Louisiana Department of Public Safety

Office of Motor Vehicles

18.00 Out-of-State Transfers

Section: 1. Issuance of Driver's License

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 09/23/2026

Authority:
R.S. 32:409.1
R.S. 32:407 (A)(2)(b)
R.S. 32:1420
To view Louisiana Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us/

Requirements

- Proof of Identity [1]
- Proof of Residency [1]
- Social Security Number [1]
- If the name does not appear the same on all documents presented, see Name Changes and Usage. [1]
- Appropriate fees

Driver's License Transfer

- All items listed in ***Requirements*** are necessary to obtain a driver's license.
- Your most recently issued license from a previous state (must be surrendered)
    - You will need to provide a driving record, containing name, date of birth, and driver's license number, if you are unable to provide your driver's license from the last state of issuance **and** you are from the following states:
        - California, Connecticut, Illinois, or West Virginia
- A vision test will be done prior to driver's license issuance.
- Note that you may only hold one valid driver's license issued by any state at one time.[1,2]
- If you would like to upgrade at the time of transfer, see Classes of Licenses and Age Requirements.[3]
- Any minor wishing to transfer, see Authorization/Licensing of a Minor's Application for Driver's License.
- You are required to have insurance if you have a vehicle registered in Louisiana, see Acceptable Evidence of Insurance Coverage.
- If transferring a valid commercial license (Class A, B, C) from another state, you will not have to take the written skills test, except for Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT). You are required to pass the Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) knowledge test prior to issuance. CDL permits will **not** be transferred.

Identification Card

- All items listed in ***Requirements*** are necessary to obtain an identification card. However, you are **not** required to surrender your out-of-state driver's license.
- It is important to note, that your driving privileges may be cancelled by your home state upon issuance of a Louisiana identification card. Please contact the previous issuing state for more information.
- If you have a valid Real ID driver's license in another state and want to obtain a Real ID identification card in Louisiana, you must surrender your Real ID driver's license. If your Real ID driver's license is suspended and you want to get a Real ID identification card in Louisiana, you do not have to surrender your Real ID driver's license.

Notes:

- If a previous credential was held in Louisiana and a record still exists for that type of credential, the previous credential number will be reassigned.
    - **Exception**: If approved, an individual may be issued a new number for any credential they already have if fraud was committed using that credential number, see Identity Theft and Issuance of a New Driver's License or ID Card.
- All documents must have the same name. If the names are different, other than by marriage, the application will be denied until the supporting documents have been changed to reflect the name change. If the out-of-state license already shows the married name of the applicant, a marriage license/certificate is not required.
- If you want a Real ID credential in Louisiana, and have not had one in this State, you must submit all original documentation required for Real ID, regardless of if you had a Real ID credential in another State.

Related Policies

Section 1, Policy 2.00, Fees and Duration of License/Identification Card
Section 1, Policy 3.04, Residency Requirements for Issuance of a Driver's License or Identification Card
Section 1, Policy 6.00, Identification Requirements
Section 1, Policy 6.03, Requirements for issuance of a Real ID
Section 1, Policy 22.00, Name Changes and Usage
Section 1, Policy 8.00, Authorization\Licensing Of A Minor's Application For A Driver's License
Section 1, Policy 41.00, Social Security Verification

References:

[1] – Louisiana State Legislature. *Application or Special Certificate Applications; Penalties for False Information* (R.S. 32:409.1), retrieved from https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=88389.
[2] – Louisiana State Legislature. *Driver's License Compact* (R.S. 32:1420), retrieved from https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=88065.
[3] – Louisiana State Legislature. *Application of Minors; Revocation; Applications of Persons Less than Twenty-One Years of Age* (R.S. 32:407), retrieved from https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=88384.