Louisiana Department of Public Safety
Office of Motor Vehicles

Policy 8.00 Authorization / Licensing of a Minor's Application for a Driver's License and Identification Card

Section: 1. Issuance of Driver's License

Effective Date: 05/01/1986

Revised Date: 01/01/2025

Authority:
Administrative
R.S. 9:951 et al
R.S. 32:407
R.S. 32:431.1
R.S. 40:1321 (A)
To view Louisiana Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us/

Requirements:

- Applicants under eighteen (18) years of age applying for a temporary instructional permit (TIP), learner's permit, or driver's license or
- Applicants under seventeen (17) years of age applying for an identification card must provide the applicable requirements, as outlined below:

Signature	Type	Requirements
Parental Signature		*Application for License or Identification Card* (DPSMV2003) must be signed by a parent, if no separation or divorce exists. The parent who has legal custody may sign the application, if a legal separation or divorce exists. However, only the domiciliary parent may sign if joint custody has been awarded. • Custody documents must be presented.
No Parental Signature	**Custody by Mandate**	*Application for License or Identification Card* (DPSMV2003) must be signed by the individual that is granted provisional custody by mandate. • Parents are allowed to grant provisional custody by mandate with a written act. • If the parents are not judicially separated, both must act together in granting the provisional custody. • If the parents are divorced or judicially separated, the parent having legal custody (or both parents if joint custody has been granted) may grant provisional authority. The provisional custodian must submit the Provisional Custody by Mandate documentation along with a notarized affidavit executed by the parents, natural tutor, or co-tutors agreeing to notify the Office of Motor Vehicles immediately of any change that would affect the custodial status of the minor during the period shown in the mandate.
No Parental Signature	**Power of Attorney**	A Power of Attorney executed by a minor's parent(s), awarding legal guardianship of the minor to another person is acceptable for foreign exchange students **only**.
No Parental Signature	**Tutorship**	The signature of the tutor and the letter of tutorship from the court will be acceptable.
No Parental Signature	**Legal Custody**	The person having legal custody may sign the *Application for License or Identification Card* (DPSMV2003).
No Parental Signature	**Foster Care**	If the court has taken custody of a minor and placed him/her in the control of an agency or organization, then the signature of the agency representative or foster parent will be accepted with the following: • A copy of the court's judgment making the minor a ward of the agency • An assignment from the agency to the foster parent • If the court has custody, but has not placed the minor in control of an agency or organization, the judge will be allowed to sign the application.

		• An order from the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) documenting that the child is in the foster care system
No Parental Signature	**Non Profit**	If an applicant is between the ages of fourteen (14) to sixteen (16) and is accompanied by an employee over the age of 21 who works for a non-profit agency that assists children under the age of eighteen, that person may sign in lieu of the custodial parent or guardian for an identification card **only**. This option is **not** acceptable for the issuance of a REAL ID.
No Parental Signature	**Emancipation**	If the minor is emancipated, the parent/guardian's signature is not required for the issuance of a driver's license or identification card (i.e. first-time issuance, renewal, duplicate, correction, etc.). The emancipation document must be presented. Emancipation gives a minor authority to perform all acts as if he/she had attained the age of majority.
No Parental Signature	**Minor Marriage**	The parent or guardian's signature is not required if the minor is married. The marriage license, in addition to the required documents for identification, must be presented.

- **Cancellation -** A minor's TIP, permit, license, or application for a TIP, permit, or license may be denied or cancelled if a written request is received by the Department, signed by the parent, tutor, or person having legal custody. Refer to Section 2, Policy 14.00, Special Requests.
- **Military Parents -** A parent in military service may sign the *Application for License or Identification Card* (DPSMV2003) for his/her minor child. The application may be witnessed and certified by his commanding officer. The commanding officer's rank, position, and military service (serial) number must be shown with his/her signature.
- **Parent or Guardian Unable to Appear in Person -** When it is impractical or impossible for a parent to personally appear to sign the minor's application, then the application may leave the office for a signature. The *Application for License or Identification Card* (DPSMV2003) may be obtained from any Motor Vehicle office and mailed to the parents by the applicant. The signature of the parent must be notarized to be acceptable. The notarized application must be presented to the Motor Vehicle office by the applicant, accompanied by the proper identification document(s).
- **Duplicates -** The signature of the custodial parent or guardian is required when a minor applies for a duplicate TIP, learner's permit, or driver's license. All documents submitted at initial issuance are required, unless a copy was scanned into the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles database.
    - The signature of the custodial parent or guardian is required when a minor sixteen (16) years or younger applies for a duplicate identification card.
- **Identification Card Age and Parental Signature Requirements -** The signature of the custodial parent or guardian is required when an applicant sixteen (16) or under applies for an identification card. Proper identification shall be presented.
- **Driving Hours Required –** The parent/guardian of a seventeen (17) year-old first-time applicant for a Class "E" license shall provide a signed statement to the Department attesting he or she has completed a minimum of fifty (50) hours of supervised driving practice with a licensed parent, guardian, or adult at least twenty-one (21) or older. At least fifteen (15) of these hours must be night-time driving.
    - If the applicant for a Class "E" license is seventeen (17) years of age and is emancipated, the applicant shall provide the attestation for himself, provided that the applicant has the necessary identifying information and documentation.

Related Policies

Section 1, Policy 1.00 Classes of Licenses and Age Requirements
Section 1, Policy 6.01 Driver Education Requirements
Section 1, Policy 8.02 Provisional Custody By Mandate
Section 1, Policy 33.00 Updates To Drivers License Masters On Cancelled Deceased Or Out Of State