Illinois Driver’s License & State IDs

Temporary Visitor’s Driver’s License TVDL (Without an SSN)

The Secretary of State’s Office issues a “Temporary Visitor’s Driver’s License” (TVDL) for noncitizens of the United States who have been granted temporary, legal entry into this country and are temporarily residing in the State of Illinois and ineligible for a Social Security Number. Note: TVDL is not an ID card. You will be asked whether you want to register to vote, you MUST decline.

Who is eligible for a TVDL?

- A non-citizen, lawfully admitted to the United States
- Have resided in the State of Illinois for more than 12 months
- Residing in the state of Illinois
- Ineligible for a Social Security Number

Requirements for a TVDL

- Most recent I-20 (valid for at least one year with not less than 6 months remaining)
- Passport and visa
- Most recent I-94 (https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home)
- Denial letter issued by the Social Security Administration indicating your ineligibility for a Social Security Number (not more than 90 days old)
- $30 fee; $5 fee for ages 18-20 years old
- Proof of address
  - If living on campus, ask one from the Office of Residence Life
  - If living off campus, acceptable documents would be the following:
    - Lease agreement, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or click this link

Steps for applying TVDL

1. Call DMV before going to make sure they accept TVDL application for international students
2. Make sure your I-20 is valid for at least one year from the date you intend to apply for the driver’s license with at least 6 months remaining.
4. Obtain acceptable documents to verify your current address in Illinois.
5. Prepare for your vision test, written test, and road test (you will need to supply your own vehicle for the road test).

For additional information, refer to the Secretary of State “Cyber Drive Illinois” website below:

Illinois State Driver’s License (With an SSN)

If you already have an SSN (Social Security Number) or you are eligible for an SSN, you can apply for a “regular” driver’s license and/or state ID. You will be asked whether you want to register to vote, you MUST decline.

To be eligible, you must have the following:

- Social Security Number (SSN)
- Total program length on i-20 of at least one year
- More than 6 months remaining on your program at the time you apply
- Successfully completed a 6-hour adult driver education course through a certified provider (only if you are 18-20 years old)

Requirements for Illinois State Driver’s License

- Social Security card
- Most recent i-20 (valid for at least one year with not less than 6 months remaining)
- Passport and visa
- Most recent i-94 ([https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home](https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/home))
- $30 fee; $5 fee for ages 18-20 years old
- Proof of address
  - If living on campus, ask one from the Office of Residence Life
  - If living off campus, acceptable documents would be the following:
    - Lease agreement, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or see Group D on the last page of this document for other acceptable documents

Steps for applying Illinois State Driver’s License

1. Apply in person at DMV. Use the Secretary of State Facility Finder to help you locate your preferred DMV office.
2. Make sure your I-20 is valid for at least one year from the date you intend to apply for the driver’s license with at least 6 months remaining.
3. Obtain acceptable documents to verify your current address in Illinois.
4. Prepare for your vision test, written test, and road test (you will need to supply your own vehicle for the road test).
Acceptable Identification Documents

Photocopies are not accepted.

All acceptable documents presented for verification or proof must be valid (current and not expired). One document may satisfy more than one Group. Documents marked with (*) are accepted for REAL ID.

To ensure you have all the documents required for a REAL ID, visit https://realid.ilsos.gov/checklist.html.

Group A — Written Signature

- Canceled Check (within 90 days prior to application)*
- Cooperative Driver Testing Program Certificate*
- Court Order*
- Credit Card/Debit Card (major brand)*
- Driver’s License/ID Card (current) issued by an agency of the U.S. government*
- Illinois Driver’s License (current or expired less than one year)*
- Illinois ID Card (current or expired less than one year)*
- Medicare Card*
- Mortgage or Installment Loan Documents*
- Out-of-State Driver’s License/ID Card (current)*
- Passport (valid U.S. or foreign)*
- Social Security Card*
- Temporary DL/CLP/ID Card*
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Forms — I-551 (Permanent Resident Card); I-766 (Employment Authorization Card); I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) with Valid Passport*
- U.S. Military Driver’s License/ID Card*
- U.S. Military Service Record (e.g., DD214)*

Acceptable major brand credit cards (for signature verification only) include American Express, Diners Club, Discover, Master Card and Visa.

Group B — Date of Birth

- Adoption Records
- Birth Certificate*
- Citizenship Certificate (N560/N561)*
- Court Order (Change of birth date)
- Certified Grade/High School/College/University Transcript
- Consular Report of Birth Abroad*
- Illinois Driver’s License
- Illinois ID Card
- Naturalization Certificate (N550/N570)*
- REAL ID Driver’s License/ID Card
- Social Security Award Letter (primary beneficiary only)
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Forms — I-551 (Permanent Resident Card); I-571 (Refugee Travel Document); I-766 (Employment Authorization Card); I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) with Valid Passport*
- U.S. Military Driver’s License/ID Card*
- U.S. Military Service Record (e.g., DD214)
- U.S. Passport or Passport Card (valid with complete date of birth)*
- U.S. Visa

Both lists — acceptable and unacceptable — are subject to change.

Group C — Social Security Number

- Illinois Driver’s License Record (verified)
- Illinois ID Card Record (verified)
- Non-SSA-1099 Form*
- Pay stub or printed electronic deposit receipt bearing the applicant’s name and SSN*
- Social Security Award Letter (primary beneficiary only)
- Social Security Card (issued by SSA)*
- SSA-1099 Form*
- U.S. Military Driver’s License/ID Card
- U.S. Military Service Record (e.g., DD214)
- W-2*

Group C documents must contain the applicant’s name and full Social Security number. If using an Illinois driver’s license or ID record, the Social Security number must have been previously verified with the SSA.

An applicant applying for a Temporary Visitor Driver’s License is not required to present documents from Group C. Instead, the applicant must sign a declaration on the TVDL application that the applicant is, at the time of application, ineligible to obtain a Social Security number.

Group D — Residency

- Official Electronic Statement (dated within 90 days prior to application)
- Bank Statement (dated within 90 days prior to application)*
- Canceled Check (dated within 90 days prior to application)*
- Certified Grade/High School/College/University Transcript*
- Credit Report (issued by Experian, Equifax or TransUnion, dated within 12 months of application)*
- Deed/Title, Mortgage, Rental/Lease agreement*
- Insurance Policy (homeowner’s or renter’s)*
- Letter on Official School Letterhead (dated within 90 days prior to application)*
- Medical Claim or Statement of Benefits (from private insurance company or public (government) agency, dated within 90 days of application)*
- Official mail received from a State, County, City or Village or a Federal Government agency (must include first and last name of applicant and complete current address), may include — Homestead Exemption Receipt; Jury Duty Notice (issued within 90 days of application); Selective Service Card; Social Security Annual Statement; Social Security Disability Insurance Statement; Supplemental Security Income Benefits Statement; Voter Registration Card*
- Pay Stub or Electronic Deposit Receipt*
- Pension or Retirement Statement*
- Phone Book, produced by a phone book publisher*
- Report Card from Grade/High School or College/University*
- Tuition invoice/official mail from college or university, dated within the 12 months prior to application*
- Utility Bill (electric, water, refuse, telephone land/cell, cable or gas, issued within 90 days of application)*

Group D documents must contain the applicant’s full name and residence address. Documents in Groups A, B or C that contain the full name and residence address also may be used for Group D. Two residency documents required for REAL ID.

After review of all identification presented, Secretary of State management has the right to accept or refuse any document.

Documents marked with (*) are accepted for REAL ID.

To ensure you have all the documents required for a REAL ID, visit https://realid.ilsos.gov/checklist.html.

Unacceptable Documents

- Bond Receipt or Bail/Bond Card
- Business Card
- Check Cashing Card
- Club/Fraternal Membership Card
- College or University ID Card
- Commercially produced (non-State or unofficial) ID Card
- DHS Card or documents (Department of Human Services)
- Fishing License
- HFS Card (Healthcare and Family Services)
- Handwritten ID/Employment Card
- Hunting License
- Illinois Concealed Carry Card
- Illinois FID Card
- Instruction Permit/Receipt
- Insurance Card
- International Driving Permit
- Library Card
- Personal Mail
- Traffic Citation (Arrest Ticket)
- Unlicensed Financial Institution Loan Papers
- Vehicle Registration
- Video Club Membership Card
- Wallet ID

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