

Valdosta State University Parking Services will be transitioning, effective for the 2020-21 school year, to a License Plate Recognition program (LPR) for parking enforcement. LPR is more than just a license plate capture. The system converts an image (picture of the license) to computer data that can be checked against a database. The system includes high-performance Internet Protocol (IP) cameras designed for this application and powerful software that provides consistent and reliable results.

Under OCGA § 40-2-41 - .."No license plate shall be covered with any material unless the material is colorless and transparent. No apparatus that obstructs or hinders the clear display and legibility of a license plate shall be attached to the rear of any motor vehicle required to be registered in the state."

Beginning July 1, 2021 (start of the new academic year), University parking enforcement vehicle will scan the license plates of all vehicles parked in all University surface lots, spaces and parking garages. This will ensure compliance with the type of virtual permit purchased and to confirm the vehicle is registered in the Parking Services database.

You will register your vehicle(s) as always through the Parking & Transportation portal located on the website or inside of the Parking office, but the **traditional color-coded parking stickers will no longer be necessary and will no longer be issued**. Last year's color coded parking permits will expire on 9/15/21 (they are still valid until then).

LPR systems for parking compliance are rapidly becoming best practice for many colleges and universities across the nation. VSU will realize significant cost savings over time in postage, printing costs for stickers, and other efficiencies.

Under the new LPR system, students, faculty, staff and visitors can register up to 3 vehicles under one purchased virtual permit, although only one vehicle may be parked on campus at a time. **No more switching/replacing window stickers for multiple registered vehicles.**

We know that many holders of University virtual parking permits desire to back into a parking space. Of course, the LPR system cannot read the license plate in those instances. For those who wish to park their vehicles in this manner, a special front license plate will need to be displayed.

Below is a list of frequently asked questions regarding the new LPR system. You may direct additional questions to [parking@valdosta.edu](mailto:parking@valdosta.edu)

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Why is Valdosta State transitioning to this new system?

LPR technology will afford the University significant costs savings over time in printing, postage, and labor costs. LPR also provides the means to conduct parking enforcement in a more efficient manner with more accurate reporting of compliance violations.

LPR also allows Parking Services to monitor, with more accuracy, the remaining capacity of any campus surface lot or parking garage.

What happens when an IP camera-equipped enforcement vehicle encounters a violation, and what violations is the system able to record?

The LPR technology allows the University Parking Services employee to print a violation on the spot and place it on the vehicle in question. It also records a visual record of the license plate in violation.

Just as in the old system, where a Parking Services employee would visually identify violations, the LPR system checks against a database to ensure a vehicle:

- possesses a valid/current registration
- is parked in the proper lot, space or garage

## Does the LPR system keep a permanent record of all the license plates it scans?

No. Only license plates determined to not be in compliance with Parking Services rules and regulations are photographed and recorded.

## Does the LPR system eliminate the need for the traditional color-coded window stickers?

Yes. The stickers will no longer be necessary, providing savings in terms of printing and mailing costs.

### How many vehicles can be registered under a single virtual permit?

A valid VSU virtual permit holder may register up to 3 vehicles, with different license plates, under the new LPR system. This eliminates the need to transfer window stickers from one vehicle to another. It is important to note that only one vehicle under a single permit may be parked in an official University lot, space or garage at a time.

### What about those who prefer to back in to either a surface lot, or garage parking space?

Vehicles are not allowed to pull through or back into a space unless displaying a front license plate.

### What about University departments who may have guests or vendors on campus?

Visitors are allowed to obtain a guest virtual parking permit. Those permits can be issued for one day or two weeks at no charge (department will need to e-mail [parking@valdosta.edu](mailto:parking@valdosta.edu) prior to guests arriving). Vendors can be issued a virtual guest permit for an extended time at no charge.