1,150$)
- \$30 per foot for vessels 100-120 feet
(A 100-foot vessel is subject to the \$30 fee: $100 \times \$30 = \$3,000$)
- \$37.50 per foot for vessels 121-164 feet
(A 160-foot vessel is subject to the \$37.50 fee: $160 \times \$37.50 = \$6,000$)

Vessel length is determined by the extreme length of the vessel as explained above. Note that additional agent/subagent fees may also apply.