

Applying for a California Identification (ID) Card

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

- Visit a DMV office (<http://apps.dmv.ca.gov/web/fieldoffice.html?number=548>) in your neighborhood. Make an appointment (<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/portal/foa/welcome?lang=en>) for faster service.
- Bring your SSN card. If you do not have a SSN card, you must obtain a letter from the Social Security Administration stating your ineligibility for a SSN. See procedures below*.
- Bring your immigration documents. (passport, F-1 visa, I-94 record (www.cbp.gov/i94) and all I-20s)
- Bring an Enrollment Verification Letter (Request an Enrollment Verification Letter from WebSmart).
- Obtain and complete a Driver License or ID Card Application Form DL 44 at the DMV Office.
- Pay the \$26 application fee.
- Give a thumb print.
- Have your picture taken.

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 of your application. Have your receipt and/or old ID card with you to provide information when requested.

A Driver License or California ID card will be issued until the expiration date listed on your I-20. If you extend your I-20 or are granted OPT employment authorization, you may renew your Driver License or ID card by following the steps above and bring your extended I-20 or EAD card.

*If you are not eligible for a SSN, you will need to request a letter from the Social Security Administration by doing the following:

- Visit a SSA office (<https://secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp>) in your neighborhood.
- Bring your immigration documents: passport, F-1 visa, all I-20s and I-94 record (www.cbp.gov/i94).
- Bring an enrollment verification letter from Cañada College (request through WebSmart).
- Request and complete application form L-676 Non-Issuance of Card/Letter of Exemption.

The Social Security Administration will provide you with a Letter of Exemption. Make a copy for your records and bring the original when applying for your California ID Card at the DMV.

Visit a DMV office: http://apps.dmv.ca.gov/fo/offices/toc_fo.htm

Schedule an appointment at the DMV office: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/foa/welcome.do?localeName=en>

Visit a SSA office: <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps6z/FOLO/fo001.jsp>

Applying for a Driver's License

To apply for an original driver license if you are over 18, you will need to do the following:

- Visit a DMV office (<http://apps.dmv.ca.gov/web/fieldoffice.html?number=548>) in your neighborhood. Make an appointment (<http://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/portal/foa/welcome?lang=en>) for faster service.
- Bring your SSN card. If you do not have a SSN card, you must obtain a letter from the Social Security Administration stating your ineligibility for a SSN.
- Bring your immigration documents: passport, F-1 visa, all I-20s and I-94 record (www.cbp.gov/i94).
- Bring an Enrollment Verification Letter (Request an Enrollment Verification Letter from WebSmart).
- Obtain and complete a Driver License or ID Card Application Form DL 44 at the DMV Office.
- Pay the \$31 application fee.
- Give a thumb print.
- Have your picture taken.
- Pass a vision exam.
- Pass a traffic laws and sign test (36 questions). You have three chances to pass. You can find a sample test here: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/pubs/interactive/tdrive/exam>.

You will then be issued a Learner's Permit if you have never been licensed before. When you practice, you must have an accompanying adult who is 18 years of age or older, with a valid California license. This person must be close enough to you to take control of the vehicle, if necessary. It is illegal for you to drive alone.

If you have a license from another country, you will be required to take a driving test. If you have a license from another state, the driving test can be waived.

To take your driving test, you will need to:

- Make a driving test appointment at www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/portal/foa/welcome?localeName=en. (Driving tests are not given without an appointment.) You may also call 1-800-777-0133 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, to make a driving test appointment.
- Provide proof of financial responsibility.
- California Insurance Requirements: www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/pubs/brochures/fast_facts/ffdl22#fr

You have three chances to pass the driving test. If you fail, you may practice for a while, then make another appointment. There is no waiting period, but you must make an appointment. If you fail to successfully complete the driving test on the first attempt, you must pay a \$6 fee for each additional driving test that is administered under an application for an original or renewal driver license.

After you pass your driving test you will be issued an interim license valid for 90 days until you receive your new photo license in the mail. Double-check your address before you leave DMV and tell the DMV representative if you have moved or if your address is incorrect. If you have not received your license after 60 days, call 1-800-777-0133 and they can check on the status for you. Have your interim license with you to provide information when requested.

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