

# VALID PROOF DOCUMENTS

For Kentucky Driver's Licenses, permits, and identification cards

## BRING THESE DOCUMENTS WHEN APPLYING.

- 1 Proof of Identity
- 1 Proof of Social Security Number
- 2 Proof of Residency  
*\*one proof for standard credential*
- ! Proof of ANY name change, gender change, or any additional documents, if applicable.

**BRING !** NAME OR GENDER CHANGE? You may need to bring the following documents:

*If your name, date of birth, or gender is **different** from what is displayed on your identity or lawful status document, you must show legal proof of the changes.*

### Name Change *Bring all that apply*

- Certified Marriage Certificate
- Certified Divorce Decree  
*Must show that a name change was granted*
- Certified Legal Name Change Order
- Death certificate of spouse
- Valid Military ID
- Updated Social Security card

### Gender Change *One (1) required*

- Court Order changing gender marker
- Letter from surgeon verifying completion of gender reassignment
- Amended Birth Certificate



Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to take the IDocument quiz for a list of documents you need to bring to get a REAL ID. 11/21/2025

## BRING 1 Proof of Identity

Choose (1) for REAL ID or standard card

**PROOF OF IDENTITY MUST BE THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT, OR A CERTIFIED COPY, WITH APPROPRIATE SEAL. NO PHOTOCOPIES ARE ACCEPTED.**

### Birth certificate

- U.S. Birth Certificate issued by appropriate government agency of a U.S. state or territory.  
*U.S. territories include Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan, Tinian, Rota), Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands.*  
**Hospital-issued certificate invalid.**  
*If you wish to obtain a certified copy of your birth certificate, contact the Office of Vital Statistics in your birth state.*  
*For Kentucky - chfs.ky.gov or (800) 241-8322.*

- U.S. Consular Report of Birth Abroad

### Passport documents

**Valid and unexpired with photograph**  
*(Validity of documents presented are verified through their respective agency.)*

- U.S. Passport
- U.S. Passport card
- Foreign Passport/Visa/I-94/Stamped I-551  
*Issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services*

### Resident/citizenship documents

**Valid and unexpired documents issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.**

- Permanent Resident Card  
*Form I-551*
- Conditional Permanent Resident Card
- Certificate of Naturalization  
*Form N-550 or Form N-570*
- Certificate of Citizenship  
*Form N-560 or Form N-561i*

### Additional exceptions

**Other information the Cabinet may require by administrative regulation promulgated under KRS Chapter 13A.**

## BRING 1 Proof of Social Security Number

Choose (1) for REAL ID or standard card

- Social Security Card  
**MUST DISPLAY CURRENT NAME.** No photocopies permitted. Visit the Social Security Administration's website at [ssa.gov/ssnumber](http://ssa.gov/ssnumber) for a replacement.

NOTE: First-time applicants MUST bring their Social Security Card.

- SSNAP replacement printout

### Other income documents

- W-2 Wage and Tax Statement **OR** 1099  
**Most recently issued;**  
**MUST NOT BE HANDWRITTEN.**
- Paycheck stub or statement

## BRING 2 FOR REAL IDS Proof of Residency

Choose (2) for REAL ID card  
**OR** choose (1) for standard card

**A Kentucky post office box address is not sufficient proof of physical address. The Cabinet will require additional proof of physical address if necessary.**

### Documents dated less than 1 year

- Utility bill - Landline, electric, gas, cable, etc.
- Telephone bill
- Bank statement
- State or federal tax return
- Pay slip or salary statement
- Kentucky voter registration card
- U.S. Postal Service postmarked mail

### Most current documents

- Kentucky Driver's license, instruction permit, or personal identification card
- Property tax bill
- Kentucky vehicle registration
- IRS forms: W-2 **OR** 1099 (most recent tax year)
- Lease or rental agreement
- Mortgage statement
- Insurance policy
- Record from an educational institution in Kentucky which establishes enrollment
- Kentucky titles
- Kentucky hunting/fishing license

## BRING ! Additional Documents if applicable

### Out of state

- If you are moving to Kentucky from another state, territory or country, a clearance letter or operator's license from the previous state, territory or country of residence is required.

### Younger than 18 years old

**FOR REAL ID or Standard ID under 18**

- Must present certified Birth Certificate **AND**
- Social Security card
- Other documents required, if applicable:
  - Custody Verification (required if not parent listed on certified Birth Certificate)
  - CHFS Verification Letter for Foster Children (required if foster child)
  - School Compliance Verification Form, if graduated from High School (High School Transcript or GED Transcript)
  - Certificate from an approved driver training program if applying for driver's license.

- Early enlistment for military service, if applicable

*Must have held a valid permit for 180+ days, passed a skills test, and completed a driver training program to obtain a permanent license. Must provide a valid U.S. Uniformed Services ID or proof of military enlistment.*

### Veteran/military

- If you wish to note veteran status on a credential, you must submit a DD-214, DD-256, DD-257, NGB-22, official Veterans ID card, or Veterans Healthcare card.

### Other

- P.O. Box  
*If you do not receive mail at your physical address, you will need proof of post office box for mailing address. **CANNOT BE USED AS A PHYSICAL ADDRESS PROOF.***
- Dropping a license or class  
*If you will no longer drive **OR** If you are a CDL driver dropping a class, endorsement or restriction, you must present a voluntarily surrendered affidavit.*
- Motorcycle License  
*If you are a motorcycle permit holder applying for a motorcycle license, you must have a motorcycle safety course completion certificate/affidavit*
- Felon Release  
**VALID PROOF ONLY FOR STANDARD LICENSE**  
*Must present a certified U.S. Birth Certificate and a Felon Release Letter issued by the Federal Bureau of Prisons located in Kentucky, KY Department of Corrections, Division of Probation and Parole, or the U.S. Probation Office.*