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, 2020.

The REAL ID Act establishes minimum standards for proof of identity and requires applications 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, regular 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, sub. 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 Enhanced Driver’s License or Enhanced 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 the applicant’s current name and address)
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
- Certified copy of birth certificate issued by a government bureau of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the applicant’s state of birth, which must bear the raised or authorized seal of the issuing government entity.
- 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 United States Department of State
- Valid, unexpired permanent resident card (Form I-551) issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security or the former immigration and Naturalization Service of the United States Department of Justice
- Certificate of naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570) issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security or by the United States Department of Justice
- Unexpired employment authorization document (Form I-766 or Form I-688B) issued by the United States 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 into the U.S. 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. Must have applicant’s current name). Laminated documents or documents with any 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 RESIDENCE IN MINNESOTA (TWO different documents from this list. Must have applicant’s name as used at print and current 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 90 days before the application (will not be accepted if two unrelated people listed on the bill)
- United States Financial information with account numbers redacted including (issue no more than 90 days before REAL ID application)
  - Bank Account Statement OR Canceled Check OR Credit Card Statement
- Minnesota College or University ID card with certified transcript from the college or university, issued no more than 180 days before the application
- Employment pay stub (issued no more than 90 days before the application that lists the employer’s name, address, telephone number)
- Unexpired Minnesota professional license – must contain a current Minnesota address
- Home Utility Services hook –up work order issued no more than 90 days before the application (will not be accepted if two unrelated people are listed on the bill)
- U.S high school identification card with certified transcript from the school issued no more than 180 days before the application
- Minnesota unemployment insurance benefit statement issued no more than 90 days before the application
- Statement from a housing with 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 90 days before the application
- Life, health, automobile, homeowner’s, or renter’s insurance policy issued no more than 90 days before the application (proof of insurance card is unacceptable)
- Federal or state income tax return or statement for the most recent tax filing year
- Minnesota property tax statement 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
- MN vehicle certificate of title issued no more than 12 months before the application
- Supplemental Security Income aware statement issued no more than 12 months before the application
- Mortgage Documents for the applicant’s principal residence issued no more than 12 months before the application
- 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

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