

Verify your identity

Photo IDs issued by government agencies are considered primary documents. Simply show one from the list below to prove your identity:

Primary Identification Documents

- Texas Driver License or photo ID within two years of expiration
- Unexpired U.S. passport book or passport card
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization with identifiable photo (N-560, N-561, N-550, N55G, N-645, N-570 or N-578)
- Unexpired U.S. military photo ID card for active duty, reserve, or retired personnel
- Foreign passport, visa (valid or expired), and I-94
- Unexpired DHS or USCIS photo ID

Examples:

- ◇ U.S. Citizen Identification Card (I-179 or I-197)
- ◇ Valid Permanent Resident Card (I-551)
- ◇ Temporary I-551 (immigrant visa endorsed with adit stamp) and foreign passport
- ◇ Temporary Resident Alien Card (I-688)
- ◇ Employment Authorization Card (I-766)
- ◇ U.S. Travel Document (I-327 or I-571)
- ◇ Advance Parole Document (I-512 or I-512L)
- ◇ I-94 stamped Sec. 208 Asylee with photo
- ◇ I-94 stamped Sec. 207 Refugee with photo
- ◇ Valid Refugee Travel Letter with Photo and stamped by CBP
- ◇ American Indian Card (I-872)
- ◇ Northern Mariana Card (I-873)

If you cannot show a document from the Primary Identification Documents list, you can either present two documents from the Secondary Identification Documents list that follows OR one document from the Secondary Identification Documents list AND two documents from the following Supporting Identification Documents list.

Secondary Identification Documents

- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by the appropriate 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 the U.S. Dept. of State Certificate of Birth Abroad (issued to U.S. citizens born abroad) – Form FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545
- Original or certified copy of court order with name and date of birth indicating an official change of name and/or gender from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, the District of Columbia, or a Canadian province

Supporting Identification Documents

- Social Security card
- Social Security NUMIDENT Record
- Social Security NUMILITE Letter
- Forms W-2 or 1099
- Temporary receipt for a Texas Driver License or ID
- Expired Texas Driver License or ID (expired more than two years)
- Driver License or ID issued by another U.S. state, U.S. territory, the District of Columbia, or Canadian province (unexpired or within two years of the expiration date)*
- Original or certified copy of marriage license or divorce decree (certified translation must accompany foreign language documents)
- Voter registration card*
- Pilot license*
- Concealed handgun license*
- Professional license issued by Texas state agency
- ID card issued by government agency*
- Veteran's Administration card
- School records
- Hospital-issued birth record*
- Consular document issued by a state or national government
- Texas Inmate ID card or similar form of ID issued by TDCJ
- Federal inmate ID card
- TDCJ parole or mandatory release certificate
- Federal parole or release certificate
- Medicare or Medicaid card
- Military records
- Unexpired U.S. military dependent ID card
- Selective Service card
- Immunization records*
- Tribal membership card from federally-recognized tribe
- Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood
- Unexpired foreign passport
- Insurance policy (valid continuously for the past two years)
- Current Texas vehicle title or registration
- Current Texas boat registration or title

* Document must be issued by an entity from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, District of Columbia, or Canadian province.

That's it! If you still have questions, ask one of our driver license employees. They're here to help you!



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Do you have what it takes to drive in Texas?

Know what you need to get a Texas Driver License.

Your Texas Department of Public Safety is 100% committed to the security of your identity. That's why we require the following information for obtaining your driver license or state identification card. It is our sworn responsibility to issue a license or ID to you and not someone using your identity for fraudulent reasons.

When applying for a Texas driver license or identification card, you'll save time and headaches by making sure you have all the documents you need before starting the application process. Just satisfy all four requirements that follow and you'll be good to go.

But first, read this. It's very important:

If you are applying for a commercial driver license, are under age 25, or transferring an out-of-state driver license, you will need to satisfy different requirements to apply for a Texas driver license or identification card. Simply ask a driver license employee or visit www.dps.texas.gov to learn more.

Verify that you live in Texas

When applying for your first Texas driver license, you must gather documents to prove you have lived in Texas for at least 30 days. If you are surrendering a valid, unexpired driver license from another state, you must prove your Texas residency but the 30 day requirement is waived. Simply provide two of the following documents that contain your name and Texas residential address:

- Current deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement, mortgage payment booklet, or a residential lease agreement
- Valid, unexpired Texas voter registration card; motor vehicle registration or title; boat registration or title
- Concealed handgun license
- Electric, water, natural gas, satellite television, cable television, or non-cellular telephone statement dated within 90 days of the application date
- Selective Service card
- Current homeowners or renters insurance policy or statement
- Current automobile insurance policy or statement
- Texas high school, college, or university report card or transcript for the current school year
- W-2 or 1099 tax form from the current year
- Checking, savings, investment account, or credit card statements dated within 90 days of the application date
- Mail from a federal, state, county, or city government agency dated within 90 days of the application date
- Current automobile payment booklet
- Current documents issued by the U.S. Military indicating residential address
- TDCJ document indicating applicant's recent release or parole
- Medical or health card
- Pre-printed paycheck or pay stub dated within 90 days of the application date
- Current Form DS2019, I-20, or a document issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services

Very important:

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. Nor can you show mail that is addressed to you with a forwarding label or address label on the envelope. If you're unable to provide two documents from the list, you may submit a Texas residency affidavit from someone who resides at the same address. Ask a driver license employee for affidavit requirements.

Verify your citizenship or lawful presence

If you are a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, refugee, or asylee, you must provide one of the following to verify your lawful presence in the United States:

- Birth Certificate issued by appropriate U.S. state, U.S. territory, or District of Columbia
- U.S. passport book or passport card
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization with identifiable photo (N-560, N-561, N-550, or N-645)
- U.S. Citizen Identification Card (I-179 or I-197)
- U.S. Dept. of State Certificate of Birth Abroad (for U.S. citizens born abroad)-Form FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545
- Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551)
- Passport or I-94 stamped "Approved I-551" or "Processed for I-551"
- I-766 Employment Authorization Card
- I-571 Refugee Travel Document
- I-94 stamped Sec. 208 Asylee or Sec. 207 Refugee
- I-327 Reentry Permit
- Machine Readable Immigrant Visa (with temp I-551 language)
- Temporary I-551 Stamp (on Passport or I-94)
- DL2019-Exchange Visitor (J-1) Certificate
- I-20 Nonimmigrant Student (F-1)
- Unexpired foreign passport
- Student documents with Sevis Number
- Non-student documents with Alien Number

Verify your Social Security Number

If you're applying for a driver license, it's mandatory that you provide your Social Security Number (SSN). If you're applying for an identification card, providing your SSN is voluntary. To prove your SSN, please provide one of the following:

- Social Security card or Social Security NUMIDENT Record
- Forms W-2 or 1099
- Pay stub (with preprinted name and SSN)
- Military ID (active or reserve personnel only)
- Dependent Military ID (with SSN)
- DD-214
- Veteran's administration card (with SSN preprinted)
- Peace officer's license (TCLEOSE)
- Pilot license (with SSN preprinted on card)
- Health Card, Medicare or Medicaid card (with SSN)
- Certified college/university transcript (with SSN)

Pursuant to state and federal law, the department collects and uses SSN information for identification purposes and will only release the number to the Child Support Enforcement Division of the Attorney General's Office, the US Selective Service System, or the Unclaimed Property Division of the Comptroller's Office.