

GAS CARD MODERNIZATION FAQs

Effective January 1, 2020, the Ontario Gas Card will be discontinued.

Information provided to the Anishinabek Nation by the Ontario Ministry of Finance.

Effective January 1, 2020, the Ontario Gas Card will be discontinued. Here are some frequently asked questions about what is changing.



What is NEW as of January 1, 2020?

Instead of the Ontario Gas Card, First Nation people will be able to use their Indian Status Card (Status Card), which is issued by the Government of Canada, as proof of entitlement to buy gasoline exempt of Ontario gasoline tax.

What version of the Status Card can be used?

First Nation individuals will be able to use the version of the card that they currently have in their possession (or may apply to the Government of Canada to obtain a Status card if they currently are not in possession of a Status Card).

As proof of entitlement to buy tax-exempt gasoline at on-reserve retailers, First Nation individuals will use their:

- » Certificate of Indian Status Card, including the laminated Certificate of Indian Status Card with no renewal date;
 - » Secure Certificate of Indian Status Card; or
 - » Temporary Confirmation of Registration Document
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How does this change impact me?

- » First Nation individuals, bands, band-empowered entities, and Tribal Councils will no longer need to apply to the Ontario Ministry of Finance for the Ontario Gas card, and will no longer need to use existing Ontario Gas Cards to purchase gasoline exempt of Ontario gasoline tax.
 - » Authorized retailers will no longer accept the Ontario Gas Card as proof of rights to purchase gasoline exempt of Ontario gasoline tax.
 - » Band councils, tribal councils, and band-empowered entities will use an Ontario-issued unique identifier number issued by the Ontario Ministry of Finance.
 - » The Ontario Ministry of Finance will no longer issue the Ontario Gas Card.
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Will there be a grace period?

Yes. To help make this transition smoother, on-reserve retailers will still accept Ontario Gas Cards until January 31, 2020.

If you have applied for and are awaiting your Status Card, you may use the Temporary Confirmation of Registration document to purchase tax-exempt gasoline.

Information on how to submit refund claims using the Ontario Gas Card during the grace period will be forwarded directly to retailers.



Will individuals need a new federally issued card or can they use existing ones?

Individuals are not required to obtain a new Status Card.

First Nation individuals should use the Status Cards in their possession to purchase gasoline exempt from gasoline tax. If the Status Card in your possession has expired, you should request a new one from Indigenous Services Canada. If your Status Card has been lost, stolen, or destroyed, then you should request a new one from Indigenous Services Canada. While awaiting your Status Card, Indigenous Services Canada will issue a Temporary Confirmation of Registration Document for use when temporary proof of Indian Status is required.

Why are you discontinuing the Ontario Gas Card?

Discontinuing the Ontario Gas Card will simplify how First Nation people and band councils buy tax-exempt gas on reserve.

The change removes the need for First Nations people to use a separate card to prove their entitlement to buy tax-exempt gas. It will also reduce red tape by eliminating the Ontario Gas Card application and renewal process.

Also, retailers that file electronically will be able to verify the validity of a Status Card in near-real time, making it quicker to process transactions. Increased efficiency with less transaction time at the retailer's counter is a key industry performance indicator of receiving repeat customers.

For those retailers who are filing manually, they may continue to do so.

There will be a new process implemented January 1, 2020 that is similar to the process they are currently using to file their claims.

Ontario will help retailers transition smoothly to the updated process.

Is there a minimum age to acquire the card?

There is no minimum age for the current Ontario Gas Card. However, children under 16 years of age purchasing small amounts of gasoline for snowmobiles or off-road vehicles are permitted to use the Ontario Gas Card issued to their parents or guardians.

As of January 1, 2020, Children under 16 years of age will be able to use their own or their parent's Status Cards to purchase gasoline for their exclusive use.

If viewing this on-line, please access this link [https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032421/1572461539061#How to renew your status card](https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100032421/1572461539061#How%20to%20renew%20your%20status%20card) for further information on the requirements to apply for the Status card which is issued by the Government of Canada.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, please call 1-866-ONT-TAXS (1-866-668-8297) or email commodity.tax@ontario.ca.

You may also mail the Ministry of Finance at:

Ministry of Finance
33 King Street West
PO Box 625
Oshawa, ON L1H 8E9

The Ministry will be in direct contact with on-reserve retailers, bands, band-empowered entities, and Tribal Councils in fall 2019 to prepare for the January 1, 2020 discontinuation of the Ontario Gas Card.

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