MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

REAL ID Driver’s License and Identification Card
Identification Requirements

Minnesota Driver and Vehicle Services issues REAL ID compliant cards in accordance with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005. This is an optional program. IF you plan to fly within the United States, visit a military base, or another federal building, a REAL ID compliant card (or other acceptable form of identification, such as a passport) will be required beginning October 1, 2021.

The REAL ID Act establishes minimum standards for proof of identity and requires applicants to meet these standards when applying for a compliant card. Proof of identity, Social Security number, and Minnesota residence address must be presented at the time the first application for a REAL ID compliant card is made, even if you have previously submitted such documents when applying for a Minnesota Driver’s License or Identification Card. Original documents are required. Photocopies, scans, and faxes will not be accepted.

You may renew your current Minnesota Driver’s License or Identification Card without presenting any additional documentation. If you opt not to apply for a REAL ID compliant card, the card you receive will be marked as not for federal purposes. You may only have one REAL ID compliant card, standard card, or enhanced card. You cannot have more than one Minnesota Driver’s License or Identification Card.

IMPORTANT Notes Regarding Identification Documents:

- **VALID Minnesota PHOTO driver’s license, permit, or ID:** Is not expired, suspended, revoked, or canceled, and not disqualified for the class of vehicle being operated. Minn. Stat. § 171.01(49A).

- You must provide original documents or documents certified by the agency that issued them. Digital documents shown on your phone or other electronic device will not be accepted.

- If your name has changed, you must submit proof of each name change. Acceptable proof includes a certified copy of a marriage certificate, divorce decree or dissolution of marriage, or a court-ordered name change.

- Two different types of documents must be submitted for PROOF OF MINNESOTA RESIDENCY. A P.O. Box will not be accepted as an address for proof of Minnesota Residency.

- If you have not updated your name change with the Social Security Administration, you must do so prior to applying for a REAL ID.

- Laminated documents or documents with any alterations or erasures will not be accepted.

All documents are subject to verification.

In order to apply for an REAL ID Driver’s License or Identification card, you’ll need to provide documents that meet the following requirements:

- **PROOF of IDENTITY AND DATE OF BIRTH** (ONE document from List A)

- **PROOF of NAME CHANGE** – IF APPLICABLE – If your name has changed, you must submit proof of each name change. Acceptable proof includes a certified copy of a marriage certificate, divorce decree or dissolution of marriage, or a court-ordered name change. (Multiple name change documents may be required to establish proof of name change(s)).

- **PROOF of SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER** (ONE document from List B)

- **PROOF of MINNESOTA RESIDENCY** (TWO different documents from List C that have applicant’s current name and address) *NOTE – if you are under 18, one proof of residency document may be provided by a parent/guardian if it has the same address as the document you provide. They must also be present in office to certify that they are your parent/guardian and that you live at the given address.

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List A – PROOF OF IDENTITY and DATE OF BIRTH, and Legal Presence in the United States (One document required from this list)

- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card.
- Original or certified copy of U.S. or U.S. Territory birth certificate that bears the raised or authorized seal of the issuing jurisdiction or a protective equivalent.
- Consular report of birth abroad, certification of report of birth, or certification of birth abroad (Form FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545) issued by the U.S. Department of State.
- Valid, unexpired permanent resident card (Form I-551) issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or the former immigration and Naturalization Service of the U.S. Department of Justice.
- Certificate of naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570) issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- Valid, unexpired passport issued by a foreign country and a valid, unexpired U.S. visa accompanied by a Form I-94 as documentation of the applicant’s most recent lawful admittance. If the form I-94 is endorsed “DS” than a Form I-20, Form DS-2019 or Form I-551.

NAME CHANGES: If the name on the identity document above is not the same as the name you currently use, a name document must be submitted. If you have changed your name more than once, since the issuance of your proof of identity document, then you must submit documentation for each name change.

- Certification of Marriage certified by the issuing government of jurisdiction
- Certified court order that specifies the name change
- Certified divorce decree or dissolution of marriage that specifies the name change

List B – PROOF OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (one document from this list with the applicant’s current name). Laminated documents or documents with alterations will not be accepted

- Social Security Card – Laminated cards will not be accepted
- Federal form W-2
- Federal form SSA-1099 or other Federal form 1099 with Social Security Number
- Computer-printed U.S. employment pay stub with name, address, and Social Security Number

If a foreign passport is used for evidence of identity and date of birth, then additional documentation demonstrating non work authorized status may be needed to verify non-eligibility for a Social Security Number

List C – PROOF OF MINNESOTA RESIDENCE (TWO different documents from this list. All documents must have applicant’s name and principal residence MN address.) A P.O Box will not be accepted

- Valid, unexpired Minnesota driver’s license, or instruction permit – must have current address listed.
- Valid, unexpired Minnesota ID card – must have current address listed.
- Home utility services bill issued no more than 12 months before the application.
- Home Utility Services hook-up work order issued no more than 12 months before the application.
- United States bank or financial information with account numbers redacted including (issued no more than 12 months before application date).
  - Bank account statement OR credit card or debit card statement OR brokerage account statement OR money market account statement
- Certified transcript from a U.S. high school issued no more than 180 days before the application.
- Certified transcript from a Minnesota college or university, issued no more than 180 days before the application.
- Employment pay stub issued no more than 12 months before the application that lists the employer’s name and address
- Minnesota unemployment insurance benefit statement issued no more than 12 months before application.
- Unexpired Minnesota professional license – must contain a current Minnesota address.
- Statement from a housing services building registered under chapter 144D, nursing home licensed under chapter 144A, or a boarding care facility licensed under section 144.50 to 144.56 issued no more than 12 months before the application.
- Current policy or card for health, automobile, homeowner’s or renters insurance.
- Federal or state income tax return for the most recent tax filing year.
- Minnesota property tax statement for the current or prior calendar year or a proposed Minnesota property tax notice for the current year that shows the applicant’s principal residential address both on the mailing portion and portion stating what property is being taxed.
- Minnesota vehicle certificate of title.
- Filed property deed or title for current residence.
- Supplemental Security Income award statement issued no more than 12 months before the application.
- Mortgage documents for the applicant’s principal residence.
- Residential lease agreement for the applicant’s principal residence issued no more than 12 months before the application.
- Unexpired Selective Service card.
- Military orders that are still in effect at the time of application.
- Cellular phone bill issued no more than 12 months before the application.
- Valid license issued pursuant to the game and fish laws.