Michigan Department of State
Applying for a Michigan license or state ID

Required: All applications for a Michigan driver's license or state ID require proof of Social Security number (SSN), legal presence, identity and residency.

Note: The department may retain copies of any documents presented.

Name changes and date of birth

The name and date of birth on your proof of legal presence must match your proof of identity. If the names do not match, official proof of the name change, such as an original marriage certificate or a court order, must be provided. More than one name change document may be required if your name has changed more than once.

REAL ID

Federal law requires Michigan residents to present a REAL ID-compliant document to fly within the United States or enter certain federal facilities. Michigan residents can apply for a REAL ID-compliant license or state ID by presenting acceptable proof of legal presence when renewing, correcting, or obtaining an original Michigan license or state ID.

In this guide, documents that may be used to apply for a REAL ID-compliant license or state ID are indicated by this star icon:

Documents that may be used to apply for a license or state ID that is not REAL ID-compliant are indicated by this "No star" icon on Page 2:

Enhanced

Michigan's enhanced licenses and IDs can be used in place of a U.S. passport to reenter the United States by land or sea from Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, or the Caribbean.

Documents that may be used to apply for an enhanced license or ID are indicated by this American flag icon:

Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)

Immigration documents require verification through the federal Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) system. SAVE verification may take more than one day.

Documents that require SAVE verification when applying for a license or state ID are indicated by this "S" icon:

Foreign documents and licenses

Foreign documents must be translated or have English subheadings. Foreign driver's licenses are proof of driving experience only and can't be used as proof of legal presence or identity.

Refer to Page 2 for the types of acceptable documents.

Proof of Social Security number: *One document required.*

Your legal name must match the information on your proof of Social Security number (SSN) document. If it doesn't, you must correct your information with the Social Security Administration (SSA) before a license or state ID can be issued. Information provided will be verified with the SSA. Your date of birth on your legal presence document must match SSA records.

Not eligible for a Social Security number?
An SSA-L676 letter of ineligibility from the Social Security Administration must be presented. Letters more than one year old will not be accepted.

- Social Security card
- W-2 form with SSN
- SSA 1099 form
- Non-SSA 1099 form
- Pay stub with SSN

***Note:** Other documents may be accepted at the manager's discretion.*

Proof of legal presence: *One document required; originals only, no copies.*

Legal presence documents will be verified. Verification may take more than one day.

- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card
- Michigan enhanced driver's license or state ID
- Certified birth certificate issued by a U.S. government unit or U.S. territory office that includes:
  - full name
  - date of birth
  - place of birth
  - parent's name (at least one must be listed)
  - filing date
  - raised seal or stamp from registrar's office
  - a certification statement and signature from the registrar's office

  Note: Puerto Rico birth certificates must be issued on or after July 1, 2010.
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad (FS-240, DS-1350, or FS-545)
- Certificate of Citizenship (N-560 or N-561)
- Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570)
- Valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card (I-551)
- Unexpired foreign passport with unexpired U.S. visa and one of the following:
  - I-94 card
  - Admissions stamp
  - Form I-20 (F visa holders only)
  - Form DS-2019 (J visa holders only)

  Note: B1 and B2 visas, and WB and WT entry stamps aren't accepted.
- Valid Employment Authorization document (EAD card, I-766)
  Note: Some EAD cards are REAL ID compliant. Details on EAD cards' REAL ID eligibility can be found on the Secretary of State website.
- Expired immigration documents along with Form I-797 Notice of Action showing new documents have been applied for.
- Other immigration documents that show evidence of legal status may be accepted. Additional review by the department may be required.
- Canadian-born Native Americans can present a Canadian birth certificate with a Tribal ID card. The Michigan license or state ID will not be REAL ID compliant.

Proof of identity: *One document required; originals only, no copies.*

- Valid, unexpired U.S. passport or passport card
- U.S. state, territory, or Canadian driver's license or ID (expired less than four years)
- U.S. military photo ID (DD-2, DD-1173 or CAC card)
- Employee photo ID issued by a federal or Michigan government agency
- Minors may use a parent or guardian driver's license or state ID
- Photo ID from a federally recognized Native American tribe
- Unexpired foreign passport
- U.S. military discharge or separation document (DD-214)
- Michigan Department of Corrections Prisoner ID
- Michigan driver education certificate
- U.S. school records issued by accredited institutions (photo ID, transcripts, diplomas, etc.)
- U.S. CBP Trusted Traveler Card (Global Entry, SENTRI or NEXUS)
- U.S. marriage license, divorce decree, adoption record, or court order for a name change
- A second proof of legal presence document

Proof of residency: *Two documents required; electronic copies are accepted.*

All proof of residency documents must be dated within the last 90 days and must show your name and Michigan residential address. Residency documents in a family member's name can be used if a family relationship can be established. Examples include: phone bills, bank statements, lease agreements, pay stubs, etc.
Note: P.O. boxes cannot be used as a "residential address."
Questions? Visit mi.gov/sos or call the Department of State Information Center at (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424).