# SAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTS FOR AUTHORIZATION TO WORK VERIFICATION

Below are representative images of some of the documents that are acceptable for establishing an individual's authorization to work. They are provided to assist staff in reviewing Form I-9 documents presented to them. Note: These images are not comprehensive. In some cases, many variations of a particular document exist and new versions may be published subsequent to the publication of this directive.

### **U.S. Passport**

The U.S. Department of State issues the U.S. passport to U.S. citizens and noncitizen nationals. There are a small number of versions still in circulation that may differ from the main versions shown below.



Current U.S. Passport cover and open





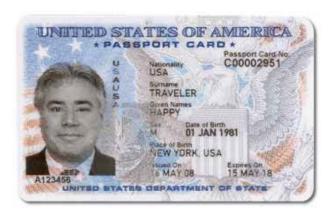




### **U.S. Passport Card**

The U.S. Department of State began producing the passport card in July 2008. The passport card is a wallet-size card that can only be used for land and sea travel between the United States and Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda.

#### Passport Card front and back





#### **Permanent Residence Card**

On May 11, 2010, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) began issuing the newly redesigned Permanent Resident Card, also known as the Green Card, which is now green in keeping with its long-standing nickname. The card is personalized with the bearer's photo, name, USCIS number, alien registration number, date of birth, and laser-engraved finger-print, as well as the card expiration date.

Note that on the new card, shown below, the lawful permanent resident's alien registration number, commonly known as the A number, is found under the USCIS # heading. The A number is also located on the back of the card.







This most recent older version of the Permanent Resident Card shows the U.S. Department of Homeland Security seal and contains a detailed hologram on the front of the card. Each card is personalized with an etching showing the bearer's photo, name, fingerprint, date of birth, alien registration number, card expiration date, and card number.

#### Older version Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) front and back





Also in circulation are older Resident Alien cards, issued by the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, which do not have expiration dates and are valid indefinitely. These cards are peach in color and contain the bearer's fingerprint and photograph.

#### Foreign Passport with I-551 Stamp or Machine-Readable Immigrant Visa

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) uses either an I-551 stamp or a temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine-readable immigrant visa to denote temporary evidence of lawful permanent residence. Sometimes, if no foreign passport is available, USCIS will place the I-551 stamp on a Form I-94 and affix a photograph of the bearer to the form. This document is considered a receipt.

Unexpired Foreign Passport with I-551 Stamp



I-551 Stamp

PROCESSED FOR 1-551.
TEMPORARY EVIDENCE OF
LAWFUL ADMISSION FOR
PERMANENT RESIDENCE
VALID UNTIL
EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZED

The machine-readable immigrant visa demonstrates permanent resident status for one year from the date of admission found in the foreign passport that contains the machine-readable immigrant visa.

#### Temporary I-551 printed notation on a machine-readable immigrant visa



## **Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766)**

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services issues the Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766) to individuals granted temporary employment authorization in the United States. The card contains the bearer's photograph, fingerprint, card number, Alien number, birth date, and signature, along with a holographic film and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security seal. The expiration date is located at the bottom of the card. Cards may contain one of the following notations above the expiration date: "Not Valid for Reentry to U.S.", "Valid for Reentry to U.S." or "Serves as I-512 Advance Parole."

Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766) with notation "NOT VALID FOR REENTRY TO U.S."



Previous back of Employment Authorization Document card



Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766) with notation "VALID FOR REENTRY TO U.S."



Newly redesigned back of Employment Authorization Document card



### State-issued Driver's License

A driver's license can be issued by any state or territory of the United States (including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or by a Canadian government authority, and is acceptable if it contains a photograph or other identifying information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address.

Some states may place notations on their drivers' licenses that state the card does not confirm employment authorization. For Form I-9 purposes, these drivers' licenses, along with every other state's, establish the identity of an employee. When presenting any driver's license, the individual must also present a List C document that establishes employment authorization.



#### Driver's License from California



### **State-issued ID Card**

An ID card can be issued by any state (including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or by a local government, and is acceptable if it contains a photograph or other identifying information such as name, date of birth, gender, height, eye color, and address.

Some states may place notations on their ID cards that state the card does not confirm employment authorization. For Form I-9 purposes, these cards, along with every other state's, establish the identity of an employee. When presenting any state-issued ID card, the employee must also present a List C document that establishes employment authorization.



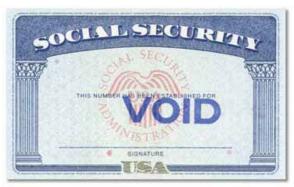
#### Identification card from California

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### **U.S. Social Security Account Number Card**

The U.S. Social Security account number card is issued by the Social Security Administration (older versions were issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), and can be presented as a List C document unless the card specifies that it does not authorize employment in the United States. Metal or plastic reproductions are not acceptable.

U.S. Social Security Card



## <u>Certifications of Birth Issued by the U.S. Department of State</u>

These documents may vary in color and paper used. All will include a raised seal of the office that issued the document, and may contain a watermark and raised printing.

Certification of Birth Abroad Issued by the U.S. Department of State (FS-545)



Certification of Report of Birth Issued by the U.S. Department of State (DS-1350)



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### **Birth Certificate**

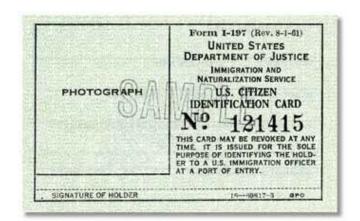
Only an original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state, county, municipal authority, or outlying possession of the United States that bears an official seal is acceptable. Versions will vary by state and year of birth.



**Birth Certificate** 

# U.S. Citizen Identification Card (Form I-197)

Form I-197 was issued by the former Immigration and Naturalization Service to naturalized U.S. citizens. Although this card is no longer issued, it is valid indefinitely.



U.S. Citizen Identification Card (Form I-197)

## Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)

Form I-179 was issued by the former Immigration and Naturalization Service to U.S. citizens who are residents of the United States. Although this card is no longer issued, it is valid indefinitely.

Identification Card for Use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)

