

By Carolyn Lee

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As of last Thursday, drivers in Chase County were again able to apply for drivers' licenses.

Due to a delay in the installation of a new drivers' license system by the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), examiners were unable to issue licenses in Chase County for a month.

Drivers were still able to obtain duplicate licenses.

The new system means a driver must pass the tests given by examiners, who visit Chase County on Thursdays.

An application is then sent out to the department processing the applications. That department, overseen by the Department of Homeland Security, is checking the applications for proof of citizenship, among other issues.

The driver is issued a permit by the Treasurer's office, and the final license is later sent through the mail.

Beverly Neth, director of the DMV, said the delay in installation of the new system was caused by a "power blip" in Lincoln during installation.

Because small counties such as Chase were without the new system, she had suggested that drivers visit the larger centers, such as North Platte, for licenses. Those centers are open five days a week.

Chase County Treasurer Cindy Schoenberger said everything was up and going last Thursday, so such trips are no longer necessary.