



California ID Card

Real ID

Starting October 1, 2020, you will need a federal compliant ID (such as a passport, military ID, or REAL ID) to board a domestic flight or enter secure federal facilities, like military bases, federal courthouses, and other federal buildings.

Identification (ID) cards

DMV issues ID cards to persons of any age. The ID card looks like a driver license, but is used for identification purposes only. A regular ID card is valid for six years, and a senior citizen ID card is valid for 10 years. To qualify for a senior citizen ID card, you must be age 62 or older.

Reduced-fee ID card

You may be eligible to pay a reduced application fee for an original or renewal ID card if you meet income requirements for selected governmental or non-profit assistance programs. If you are eligible, the program will give you a completed Verification for Reduced Fee Identification Card (DL 937) form to take to DMV office. See your local public assistance program agency for information about eligibility requirements and obtaining a DL 937 form.

No-fee ID card

You may be eligible for a no-fee ID card if you are a “homeless person” as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act. This includes (but isn’t limited to) a homeless child or youth, a homeless person, or an individual or family fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or another dangerous, life-threatening condition.

Senior ID card

To qualify for a no-fee senior citizen ID card, you must be at least 62 years old.

How to apply for or renew an identification (ID) card:

DMV issues two types of ID cards. A regular ID card valid for six years, and a senior citizen ID card valid for 10 years. To qualify for a senior citizen ID card, you must be age 62 or older.

To apply for an ID card you will need to do the following:

- Visit a DMV office (make an Appointment(s) for faster service).
- Complete a Driver License or Identification Card Application form (DL 44). An original DL 44 form must be submitted. Copies will not be accepted.
- Give a thumb print.
- Have your picture taken.

- Provide your social security number. It will be verified with the Social Security Administration while you are in the office.
- Verify your birth date and legal presence (you may use your California driver license). If your current name no longer matches the name on your BP/LP document, see "True Full Name" and "How to Change Your Name" for more information.
- Present your acceptable residency documents if you have never had a California driver license or California identification card.
- If you want to apply for a REAL ID, you must also provide proof of your identity, SSN, and two proofs of residency from the list of acceptable REAL ID documents.
- Pay the application fee. (No fee for a senior citizen ID card.)

Check your address before you leave DMV and tell the DMV representative if your address is incorrect. Your new ID will be mailed to you within 60 days. If you have not received your ID after 60 days, call 1-800-777-0133 to check the status. Have your receipt and/or old ID card with you to provide information when requested.

DMV will exchange a valid license for a no-fee ID card to applicants who are no longer able to drive safely because of a physical or mental condition. Please call your local DMV for additional information.

To renew your ID card, you will need to:

- Visit a DMV office (make an Appointment(s) for faster service)
- Complete a Driver License or Identification Card Application form (DL 44). An original DL 44 form must be submitted. Copies will not be accepted.
- Give a thumb print.
- Have your picture taken.
- Pay the application fee. (No fee for a senior citizen ID card.)

Double check your address before you leave DMV and tell the DMV representative if your address is incorrect. Your new ID will be mailed to you within 60 days. If you have not received your ID after 60 days, call 1-800-777-0133 and they can check on the status for you. Have your receipt and/or old ID card with you to provide information when requested.

You can see if you are eligible to renew your identification card by mail by completing and submitting the California Identification Card Renewal by Mail Eligibility Form (DL 410 ID).