Both a REAL ID and NON-REAL ID driver’s license or identification card will allow you to enter federal facilities that do not require you to present identification (such as a post office), vote or register to vote, apply for or receive Federal or State benefits, to drive (valid driver’s licenses only; NOT identification cards), access health or life preserving services (including hospitals and health clinics), law enforcement, or constitutionally protected activities (including a defendant’s access to court proceedings), and participate in law enforcement proceedings or investigations.

Visitors seeking access to military bases and almost all Federal facilities using their state-issued driver's licenses or identification cards must present proper identification issued by REAL ID compliant states or a state that has received an extension. When planning a visit to a Federal facility or military base, visitors should contact the facility to determine what identification will be accepted.

Starting October 1, 2020, every air traveler will need a REAL ID-compliant license, or another acceptable form of identification, for domestic air travel.

A REAL ID driver’s license or identification card will display a gold circle with a star cutout.

A NON-REAL ID driver’s license or identification card will display “NOT FOR FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION”.

A REAL ID driver’s license or identification card does not contain any additional electronic technology.

In order to obtain a REAL ID driver’s license or identification card the following five items must be verified:

1. Identity
2. Lawful Status
3. Date of Birth
4. Social Security Number
5. Proof of residence (two documents)

For example, if you currently have a valid Louisiana Driver’s license, presenting your original or certified copy of your birth certificate issued from a state or territory of the United States and your Social Security card would provide the first 4 items on the list. Unless you are changing your address, your valid Louisiana driver’s license can be utilized as one form of proof of residence, a second form could be a utility bill in your name with that same address.

Commonly used primary and secondary documents are:

- Original or Certified copy of birth certificate issued by a state within the United States (primary)
- Unexpired U.S. passport (primary)
- Permanent Resident Card (primary)
- Social Security Card (secondary)
- Voter Registration Card (secondary)

Commonly used legal presence documents are:

- Original or Certified copy of birth certificate issued by a state within the United States.
- An unexpired foreign passport, which includes Arrival/Departure Record (I-94, CBP I-94A or I-797A) with appropriate entry endorsement.

Commonly used Social Security documents are:

- A Social Security card (a medicare card cannot be accepted in place of a Social Security card)
- A W-2*
- A SSA-1099 form or a non-SSA-1099 form*
- A pay stub with the applicant’s name and SSN on it*

*Full or partial Social Security Number

The requirements for obtaining a NON-REAL ID driver’s license:

If you currently have a Louisiana driver’s license or identification card, then you will only be required to present one document verifying your home address. Your driver’s license or identification card can be utilized as your proof of residency document unless you are changing to a different address. You will not be required to present a primary document such as a birth certificate.

If you are applying for a first time driver’s license or identification card you must provide:

1. One primary document and two secondary documents. Commonly used primary and secondary documents are:
   - Original or Certified copy of birth certificate issued by a state within the United States (primary)
   - Unexpired U.S. passport (primary)
   - Permanent Resident Card (primary)
   - Social Security Card (secondary)
   - Voter Registration Card (secondary)

2. A Social Security card or letter from the Social Security Administration is required for a driver’s license. It is not required for an Identification card. You may also provide your SSN# verbally. The information must be verifiable through SSOLV (social security online verification).

3. **One** document verifying your home address.

Additional information may be obtained by visiting [www.expresslane.org](http://www.expresslane.org) or contacting the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles at (225) 925-6146.

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