



Louisiana Department of Public Safety  
Office of Motor Vehicles  
**Policy 6.03 Requirements for Issuance of a Real ID  
Driver's License or Identification Card**

**Section:** 1. Issuance of Driver's License

**Effective Date:** 10/01/2016

**Revised Date:** 04/09/2026

**Authority:**

Administrative

[R.S. 9:245](#)

[R.S. 32:409.1](#)

[R.S. 32:410\(E\) and \(F\)](#)

[R.S. 40:1321 \(P\)](#)

Real ID Act of 2005, P.L. 109-13, and federal rules adopted pursuant thereto, as of January 1, 2016

**Definitions:**

- **Real ID** - The federal REAL ID Act of 2005 adopted the recommendations of the 911 Commission. The REAL ID Act prohibits the federal government from accepting driver's licenses or identification cards issued by states that do not meet the requirements of the REAL ID Act. This includes but is not limited to commercial air flights and federal buildings.

**Requirements:**

- Applicants may apply for issuance of a Real ID driver's license or identification card at any Motor Vehicle office and participating Public Tag Agents.
- All applicants for initial issuance of a Real ID driver's license or identification card **must** provide proof of the following:
  - [Identity](#)
  - Evidence of lawful status in the United States
  - Date of birth
  - At least two (2) documents demonstrating address of principal residence. The documents must include the applicant's name and Louisiana street address. The documents must be from separate/independent sources. See Section 1, Policy 3.04, [Residency Requirements](#).
- All applicants must provide their assigned Social Security number.
  - The number can be provided verbally.
- **Documents to establish identity and lawful status** include the following:
  - A **United States citizen** shall provide at least one of the following to establish the applicant's identify and lawful status:
    - A valid, unexpired United States passport or passport card.
    - Original birth certificate or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by:
      - A state of the United States
      - District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.)

- The Virgin Islands
- Guam
- American Samoa
- Puerto Rico (will only be accepted if issued after July 1, 2010)
- The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Consular report of birth abroad issued by the United States Department of State, Form FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545.
- Certificate of naturalization issued by the Department of Homeland Security, Form N-550 or N-570.
- Certificate of citizenship, Form N-560 or N-561, issued by the Department of Homeland Security.
- A person who is **not a citizen** of the United States shall provide proof of identity and proof of lawful status. In some instances, proof of identify and proof of lawful status may be provided with the same document. OMV will only issue a driver's license in a name that exactly matches the original immigration document. See Policy Section 1, Policy 6.02, [Immigrant and Non-Immigrant Issuance](#).

First Immigration Document (For proof of identity)	Second Immigration Document (For Proof of Lawful Status)
Unexpired foreign passport with valid U.S. Visa (Immigration status A, B, E, H, I, L, O, P, Q, R, or S)	Valid I-94 or I-797A Notice of Action
Unexpired foreign passport with valid U.S. Visa (Immigration Status F-1, F-2, J-1, J-2, M-1 or M-2)	I-20 (for F-1, F-2, M-1, or M-2 status) or DS-2019 (for J-1 or J-2 status) accompanied by Valid I-94 or I-797A Notice of Action
I-766 with category code: <b>C08</b>	Second document not required
I-766 with <b>temporary protections status</b>	Second document not required
I-766 <i>without</i> temporary protection status	Unexpired foreign passport
I-766 with category codes: <b>C09, C10, C18, &amp; A11</b>	Proof of pending application to adjust status - I-797C Notice of Action with Case Types I-485, I-881 or Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR 42B). In some cases other documentation issued by USCIS, DHS, or other federal agencies may be acceptable to demonstrate lawful status as defined by 6 C.F.R. 37.3 and determined by USCIS.
I-551 or I-551 stamp with photo on I-94 form	Second document not required
I-551 Stamp	Unexpired foreign passport

- **Documents to establish date of birth** must include **at least one** document required to establish his or her identity (above) that contains his or her date of birth and name.
  - A birth certificate issued from a state within the United States would contain applicant's name, date of birth and prove lawful status. This would satisfy proof of identity, lawful status, and the first three requirements for Real ID.
- **Social Security information** can be provided verbally.
  - Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles utilizes Social Security Online Verification (SSOLV) to verify the Social Security information with the Social Security Administration.
  - **NOTE:** If an applicant temporarily resides in the United States, he or she should visit the following link for information on Social Security requirements: [Immigrant and Non-Immigrant Issuance](#).

- **Permanent ID** – Permanent identification cards are available for applicants sixty (60) years of age or older.
  - Applicants may either elect to have a Real ID or a permanent identification card. A Real ID must have an expiration of six (6) years.
  - Permanent identification cards may only be issued for “*Not for Federal Identification*”.

**Notes:**

- An individual may only have one Real ID credential. (i.e. driver’s license, or identification card). The Real ID designation of the driver’s license or identification card can be removed, so that only one of the cards is a Real ID. A change data transaction is performed to remove Real ID designation.
- The full legal name on the Social Security card and proof of address does not have to exactly match the proof of identity document for issuance of a Real ID. (EX. John Paul Safety vs. John P. Safety)
- 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 an out-of-state license already shows the married name of the applicant, a marriage license/certificate is not required.
- For more information on **name change requirements**, see Section 1, Policy 22.00, [Name Changes and Usage](#).
- If the Department of Public Safety and Corrections obtained copies or images of personal identifying source documents from an applicant between July 7, 2008 and June 14, 2016, those documents are required be removed and purged from the Department’s databases and the Department’s contractors’ databases and systems upon the applicant's request. If the applicant's photo was obtained by the Department between July 7, 2008 and June 14, 2016, and is in the possession of a contractor of the Department, that picture is required to be purged from the database and system of that contractor upon the applicant's. An applicant can call 225-925-4195 in order to request either or both of these actions be taken.

- Upon request, any applicant for a Real ID compliant driver's license or identification card may require the Department to document and retain the applicant's name, date of birth, certificate numbers, date filed, and issuing agency instead of retaining an image or copy of the applicant's birth certificate.

**Related Policies:**

Section 1, Policy 1.00 [Classes of Licenses and Age Requirements](#)

Section 1, Policy 2.00 [Fees And Duration Of License/ID 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 6.02 [Immigrant and Non-Immigrant Issuance](#)

Section 1, Policy 22.00 [Name Changes and Usage](#)