

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

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, proof of social security number and proof of Virginia residency. To apply for a photo identification card you must bring two identification documents and proof of Virginia residency. Proof of your social security number (SSN) is required if you are applying for a driver's license or vehicle title. Proof of social security number is required for a photo ID card only if you want to display it on the card.

Neither temporary documents nor photocopies of documents will be accepted. All documents must be originals and all documents may be subject to verification with the issuing entity prior to acceptance. DMV will not accept a document as proof of identity, residency or social security number when there is reason to believe it has been altered, fraudulently obtained or is fake, forged, counterfeit or otherwise non-genuine or illegitimate. DMV may require additional documents.

Falsifying information on a driver's license, learner's permit or photo ID card application is a criminal offense. Altering or assisting a person with improperly or fraudulently obtaining a driver's license, CDL, learner's permit or photo ID card are also criminal offenses.

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

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 19 years old or over, 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 driver's license or learner's/instruction permit (with photo), not less than 60 days old, issued by a U.S. state (other than Virginia), jurisdiction or territory.
- Birth certificate issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory. 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 and employee ID cards are not included).
- Unexpired U.S. military ID card of an active duty or retired member (ID cards of military dependents are not acceptable as primary identity documents).
- Unexpired U.S. passport.
- Unexpired foreign passport with a visa, I-94 or I-94W or I-551 stamp. An I-94W MUST be from a country participating in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program.
- U.S. Certificate of Naturalization (form N-550, N-570 or N-578).
- U.S. Certificate of Citizenship (form N-560 or N-561).
- U.S. Citizen Identification Card (form I-197).
- Unexpired Temporary Resident Card (form I-688).
- Unexpired Employment Authorization Card (form I-688A, I-688B or I-766).
- Unexpired Refugee Travel Document (form I-571).
- Unexpired Resident Alien Card, Permanent Resident Card, Northern Marianas Card (form I-551).
- A copy of the first and last page of an application for asylum (Request for Asylum in the United States) provided the pages are accompanied by either a receipt from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) showing the application has been filed or documentation verifying the application is pending in immigration court; OR Documentation indicating a decision to grant asylum by the Asylum Office or the original of a

- document granting asylum issued by an immigration judge or the INS. Either or both of these documents will count as one primary document.
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (form FS-240) or Certification of Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States of America (Form DS-1350).

Secondary Documents

- 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 or civil convictions are not acceptable.
- U.S. military discharge papers (form DD214).
- Certified copy of school records/transcript issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory or by a state-accredited private school OR a Virginia Department of Education Certificate of Enrollment form (a report card is not acceptable).
- Health insurance card or policy.
- Life insurance policy.
- Unexpired welfare/social services identification card with photo, issued by a municipality.
- State-issued driver's license or learner's/instruction permit (other than Virginia), with photo, expired not more than five years.
- State-issued photo identification card (other than Virginia), expired not more than five years (school and employee ID cards are not included).
- U.S. passport—expired not more than five years.
- Foreign passport—expired not more than five years, with a visa, I-94 or I-94W, or I-551 stamp. An I-94W must be from a country participating in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program.
- 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 pilot's license.
- INS form I-797 (applicable only for individuals whose names appear on the form).
- U.S. Department of State form IAP-66 (applicable only for the individuals whose names appear on the form).
- Veterans Universal Access Identification Card.
- Authorization for Parole of an Alien into the United States (form I-512).

Proof of Virginia Residency

You must present one proof of Virginia residency. All documents must show your name. They must also show the address of your principal 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 two months of the application.
- Virginia Voter Registration Card.
- 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.
- Cancelled check (not more than two months old) with both name and address imprinted.
- Annual Social Security Statement for the current or preceding calendar year.
- Utility bill (not more than two months old) issued to applicant (examples include a gas, electric, sewer, water, cable or phone bill).
- 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, health, homeowners or life insurance policy, card or bill.
- Certified copy of school records/transcript from a school in which applicant is currently enrolled, issued by a U.S. state, jurisdiction or territory OR a Virginia Department of Education Certificate of Enrollment form (a report card is not acceptable).
- Virginia driver's license, learner's permit or DMV photo ID card.
- Deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement or residential rental/lease agreement.
- Postmarked U.S. mail with forwarding address label or change of address confirmation form from the U.S. Postal Service.
- 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

You will need one proof of social security number. DMV will issue you an alternate number if you do not have a SSN or you do not want your SSN to be displayed on your license or photo ID card. However, state law requires that you furnish your SSN to DMV even if you choose to use an alternate number. Proof of SSN is required for a photo ID card only if you want to display it on the card. DMV verifies social security numbers with the Social Security Administration.

- Social security card.
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service tax reporting W-2 form or 1099 form.
- Payroll check stub issued by employer.
- Unexpired U.S. military ID card of an active duty or retired member (ID cards of military dependents are not included).
- Annual Social Security Statement that displays the full 9-digit social security number.

Proof of Name Change

- Marriage certificate.
- Divorce decree if the decree states the change from married name to maiden name.
- Original or teste copy of the court order granting the name change.

If you are applying for a driver's license, learner's permit or identification card for the first time and your name has changed, you must present two proofs of identification, one proof of residency and proof of your social security number in addition to one of the documents listed above for proof of your name change.

If your name has changed and you currently hold a valid Virginia-issued driver's license, learner's permit or photo identification card, you must present your VA driver's license, learner's permit or photo identification card in addition to one of the documents listed above for proof of your name change.

If you cannot present your VA driver's license, learner's permit, or photo identification 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.



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