

- ▶ Proof of any name changes (e.g. marriage certificate filed with a government agency or divorce decree)

**Note: If your name appears differently on your proof documents, you will be asked to present additional documentation to connect the names, such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree or court order. Marriage licenses, civil union documents, and marriage certificates signed only by the wedding officiant (such as a member of the clergy) will not be accepted.**

All documents must be originals and will be subject to verification; however, printouts of acceptable online residency documents can be used as proof of residency. Temporary documents and photocopies of documents will not be accepted.

For a complete list of accepted documents, visit [dmv.virginia.gov/REALID](https://dmv.virginia.gov/REALID). REAL ID is available for a one-time \$10 fee, in addition to standard driver's license or identification card fees.

## WHAT IF I DON'T WANT OR NEED A REAL ID:

You can still use your valid standard Virginia driver's license or identification card and renew it as usual. In accordance with federal law, when you receive your next

credential in the mail, it will display "Federal Limits Apply" to indicate that it is not REAL ID compliant.

You **DO NOT** need a REAL ID credential to do any of the following:

- ▶ Be licensed by a state to drive
- ▶ Vote or register to vote
- ▶ Enter federal facilities such as museums that do not require a person to present ID
- ▶ Apply for or receive federal benefits
- ▶ Access health or life-preserving services (including hospitals and health clinics), law enforcement, or constitutionally protected activities (including a defendant's access to court proceedings)
- ▶ Participate in law enforcement proceedings or investigations

But, remember, if you need to show identification to board a domestic flight beginning May 7, 2025, you'll need to bring another federally approved form of identification.

For more information, please visit [dmv.virginia.gov/REALID](https://dmv.virginia.gov/REALID) or call (804) 497-7100.



DMV 299 (10/3/2023)

© Commonwealth of Virginia,  
Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 2023.  
All rights reserved.

# REAL ID

You have a REAL choice

Get the driver's license  
or identification card that's  
right for you



## WHAT'S A REAL ID?

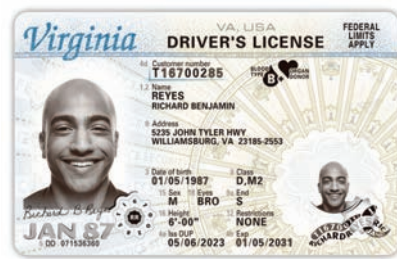
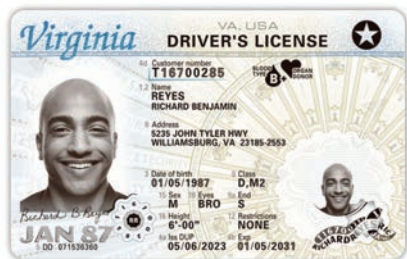
In Virginia, you get to choose whether to obtain a REAL ID compliant driver's license or identification card or renew or apply for a standard credential. Here is information to help you make the choice that's right for you. Beginning May 7, 2025, the federal government will require you to present a REAL ID compliant credential or another approved form of identification in order to board a domestic flight. Other secure federal facilities, including military bases, have the authority to set their own identification requirements and may no longer accept non-REAL ID compliant credentials.

### REAL ID Compliant Driver's License or Identification Card

A REAL ID compliant driver's license or ID card can be used for all of the same things as a standard credential. And it looks very similar, too. The main differences are that a REAL ID credential can be used as identification for federal purposes and you'll need to visit DMV with a few extra documents to obtain one. In the upper right corner, REAL ID compliant credentials display a **star** while standard, non-REAL ID compliant credentials instead display "**Federal Limits Apply.**"

## DO I WANT A REAL ID?

Here are some questions to help you decide if you should get a REAL ID compliant driver's license or ID card:



■ REAL ID compliant driver's license

■ Standard driver's license

## Do you use your Virginia driver's license or ID card as identification to fly or access secure federal facilities or military bases?

If you answered **YES**, you will need a REAL ID credential if you want to continue using your Virginia driver's license or ID card for these purposes. Beginning May 7, 2025, the federal government will require you to present a REAL ID compliant credential in order to board a domestic flight. However, if you have another document accepted by the federal government, such as a U.S. passport, you can use that to board a plane or access secure federal facilities.

Since secure federal facilities and military bases have the authority to set their own entry requirements, please verify that you have acceptable identification prior to your visit. **Effective immediately**, some military bases may no longer accept non-REAL ID compliant credentials which display "Federal Limits Apply."

If you answered **NO**, you might not need to get a REAL ID credential unless you need such access in the future.

## Do you have any of these federally approved credentials:

- ▶ U.S. passport or U.S. passport card
- ▶ DHS trusted traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)
- ▶ U.S. military ID (active duty, retired military, dependents, and DoD civilians)
- ▶ Permanent resident card
- ▶ Border crossing card
- ▶ HSPD-12 PIV card
- ▶ Federally recognized, tribal-issued photo ID

- ▶ Foreign government-issued passport
- ▶ Canadian driver's license
- ▶ Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)

If you answered **YES**, you can use the selected document as federal identification, rather than a REAL ID compliant Virginia credential.

If you answered **NO**, you'll need to get a Virginia REAL ID credential, or another credential accepted by the federal government, if you need to board a domestic flight beginning May 7, 2025.

## HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO GET A REAL ID:

All applicants for a REAL ID compliant credential, including current Virginia credential holders, must apply in-person and provide DMV with physical documentation of:

- ▶ Identity (e.g. unexpired U.S. passport or U.S. birth certificate)
- ▶ Legal presence (e.g. unexpired U.S. passport or U.S. birth certificate)
- ▶ Full Social Security Number (e.g. Social Security card or W-2 form displaying full number) Note: You will not be required to present proof of your Social Security number if you know the number and DMV is able to electronically verify it.
- ▶ Residency (two proofs are required; e.g. valid Virginia driver's license, recent utility bills, mortgage or rental lease agreements displaying current residential street address, not a P.O. Box) Note: You may redact (blackout/whiteout) sensitive financial information.