

Get to Know the Newly Redesigned Texas DL and ID Cards



Driver License Division
Texas Department of Public Safety
5805 North Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78752
512-424-2000
www.dps.texas.gov

Alert: Updates to the New Card Design

On February 24, 2020, the Department began issuing newly designed Driver License (DL), Identification (ID) and Election Identification Certificate (EIC) cards with multiple security features (see attached brochure).

One of the new security features included lines that appear in the photo area. In some circumstances, the lines may appear on the sides of the face instead of around it. For example, people who are bald or have lighter hair may have more prominent lines appear in the photo area. The card is still valid as long as the person's eyes, nose and mouth are not overlapped by the lines.

NOTE: Taking a new photo at a driver license office will not change the appearance of the lines on the card. Therefore, we do not recommend that you take a new photo at this time.

In response to customer concerns about the lines, this security feature will be removed from the photo area. On July 16, 2021, the driver license (DL) for anyone 21 or older will see this change. The DL for anyone under 21 and identification (ID) cards will be changed later in the year.

The dates for these changes will be provided on this page. Please visit this page to check for status updates.

You may continue to use your current card and it will be accepted by law enforcement and other agencies for identity and proof of driving privileges. When the new card design is available, you can go online to www.texas.gov/drivers and request a replacement card for a fee of \$11 and receive a new card without the lines.

New Driver License & ID Cards

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) began issuing newly designed Driver License (DL), Identification (ID) and Election Identification Certificate (EIC) cards to Texans on February 24, 2020.

Features Include:

Along with an updated design, the new cards have increased security features, including being made of a polycarbonate material that is tamper resistant and difficult to reproduce, and meet the national standards set by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

As with the current design, the new cards continue to feature a gold star in the upper right corner to indicate the card is REAL ID compliant. Other significant changes include moving the communication impediment identifier to the front of the card, as well as adding a disabled veteran identifier and branch of service. The current organ donor and veteran identifiers remain the same.

This new design provides all information necessary for identification and verification purposes in an easy-to-read format.

Polycarbonate Card Body

Card body is more durable, secure and tamper-resistant.

Laser Engraving

Laser engraving provides maximum protection against data manipulation and forgery.

Veteran/Disabled Veteran Identifier

Veterans have the opportunity to have a Veteran designator, along with the American flag and branch of service, appear on the front of the driver license or ID card, allowing for immediate recognition of the cardholder's military service.

REAL ID Compliant

REAL ID star indicates the card meets state and federal regulations.

Tactile Text

Customer ID and name are laser engraved on the card, raising the print and making it difficult to tamper with or modify.

Organ Donor Identifier

Cardholders may specify they are an organ donor.

Communication Impediment Identifier

Cardholders can indicate they have a health condition that may impede their ability to communicate.

Minor Indicator

All minors under the age of 21 have an indicator that specifies the date they will become 21.

Magnetic Stripe

Three tracks of cardholder information is readable by a standard magnetic stripe reader.

Classifications

Cardholder specific classifications indicate the type(s) of vehicles the cardholder is authorized to operate.

Endorsements

Cardholder specific endorsements are applicable for commercial licenses only.

Restrictions

Cardholder specific restrictions limit when they can drive or requires that they meet specific conditions when they drive.

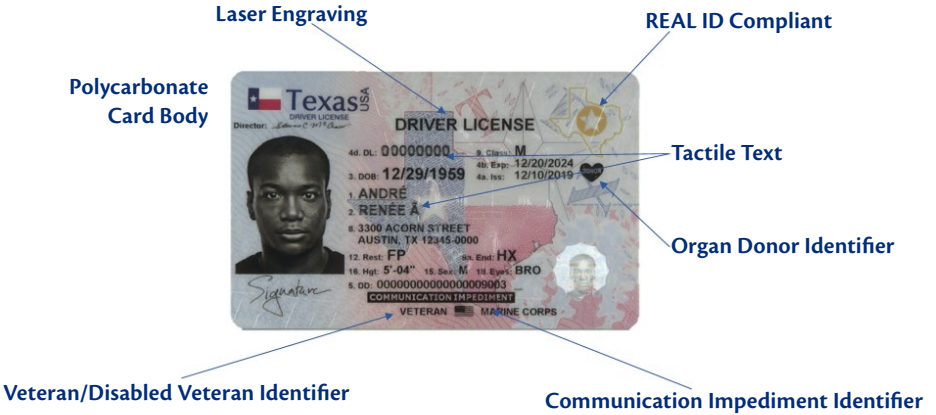
PDF 417 Barcode

Information that is printed on the card about the cardholder is readily accessible using a PDF-417 compatible scanner.

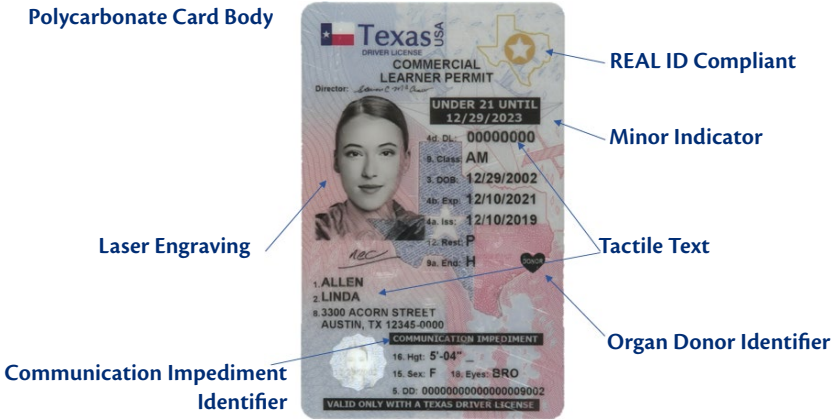
Ghost Photo

Secondary image of cardholder has a guilloche pattern overlapping the photo.

ADULT DRIVER LICENSE (front)



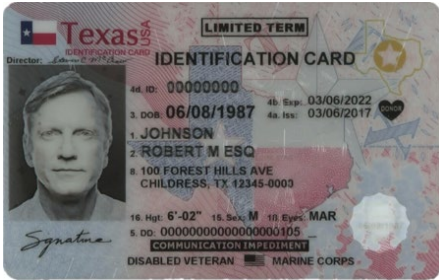
Under 21 DRIVER LICENSE (front)



ADULT & Under 21 DRIVER LICENSE (back)



ADULT & Under 21 IDENTIFICATION CARD

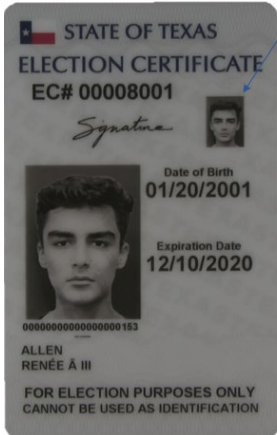


Same Robust Security Features as the DL
All security features defined for the DL are also presented in the ID. Only the color scheme and demographic data varies between the two cards.



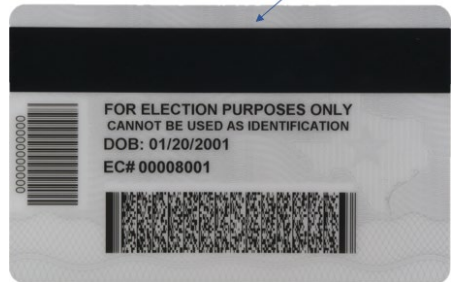
ELECTION CERTIFICATE

Polycarbonate
Card Body



Ghost Photo

Magnetic Stripe



Redundant Data

'For Election Purposes Only' statement is printed on both sides of the card.