

Driver's License for All Frequently Asked Questions

When will Driver's License for All (DL for All) begin?

- All Minnesota residents can apply for a license under the new DL for All law beginning Oct. 1. The law allows immigrants lacking permanent legal status to obtain a standard Minnesota driver's license or identification card.

When can I make an appointment to apply for a driver's license or ID card if I don't have immigration papers?

- Beginning Sept. 2, residents can make an appointment for Oct. 1 or later. Online scheduling is available for Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) locations at drive.mn.gov under the "Appointments" section.

What documents do I need to provide? Can I bring in a document in another language?

- Two documents that include your full name and birth date. Any document in a language other than English must be accompanied by an approved translation. The documents required for DL for All on Oct. 1 are listed on the [DL for All webpage](#) at drive.mn.gov. Click on "DL FOR ALL" in the upper left corner.

Who should I pay for assistance or processing of applications, appointments, licenses or IDs?

- The state of Minnesota has legally set fees. Only DVS is authorized to charge driver's license or ID fees. Be careful of fraud or criminals — especially online. Find legitimate fees and locations at drive.mn.gov.

May I bring an interpreter to the driver's license skills (road) test?

- An interpreter can meet with the person taking the test and the DVS examiner before and after a skills (road) test. Due to safety issues while driving, Minnesota rules do not allow anyone other than the driver being tested and examiner in the vehicle.



What are the benefits of allowing anyone, regardless of citizenship status, to obtain a driver's license or ID card in Minnesota?

- The intent of DL for All was to create safer roads and communities.
- Drivers are tested to know the rules of the road and to know how to drive a vehicle safely.
- Drivers are more likely to stay at a crash scene to help police/EMT or exchange insurance information if they have identification.
- Law enforcement can more accurately check an identity and traffic/license records of people who remain on the scene.
- This law will allow undocumented residents, many of whom drive to work and school, to get a driver's license to prove they're safe drivers and qualify for car insurance.
- Insurance rates will possibly decrease due to fewer uninsured motorist costs.

Do I have to start with an ID, then get a permit, then a driver's license?

- No. An ID is for identification purposes only. There is no minimum age limit for an ID. A permit signifies that an individual has taken the knowledge exam and is still learning how to drive. There are restrictions on permit drivers including having a licensed driver with you when driving a vehicle. A driver's license is obtained after a written knowledge exam and skills (road) test have been passed.

In what language is the written test available?

- At DVS locations and third-party proctors, the following are available: English, Spanish, Hmong, Vietnamese, Somali, American Sign Language, Russian and Karen.

Should immigrants be worried about deportation, hassles or law enforcement involvement if they get licensed or visit DVS?

- No. The card identification is for all immigrants, including refugees, students and workers on visas. A standard driver's license or ID will be the same for someone without legal presence as someone with legal presence. There will be no method for law enforcement to identify immigration status from the standard license. The DL for All law specifically states that DVS will not share citizenship/immigration status with agencies that enforce immigration law unless ordered by a court.

Will people be able to register or vote with their DL For All standard license?

- Driver's license for all does not change the requirements to register to vote. You must meet all requirements to register to vote, including being a U.S. citizen. You can find more information on voter registration requirements [here](#). Under existing law, it is a felony offense if you vote when you are not eligible to vote.



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If my temporary stay documents expire on or after Oct. 1, 2023, will I need to submit new temporary stay documents to renew my Minnesota driver's license/ID?

- No. On Oct. 1, the DL For All law will be enacted, and temporary stay documents will no longer be required to renew a standard Minnesota license. Only if you have a REAL ID or wish to apply for one will you need to submit your temporary stay documentation with your application.

What if I do not want to give DVS my Social Security number?

- Federal law requires that DVS receives Social Security numbers from individuals eligible for Social Security numbers.

Will DL for All make undocumented persons legal? Is it a backdoor way of giving citizenship?

- No. A Minnesota ID or driver's license is not proof of citizenship and will not be when DL for All is implemented Oct. 1. The law allows Minnesota residents to obtain identification by providing a primary and secondary document (or two primary documents). DL for All updated the primary and secondary requirements that an individual is allowed to provide and removes the requirement of proof of legal presence.

How long will a driver's license be valid when issued under the new law?

- The standard driver's license renewal cycle is every four years. A standard ID varies based on age.

Do I have to wait until Oct. 1 if I have an immigration parole status?

- If you have been admitted to the U.S., have authorized legal presence status and have what is accepted as a primary document (individuals in this situation often have a foreign passport and an I-94 that shows "Parole" as their status along with a date the parole expires), you do not have to wait. Current primary and secondary documents (until DL for All is implemented) are listed [here](#).

What if I am undocumented and have a driver's license that recently expired – can DVS renew me now?

- If an individual currently does not have legal status, DVS is prohibited from issuing a driver's license, permit or ID. This will change Oct. 1. Individuals in this situation should prepare for Oct. 1 to obtain their license.

How long can I drive in Minnesota using a driver's license from another state or country?

- You have 30 days once you become a Minnesota resident to transfer that driver's license to Minnesota.



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I used an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) or an incorrect, fake, or someone else's Social Security number on an application, ID or license. How do I remove that?

- The simple answer is to wait until Oct. 1, and then visit a DVS office with your primary and secondary documents. At the time you are applying for your license or ID, when the DVS staff asks what your Social Security number is, tell them you do not have one. The staff person will then ask to see your primary and secondary documents to enter them into the system. Do not enter in your ITIN when the staff asks for your Social Security number. This will cause an error in our system and will not allow you to apply.

I previously used information other than my own for a driver's license, now what?

- Let the DVS staff know when you apply so the records can get merged. Please give any invalid Minnesota driver's license or ID cards to DVS staff. DVS recommends that people in this situation visit a DVS location so staff can complete the transaction of a merge appropriately and have proper administrative resources available.

Will I receive a driver's license or ID without the status check/temporary stay date on it?

- Starting Oct. 1, a standard driver's license or ID will not indicate the status check on the license. The standard driver's license or ID will continue to show the marking "Not for Federal Identification" on the front of the license.

Will the new law create a special class of drivers?

- No. The purpose is to make sure that all drivers know the rules of the road and can drive safely. Having licensed, trained, insured drivers in our communities will make us all safer.

If I cannot provide all the required documents after Oct. 1, but I am in the process of getting my documents, can I still apply for a driver's license or ID?

- An individual who cannot get or is in the process of applying for a primary or secondary document can apply through the DVS variance process. Variance forms can be found at drive.mn.gov

Is insurance required when you apply for your driver's license?

- Proof of insurance is not required at the time of application for a driver's license. **Proof of insurance is required when you take your road exam and when you renew your stickers for your vehicles**, but not at the time of application for a driver's license. Note: If you drive a vehicle in the state of Minnesota, you are required to be insured.



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What should I do about disclosing an alias previously used for a driver's license or identification card?

- Aliases used need to be reported to a DVS Exam Station. Bring your primary and secondary documents for DVS staff to review, as well as any driver's licenses or identification card(s) in the other name when reporting aliases. Provide a DVS staff person with your documents and the information you have about the aliases previously used. DVS will work to merge the records into one primary record. Merging records together allows for one record per person. One record per person helps us ensure the integrity of our record keeping system.

Do I need to get a Minnesota driver's license if I seasonally work at a farm and drive between fields but do not intend to permanently reside in Minnesota?

- No, if you are legally licensed in your home country or state and always have that license with you when driving, you can drive a farm tractor or a pickup truck from one field to another and do not need a Minnesota license. This is only the case if you don't intend to reside in Minnesota permanently.

What are the different ways I can lose my driving privileges?

- Minnesota Rules lay out several levels a driver can lose their privileges:
 - A suspension is a temporary withdrawal of driving privileges.
 - A revocation is a complete withdrawal of driving privileges.
 - A cancellation is a DVS withdrawal of driving privileges.
 - A cancel and deny is a DVS withdrawal of privileges due to alcohol/drug related actions.
 - A disqualification is a DVS withdrawal of commercial driving privileges.
 - The full legal definitions can be found in [Minnesota Rule](#) 7409.0100 and 7503.0100.

More Questions?

- Visit drive.mn.gov and click on the HELP button in the lower right of page. You can ask questions in English, Spanish, Hmong and Somali.



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