What to bring with you when applying for a Texas Driver License or Identification Card

To be issued a non-commercial driver license (DL) or identification card (ID) in the state of Texas, you must bring the following documentation to your local driver license office:

1. Application for an Original Texas Driver License or Identification Card
2. Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Evidence of Lawful Presence
3. Proof of Residency
4. Proof of Identity
5. Provide Social Security Number
6. Proof of Insurance for each vehicle you own
7. Evidence of Texas Vehicle Registration for each vehicle you own (New residents who are surrendering an out-of-state driver license only.)

This checklist will help you identify what documents in each section you will need to bring to your local driver license office so that you may apply for a DL or ID. 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.

Follow the directions listed for each section and check the appropriate document(s) you have that you can bring with you. Upon completing all sections, gather the documents you have checked and visit your local driver license office to begin the application process. All driver license office services require an appointment. Visit https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/driver-license/driver-license-services-appointments to review important information and to schedule your appointment.

Additionally, you will be required to pay an issuance fee. If you will be taking a driving skills test or you are a teen applicant applying for a driver license for the first time, you will have additional requirements which may be found here: www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/ApplyforLicense.htm.

Section 1. Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence

You must provide proof of U.S. Citizenship or lawful presence in the United States. Most documents will be verified through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's SAVE Program. Verification through SAVE is often instantaneous, but when it is not, receipt of the DL/ID may be delayed for up to 45 days.

Check one document you have from this list that contains your full legal name. This will be your proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence in the United States.

- ☐ Birth certificate or birth record issued by the appropriate State Bureau of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency from a U.S. state or local government, a U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia
- ☐ U.S. passport book or passport card
- ☐ U.S. citizen Identification card (I-179 or I-197)
- ☐ Permanent Resident card (I-551)
- ☐ I-94
- ☐ I-94 stamped "Sec. 208 Asylee" or "Sec. 207 Refugee"
- ☐ U.S Travel Document (I-327 or I-571)
- ☐ Employment Authorization Card "EAD" (I-766)
- ☐ I-551 stamp in foreign passport
- ☐ U.S. Department of State Certificate of Birth Abroad issued to U.S. citizens born abroad (Form FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545)
- ☐ U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization (N-550, N-560, N-561, N-570, or N-578)
- ☐ Machine Readable Immigrant Visa with temporary I-551 language and ADIT stamp
- ☐ Student documents with Student Exchange and Visitor Information System (SEVIS) number
- ☐ I-20 Non-immigrant students (F-1)
- ☐ DS-2019 exchange visitor (J-1) certificate
- ☐ Non-student documents with alien number or I-94 number

Section 2. Proof of Residency

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 identication card from another U.S. State, you must still prove your Texas residency, but the 30-day requirement is waived.

If you are unable to provide two (2) acceptable residency documents from the list, you may submit a Texas Residency Affidavit (Form DL-5) along with required documentation, as evidence of residency in Texas.

For affidavit requirements, visit us at https://www.dps.texas.gov/internetforms/Forms/DL-5.pdf

Check two documents you have from this list that contain your name and Texas residential or physical address. This will be your proof of residency.

- ☐ Current deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement, mortgage payment booklet, or a the residential lease
- ☐ Current homeowners' or renters' insurance policy or statement
- ☐ Electric, water, natural gas, internet, lawn service, streaming service, or cellular telephone statement dated within 180 days of the application of date
- ☐ Valid, unexpired Texas fishing or hunting license
- ☐ Current automobile payment booklet
- ☐ Current automobile insurance policy or statement
- ☐ Texas high school, college, or university report card or transcript for the current school year
- ☐ Preprinted paycheck or pay stub dated within 180 days of the application date
- ☐ Concealed handgun license
- ☐ Mail from a federal, state, county, or city government agency dated within 180 days of application date
- ☐ Current documents issued by the US Military indicating residential address
- ☐ Mail from a financial institution; cable, checking, savings, investment account, or t credit card statements dated within 180 days the application date
- ☐ W-2 or 1099 tax form from the current year
- ☐ Selective Service card
- ☐ TDCJ document indicating recent release or parole
- ☐ Current Form DS-2019, I-20, or a document issued by USCIS (non-CDL only)
- ☐ Valid, unexpired registration: Texas voter registration card, motor vehicle registration or title, boat registration or title
- ☐ License to carry

NOTE: Both documents cannot be from the same source. For example, you cannot show a water bill and a gas bill from the same utility company, and you cannot show mail that is addressed to you with a forwarding address label or an adhesive address label on the envelope.

Section 3. Proof of Identity

A. Primary Identification Document List. These are photo IDs issued by governmental agencies with the applicant's full name and date of birth and must be verifiable.

Check one document you have from this section. This will be your proof of identity. If you do not have any of the following documents, see section 3B.

- ☐ Texas DL or ID with photo, expired within two years
- ☐ U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of active Naturalization with identifiable photo (N-550, N-560, N-561, N-570, or N-578)
- ☐ Foreign passport, visa* (valid or expired), and I-94
- ☐ Unexpired U.S. passport book or passport card
- ☐ Unexpired U.S. Military photo ID card for 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)
- ☐ Machine-Readable Immigrant Visa (MRIV) with temporary I-551 language and Alien Documentation, Identification and Telecommunications System (ADIT) stamp
- ☐ I-94 stamped "Sec. 208 Asylee" with photo
- ☐ Valid refugee travel letter with photo and stamped by US Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- ☐ American Indian card (I-872)
- ☐ Permanent Resident card (I-551)
- ☐ Employment Authorization card "EAD" (I-766)
- ☐ Advance parole document with photo (I-512 or I-512L)
- ☐ I-94 stamped "Sec. 207 Refugee" with photo
- ☐ Northern Mariana card (I-873)

B. Secondary Identification Document List. If you cannot present one document from the primary identification document list in Section 3A, **check two of the following identification documents you have from this section. This will be your proof of identity. If you do not have two documents from this Section, see Section 3C.**

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

- ☐ A birth certificate or birth record issued by the appropriate State Bureau of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency from a US state or local government, a US territory, the District of Columbia, or a Canadian province
- ☐ For U.S. citizens born abroad, a certificate of Report of Birth (DS-1350 or FS-545) or Consular Report of Birth (FS-240) issued by the U.S. Department of State
- ☐ A court order with name and date of birth indicating an official change of name and/or gender from a US state, a US territory, the District of Columbia, or a Canadian province

C. Supporting Identification Document List. If you ***cannot*** present one document from the primary identification document list (Section 3A) or two documents from the Secondary Identification Document list (Section 3B), you must provide the following:

- One document from the Secondary Identification list (Section 3B), AND
- Two documents from the Supporting Identification Document list (Section 3C)

Check two of the following identification documents you have from this section AND one of the identification documents from Section 3B. This will be your proof of identity.

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

- ☐ Temporary receipt for a Texas DL or ID (actual receipt)
- ☐ DL or ID issued by another US state, US territory, District of Columbia, or Canadian province (unexpired or within two years of the expiration date – actual card)*
- ☐ Pilot's license (actual card)*
- ☐ Unexpired US military dependent ID card (actual state card)
- ☐ Veteran's ID or Health Identification card "VHIC" (actual card)
- ☐ Voter registration card (actual card)*
- ☐ W-2 or 1099 form
- ☐ Current Texas motor vehicle registration or title (TRC 521.144)
- ☐ ID card issued by government agency*
- ☐ Hospital-issued birth record*
- ☐ Immunization records*
- ☐ A valid Consular document issued by a state or national government
- ☐ Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) parole or mandatory release certificate
- ☐ Federal inmate ID card
- ☐ Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)
- ☐ Expired Texas DL or ID (expired more than two years—actual card)
- ☐ Original or certified copy of a marriage certificate or divorce decree (US jurisdiction or foreign jurisdiction-if not in English, a certified translation must accompany it)
- ☐ Concealed handgun license or License to Carry (actual card)*
- ☐ Professional license issued by a Texas agency
- ☐ School records (e.g. report cards, photo ID cards, etc.)*
- ☐ Military records (e.g., Form DD-214)
- ☐ Selective Service card (actual card)
- ☐ Any insurance policy (valid continuously for the past two years)
- ☐ Current Texas boat registration or title
- ☐ Medicare or Medicaid card (actual card)
- ☐ Unexpired foreign passport
- ☐ Tribal membership card from a federally recognized tribe
- ☐ Texas inmate ID card or similar form of ID issued by TDCJ
- ☐ Federal parole or release certificate
- ☐ Social Security card (actual card)

*Document must be issued by an institution, entity or government agency from a US state, a US territory, the District of Columbia, or a Canadian province.

Section 4. Provide Social Security Number

You must provide your Social Security Number.

Your social security number will be verified electronically with the Social Security Administration. If the SSN can not be verified, the Department will be unable to issue a DL and additional instructions will be provided.

Section 5. Texas Vehicle Registration and Proof of Insurance

If you are a new resident of this state and are surrendering an out-of-state driver license, you must present proof of Texas vehicle registration and proof of insurance for each vehicle you own. If you are a Texas resident applying for a driver license for the first-time and are not surrendering an out-of-state driver license, you are only required to present proof of insurance for each vehicle you own.

- ☐ Texas Vehicle Registration*
- ☐ Evidence of Financial Responsibility*

**If you do not own a vehicle, you may sign a statement at the office affirming this. Active duty military are not required to present proof of registration.*