Acceptable Documents

for Obtaining a Driver's License or Photo Identification Card

To apply for a driver's license, learner's permit, commercial driver's license (CDL), or CDL instruction permit you must bring two identification documents, one proof of legal presence, one proof of Virginia residency, and proof of your complete social security number (if you have been issued one). Anyone applying for a CDL or CDL instruction permit is required to provide a social security number. To apply for a photo identification (ID) card you must bring two identification documents, one proof of legal presence and one proof of Virginia residency.

Temporary documents and photocopies of documents will not be accepted. All documents must be originals. All documents will be subject to verification, which may delay the issuance of your license, learner's permit or photo identification card.

DMV may require additional documents. DMV will not accept a document when there is reason to believe it has been altered, fraudulently obtained or is fake, forged, counterfeit or otherwise non-genuine or illegitimate.

Falsifying information on a driver's license, learner's permit, CDL, CDL learner's permit or ID card application is a criminal offense. Assisting a person with improperly or fraudulently obtaining a driver's license, learner's permit, CDL, CDL learner's permit or ID card are also criminal offenses. Altering, manufacturing, selling or possessing a fraudulent birth certificate, driver's license or ID card are criminal offenses.

The acceptable documents listed in this publication may change without prior notice.

If you have official documentation, not listed below, that you believe meets these requirements please present it to your local DMV office for review.

Proof of Identity

Documents submitted as primary proof of identity must show your full legal name and date of birth. Nicknames will not be accepted. You must present at least one document from the primary list of documents. The second proof of identity may come from either the primary list or the secondary list. If two of your proofs of identity are issued by the same entity, such as the same state agency, DMV may require additional proof of identity documents. Individuals under the age of 19 are required to provide only one proof of identity from the primary list.

Primary Documents

- >>Virginia DMV-issued driver's license unexpired or expired for not more than one year.
- Virginia DMV-issued learner's/instruction permit unexpired or expired for not more than one year. If presented by an individual age 19 years or older, the learner's/instruction permit must have been issued after September 21, 2001.
- Virginia DMV-issued photo identification card (excluding child ID cards) issued after September 21, 2001 unexpired or expired for not more than one year.
- >>Unexpired U.S. [issued by a U.S. state (other than Virginia), jurisdiction or territory] or Canadian driver's license or learner's/instruction permit (with photo), not less than 60 days old (other foreign country and international driver's licenses are not accepted).
- Birth document issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory (birth documents issued by a hospital, and foreign birth certificates are not accepted).
- >>Unexpired photo ID card, not less than 60 days old, issued by a U.S. state (other than Virginia), jurisdiction or territory (school/employee ID cards and Native American citizenship cards are not accepted).
- >>Unexpired U.S. Active Duty/Retiree/Reservist Military ID Card (DD-2 or Common Access Card). (Military dependent ID cards are not accepted as primary documents).
- Unexpired or expired U.S. passport.
- >>Unexpired foreign passport with an unexpired or expired visa and I-94.
- >>Unexpired foreign passport with an I-94W.
- >>Unexpired foreign passport with an I-551 stamp
- U.S. Certificate of Naturalization.
- U.S. Certificate of Citizenship.
- Unexpired Conditional Resident Alien Card (I-551) valid for two years.
- U.S. Citizen Identification Card (I-179 or I-197)
- >>Unexpired Temporary Resident ID Card
- >>Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (I-688A, I-688B or I-766).
- >>Unexpired Refugee Travel Document (I-571).
- >>Resident Alien Card, Permanent Resident Card, Northern Marianas Card (I-551) unexpired or expired for not more than one year .
- Certification of Report of Birth of a U.S. Citizen (DS-1350).
- Certificate of Birth Abroad (FS-545).
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (FS-240).
- Asylees or applicants for asylum may present an application for asylum along with documentation from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service or U.S. Immigration Court indicating either receipt or approval of the application.

Secondary Documents

- Any primary document marked with "**>>**" symbol that is unexpired or expired for NOT more than five years.
- U.S. Selective Service Card.
- Court order for adoption, name change or gender change from a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory. Must contain court seal. Abstracts of criminal/civil convictions are not accepted).
- U.S. military discharge papers .
- Certified copy of school records/transcript issued by a school accredited by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory OR a Virginia Department of Education Certificate of Enrollment form (a report card is not accepted).
- Medicare Card/Medicaid Card.
- Unexpired welfare/social services identification card with photo, issued by a municipality.
- Marriage license issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction, territory or municipality.
- Unexpired military dependent ID card with photo.
- Unexpired weapons or gun permit issued by federal, state or municipal government.
- Unexpired U.S. pilot's license.
- INS form I-797 displaying applicant's name (depending on the nature and purpose of the form, the I-797 may not be accepted).
- U.S. Department of State form DS-2019 (applicant's name must appear on the form).
- Veterans Universal Access Identification Card.
- Authorization for Parole of an Alien into the U.S. (I-512).
- Virginia Criminal Justice Agency Offender Information Form.
- United States Probation Offender Information Form.
- INS student or dependent SEVIS I-20 with or without INS stamp (applicant's name must appear on the form).
- U.S. Federal Agency Employer ID Card with applicant's name and photo.

Legal Presence

Documents presented as proof of legal presence must show your full legal name and date of birth. All applicants for first time Virginia driver's licenses, learner's permits, CDL's or CDL instruction permits must provide proof of legal presence. Applicants whose driver's licenses have expired or been suspended, revoked or cancelled will need to provide proof of legal presence prior to obtaining a new license. Anyone applying for an ID card must show proof of legal presence. If you have permanent status in the U.S. and have once proven your legal presence, you will not be required to submit proof of legal presence for subsequent ID cards or driver's licenses.

If the name on your proof of legal presence document does not match what your DMV driver's license or ID card will display, proof of your name change may be required.

If you are temporarily authorized to be in the U.S., your driver's license or ID card will be valid only for the period of time that you are legally present in the U.S.

- Birth document issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory (birth documents issued by a hospital, and foreign birth certificates ar not accepted).
- Certification of Report of Birth of a U.S. Citizen (DS-1350).
- Certificate of Birth Abroad (FS-545).Consular Report of Birth Abroad (FS-240).

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- Unexpired or expired U.S. Passport.
- U.S.Certificate of Naturalization.
- U.S.Certificate of Citizenship.
- Unexpired U.S. Active Duty/Retiree/Reservist Military ID Card (DD-2 or Common Access Card).
- U.S. military discharge papers.
- Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (I-688A/I-688B, I-766).
- U.S. Citizen Identification card (I-179, I-197).
- Resident Alien Card, Permanent Resident Card (I-551) unexpired or expired for not more than one year.
- Unexpired foreign passport with an unexpired or expired for not more than one year I-551stamp.
- Unexpired Temporary Resident Card (I-688).
- Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-151).
- Unexpired Re-entry Permit (I-327).
- Unexpired or expired not more than one year temporary I-551 stamp on an I-94, with photograph of the bearer.
- Unexpired Conditional Resident Alien Card (I-551)
- Unexpired foreign passport with an unexpired or expired visa and a valid I-94.
    - Holders of F1/F2 visas must present a valid SEVIS I-20.
    - Holders of J1/J2 visas must present a valid DS-2019.
- Unexpired foreign passport with a valid I-94W.
- INS form I-797 displaying applicant's name (depending on the purpose and nature of the form, the I-797 may not be accepted).
- Unexpired Canadian Passport with valid I-94.
- Unexpired Refugee Travel Document (I-571).
- U.S. Department of Receptions and Placement Program Assurance Form (Refugee) and I-94 stamped Refugee.
- Form I-94 Record of Arrival and Departure stamped Asylee, Parolee or Parole, refugee, asylum, HP (humanitarian parolee), or PIP (public interest parolee).
- Asylees or applicants for asylum may present an application for asylum along with documentation from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service or U.S. Immigration Court indicating either receipt or approval of the application.

Proof of Virginia Residency

You must present one proof of Virginia residency from the list below. The document must show your name and address of your current Virginia residence as it appears on the application. You must give a street address. A post office box or business address is not acceptable.

Applicants under age 19 can have a parent or legal guardian certify their Virginia residency. The parent or legal guardian must appear in person with the applicant. The parent or legal guardian must provide a photo identification card and proof of their Virginia residency with a document from the residency list.

- Payroll check stub issued by an employer within the last two months
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service tax reporting W-2 form or 1099 form (not more than 18 months old).
- U.S. or Virginia income tax return from the previous year.
- Original monthly bank statement not more than two months old issued by a bank.
- Annual Social Security Statement for the current or preceding calendar year.
- Utility bill, not more than two months old, issued to applicant (examples include gas, electric, sewer, water, cable or phone bill). Cellular phone and pager bills are not accepted.
- Receipt for personal property taxes or real estate taxes paid within the last year to the Commonwealth of Virginia or a Virginia locality. Current automobile or life insurance bill (cards or policies are not accepted).
- Receipt for personal property taxes or real estate taxes paid within the last year to the Commonwealth of Virginia or a Virginia locality.
- Receipt for personal property taxes or real estate taxes paid within the last year to the Commonwealth of Virginia or a Virginia locality.
- Certified copy of school records/transcript from a school in which applicant is currently enrolled, issued by a school accredited by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory OR a Virginia Department of Education state, jurisdiction or territory OR a Virginia Department of Education Certificate of Enrollment form (a report card is not accepted).
- Virginia Voter Registration Card.
- Virginia driver's license, learner's permit or DMV photo ID card displaying the applicant's current Virginia address.
  Certificate of Enrollment form (a report card is not accepted).
- Virginia Voter Registration Card.
- Virginia driver's license, learner's permit or DMV photo ID card displaying the applicant's current Virginia address.
- Current homeowners insurance policy or bill.
- Cancelled check (not more than two months old) with both name and address imprinted.
- Deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement or residential rental/ lease agreement.
- U.S. Postal Service change of address confirmation form or postmarked U.S. mail with forwarding address label
- Active duty military member assigned to a unit based in Virginia may present one of the following:
    - Letter from commanding officer on official letterhead, with an original signature, stating that the applicant resides onboard a ship docked in Virginia or in a barracks located in Virginia;
    - Orders from the U.S. military assigning the applicant to a military unit with a Virginia address;
    - Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) showing Virginia as applicant's Home of Record.

Proof of Social Security Number

If you are applying for any driver's license or learner's permit you will be required to provide one proof of your social security number (SSN) (if you have been issued one) from the list below. Your document must display all nine-digits. Anyone applying for a CDL or CDL instruction permit must provide a SSN. If you are applying for an ID card, you do not have to provide a SSN.

DMV will verify all social security numbers with the Social Security Administration (SSA). If the information (name, date of birth, and SSN) you present does not match the information on file at the SSA, DMV will not issue you a driver's license, learner's permit,CDL, or CDL instruction permit.

DMV will assign you a customer number which will display on your driver's license, learner's permit, CDL, or CDL instruction permit or ID card. If you wish to change your DMV-assigned number in the future, you may be required to present documentation from law enforcement or the courts indicating that you may be a victim of identity theft.

- Social security card (Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers are not accepted).
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service tax reporting W-2 form or 1099 form.
- Payroll check stub issued by employer.
- Unexpired U.S. Active Duty/Retiree/Reservist Military ID Card (DD-2 or Common Access Card). (ID cards of military dependents are not accepted)
- Annual Social Security Statement.

Proof of Name Change

If you are applying for any Virginia driver's license or ID card for the first time and your name has changed, you must submit one of the documents listed below for proof of your name change.

- Marriage certificate, license or register.
- Divorce decree if the decree states the change from married name to maiden name.
- Court order granting the name change.

If your name has changed and you currently hold any valid Virginia-issued driver's license or ID card, you must present it along with one of the documents listed above for proof of your name change.

If you cannot present your Virginia driver's license, learner's permit, CDL, CDL instruction permit or ID card, you must present one proof of identity from the primary document list in addition to one of the above listed documents for proof of name change.

www.dmvNow.com
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
P. O. Box 27412
Richmond, Virginia 23269
1-866-368-5463 (DMV-LINE) or
1-800-435-5137
www.dmvNOW.com

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