

- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport book or U.S. passport card
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization (N-550, N-560, N-561, N-570, or N-578)
- U.S. Citizen ID card (Form I-197 or I-179)
- Original or certified copy of a U.S. Department of State issued Consular Report of Birth Abroad (DS-1350, FS-240, or FS-545)
- Valid, unexpired Permanent Resident card (I-551)
- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport book or U.S. passport card stating, 'The Bearer is a U.S. National and not a U.S. Citizen'
- Unexpired employment authorization document (EAD) (I-766)
- Machine Readable Immigrant Visa with temporary I-551 language and an Alien Documentation, Identification and Telecommunications System (ADIT) stamp.



Social Security Number

When applying for a DL or ID card, you must provide your complete Social Security Number (SSN). ‡ The Department will verify the SSN number electronically with the Social Security Administration (SSA). If the SSN cannot be verified electronically, the Department will be unable to process your application.

‡ According to state and federal law, DPS collects and uses SSN information for identification purposes. This information is released to government agencies only for purposes authorized by the Texas Transportation Code.



Proof of Residency in Texas

When applying for your first Texas driver license (DL) or identification card (ID), you must provide documents to prove you have lived in Texas for at least 30 days. If you are surrendering a valid, unexpired driver license or ID from another state, you must still prove your Texas residency, but the 30-day requirement is waived. Simply provide two documents from the following list that contain the same name and Texas residential/physical address.

- Current deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement, mortgage payment booklet or a residential rental/lease agreement
- Current homeowner's or renter's insurance policy, statement or card
- Utility or residential service bill dated within 180 days of the application date. Examples include: electric, water, gas, Internet, cable, streaming service, lawn service and cellular telephone bills
- Valid, unexpired registration: Texas voter registration card, motor vehicle registration or title, boat registration or title
- Current automobile insurance policy, statement or card
- Current automobile payment booklet or statement
- Texas high school, college or university report card or transcript for the current school year with pre-printed address
- Preprinted paycheck or payment stub dated within 180 days of the date of application
- Pre-printed W-2, 1099 or 1098 tax form from an employer, government or financial entity for the most recent year
- Mail or printed electronic statement from financial institutions: including checking, savings, investment accounts and credit card statements dated within 180 days of the date of application
- Mail or printed electronic statement from a federal, state, county or city government agency dated within 180 days of the date of application
- Current documents issued by the U.S. military or Veterans Administration indicating residential address
- Selective Service card
- Valid, unexpired concealed handgun license or license to carry
- TDCJ document indicating recent release or parole
- Current Form DS2019 or a document issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (non-commercial and ID only)
- Valid, unexpired Texas fishing or hunting license



Texas Vehicle Registration and Proof of Insurance

- Letter of medical Explanation of Benefits or medical bills dated within 180 days of date of application

Both documents may be from the same source if the source is a local government entity or service provider that provides multiple residential services. You cannot show mail that is addressed to you with a forwarding address label or an adhesive address label on the envelope. If you are unable to provide two documents from the list, you may submit a Texas residency affidavit from someone who resides at the same address along with their proper identification and two documents for their proof of residency.

Note: ONLY proof of residency documents may be photocopies. For affidavit requirements, visit us at [Texas Residency Requirement for Driver Licenses and ID Cards | Department of Public Safety](https://www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense) or ask a driver license office employee.

- Proof of Insurance for each vehicle you own. (All first-time applicants)
- Evidence of Texas Vehicle Registration for each vehicle you own*. (New residents who are surrendering an out-of-state driver license only.)

*If you do not own a vehicle, you will sign a statement affirming this.



For more information, go online to: www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense

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Texas Driver License (DL) and Identification Card (ID) Document Requirements

What it takes to Apply for a DL or ID Card



www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense



DRIVER LICENSE DIVISION

Creating a faster, easier, friendlier driver license experience and a safer Texas

The mission of the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is to protect and serve Texas.

Driver licenses (DL) and identification cards (ID) issued by the DPS Driver License Division are key links to public safety, privacy, and national security. Many medical and financial institutions, retailers, governmental entities, and other various organizations accept a state issued DL or ID for purposes of confirming your identity so you have access to the services you need.

To reduce your exposure to identity theft and fraud, ensuring the validity of the information and documentation you provide for the issuance of your DL or ID is a very important part of the application process. With this in mind, DPS utilizes a nationally recognized DL and ID issuance process which involves verifying your identity, residency, and U.S. Citizenship or lawful presence (the legal authorization to reside in this country.)

To obtain your Texas DL or ID, you are required to apply in person at a Texas driver license office. You will find the information you need to know about Texas' DL/ID application process here in this brochure. All driver license office services require an appointment. Visit www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/appointments.htm to review important information and schedule your appointment. If you are moving to Texas, needing more information on the issuance process, applying for a Commercial Driver License, or are under the age of 25, visit our website at www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense for additional requirements.



Document Checklist



Proof of Identity



Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence



Social Security Number



Proof of Residency in Texas



Texas Vehicle Registration and Proof of Insurance

Satisfy the following requirements, and you'll be ready to apply for your Texas DL or ID card!



Proof of Identity

Photo IDs issued by government agencies with the applicants full name and date of birth are considered primary documents. Simply show one document from the list below to prove your identity. All Primary Identification documents must be verifiable.

Documents must be the original document or a copy certified by the issuing agency. No photocopies are accepted.

Primary Identification Documents

- Texas DL or ID with photo, unexpired or expired within the last two years
- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport book or U.S. passport card
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization with identifiable photograph (N-550, N-560, N-561, N-570, or N-578)
- Unexpired U.S. military ID card for active duty, reserve or retired personnel
- Unexpired Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) photo ID.
Examples include:
 - ◇ U.S. Citizen Identification card (I-179 or I-197)
 - ◇ Permanent Resident card (I-551)
 - ◇ Machine readable immigrant visa with temporary I-551 language and ADIT stamp
 - ◇ Employment Authorization card (I-766)
 - ◇ Unexpired U.S. travel document (I-327 or I-571)
 - ◇ Advance Parole Document with photo (I-512 or I-512L)
 - ◇ I-94 stamped "Sec. 208 Asylee"
 - ◇ I-94 stamped "Sec. 207 Refugee"
 - ◇ Valid refugee travel letter with photo and stamped by U.S. Customs and Border Protection
 - ◇ American Indian card (I-872)
 - ◇ Northern Mariana card (I-873)
- Valid, unexpired foreign passport with visa* attached and valid I-94

*Citizens of the Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and certain Canadian non-immigrants are not required to obtain a visa to enter the USA. The visa requirement for these applicants will be waived.

If you cannot show a document from the Primary Identification Documents list, you can present either two documents from the Secondary Identification Documents list below or one document from the Secondary Identification Documents list and two documents from the Supporting Identification Documents list below.

Secondary Identification Documents

- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a State Bureau of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, the District of Columbia or a Canadian province.
- Original or certified copy of a U.S. Department of State issued Consular Report of Birth Abroad (DS-1350, FS-240 or FS-545)
- Original or certified copy of the court order with name and date of birth indicating an official change of name and/or gender change from a U.S. state, a U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia

Supporting Identification Documents

- Temporary receipt for a Texas DL or ID (actual receipt)
- Expired Texas DL or ID (expired more than two years—actual card)
- DL or ID issued by another U.S. state, U.S. territory, District of Columbia, or Canadian province (unexpired or within two years of the expiration date - actual card)[†]
- ID card issued by government agency (actual card)[†]
- Pilot's license (actual card)[†]
- Concealed handgun license or License To Carry card (actual card)[†]
- Voter Registration Card (actual card)[†]
- Professional license issued by a Texas state agency
- W-2 or 1099 form
- School records (e.g. report cards, photo ID cards, etc.)[†]
- Military records (e.g., Form DD-214, DD-215, NGB-22)
- Unexpired U.S. military dependent ID Card (actual card)
- Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC—actual card)
- Selective Service card (actual card)[†]
- Original or certified copy of a marriage certificate or divorce decree. If not in English, a certified translation in English must be provided.
- Any insurance policy (valid continuously for the past two years)
- Current Texas motor vehicle registration or title (TRC 521.144)

- Current Texas boat registration or title
- Hospital-issued birth record[†]
- Medicare or Medicaid card (actual card)
- Immunization records[†]
- Unexpired foreign passport
- A valid Consular document issued by a state or national government
- Federal parole or release certificate
- Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) parole or mandatory release certificate
- Texas inmate ID card or similar form of ID issued by TDCJ
- Federal inmate ID card
- Tribal Membership card from a federally recognized tribe
- Social Security card (actual card)

[†] Document must be issued by an institution, entity or government agency from a U.S. state, a U.S. territory, the District of Columbia, or a Canadian province.

Name Change Documents

Any documents you bring to prove your identity must show the same name and date of birth. If they do not, you must present additional supporting documents – such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court-ordered name change - to demonstrate the reason for the differences in names and/or dates of birth.



Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence

If you are a U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident (immigrant), refugee, asylee, or non-immigrant, you must provide proof of your lawful presence in the United States. Most documents will be verified through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's SAVE Program. Verification is often instantaneous, but when it is not, receipt of the DL/ID may be delayed for up to 45 days.

Examples of documents to verify lawful presence include:

- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a State Bureau of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia