IMPORTANT COVID-19 UPDATE : The deadline to apply for a REAL ID compliant driver's license has been pushed to May 7, 2025. Please visit https://realid.dmv.ca.gov/ for more information.

REALE

UC IMMIGRANT LEGAL SERVICES CENTER





WHAT IS A REAL ID?

A driver license or other state-issued ID that can be used to board a U.S. domestic flight or enter secure federal facilities.

DO I NEED A REAL ID?

YES

- I want to fly within the U.S. with only my state-issued ID; **OR**
- I want to visit a federal property, such as a military base, a federal courthouse, nuclear power plant, or other federal facility.

*individuals traveling while undocumented should first consult with an attorney

NO

- I am UNDER 18; OR
- I have an alternative TSA-approved ID to fly with:
 - (a) a valid passport; a passport card,
 - (b) a permanent resident card,
 - (c) a Global Entry/NEXUS/SENTRI/FAST traveler card,
 - (d) a border crossing card,
 - (e) a U.S. Department of Defense ID.



HOW CAN I GET A REAL ID?

Bring the following documents to your local DMV office:

• Proof of Identity: 1 DOCUMENT thats shows your date of birth and your true full name. If an identity document does not show your true full name, you must bring an additional name change document that includes your true full name.

NOTE: Form I-94 alone is **NOT** sufficient to prove your identity and must be shown together with your Employment Authorization Document.

- Proof of Social Security Number (if eligible): **1 ORIGINAL** document that shows your name and full SSN. If you are not eligible for an SSN, skip this step.
- Proof of Residency: 2 DOCUMENTS that show your name and the same CA mailing address that is on your driver license or ID card application. If your name does not appear on any residency documents, you may bring a document that traces your relationship to a person whose name appears on a residency document. If a residency document shows a different name than yours, you must bring an additional name change document.

• CAN DACA AND TPS RECIPIENTS GET A REAL ID?

Applicants with approved deferred action are allowed to get a temporary REAL ID and hold it until its expiration. They are required to bring documentary evidence of the following:

- A valid Employment Authorization Document; AND
- A Social Security Number



Immigrant Legal Services Center

*The language in this document is not intended to serve as legal advice.