

California Driver's License and Identification Cards

(Revised 02/07/25)

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Related Policy

Additional information can be found in the following policy:

- Normalcy Protocol

Forms

The following forms are referenced in this policy:

- DL 933 No Fee Identification Card Eligibility Verification
- DL 937 Reduced Fee Identification Card Eligibility Verification
- DL 932 Order Request Reduced Fee/No Fee Identification Card Verification Forms

Introduction

Every dependent youth will be entitled and encouraged to participate in age or developmentally appropriate, extracurricular enrichment, cultural and social activities to ensure equitable opportunities and access to enhanced well-being and self-directed success. (see [Normalcy Protocol](#))

Obtaining an Identification Card (ID), at any age, or a Driver's License (DL), at/after age 16, is considered a rite of passage for many youth and part of normalizing a youth's experience while in foster care. Ensuring that youth obtain their ID or DL gives the youth the opportunity to participate in activities like employment and driving a vehicle which assists with their transition to adulthood.

Policy

The SW, ILS SW, or any adult in the youth's support network can take the youth to the DMV to obtain their ID card, at any age, or DL if the youth is over the age of 18. Youth can request assistance from any supportive adult to complete any part of the process of attaining a government form of identification.

The following table outlines the steps for youth and/or their supportive adult to apply for either a DL or ID in California.

Policy (cont.)

If	Then
A youth, aged 15 ½ up to 18 years old, wants to get their DL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create an account on the Department of Motor Vehicle's (DMV) website at https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/.• Gather the required documents, including the certificate from the driving program (see Required Documents section).• Complete the online application and receive a confirmation number.• Schedule an appointment at the DMV to complete the application process and take the test for a learner's permit.• Have approved parent or guardian sign the completed application at the DMV office (See California Vehicle Code (CVC) section for clarification on who can sign). <p>See additional information after this table.</p>
A youth, aged 18 years old or older, wants to get their DL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create an account on the DMV's website at https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/.• Gather the required documents (see Required Documents section).• Complete the online application and receive a confirmation number• Schedule an appointment at the DMV to complete the application process and take the test for a learner's permit.
A youth, any age, obtaining an ID card	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create an account on the DMV's website at https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/.• Gather the required documents (see Required Documents section).• Complete the online application and receive a confirmation number.• Schedule an appointment at the DMV to complete the application process.

In addition to the above table, youth under age 18 wanting their DL need to:

- Complete a driver's training program
- Schedule and pay for the learner's permit test at the DMV
- Pass the learner's permit test (if you fail you have two more times to take it before paying again)
- Complete 56 hours of behind-the-wheel training over a six-month period
- Schedule and pass a driving test at the DMV, if you fail you can retake the test

NOTE: SWs may access Family Engagement funds, while available, Strength Building funds, when available, or programs through our community partners to assist with paying for the driver's training program for youth under the age of 18. Youth over age 18 may apply to the Just in Time Changing Lanes program.

Policy (cont.)

The person taking the youth, under age 18, to the DMV for the youth's DL **must** be the person who signs the DMV application (See [CVC](#) section). A Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Placement (STRTP) may have designated a staff member who can sign the DMV DL application for youth under the age of 18. A SW can transport the youth to the DMV for their DL appointment if the person signing the DL application is also present.

Any adult providing behind-the-wheel training for youth in foster care should consult their car insurance provider to inquire about car insurance coverage for the foster youth. If a resource parent provides behind-the-wheel training to their foster youth, they must have automobile insurance coverage.

NOTE: CFWB employee **may not sign** a youth's application for a DL.

DL 933 No Fee Form-may be used when a youth is unsheltered to assist with obtaining an ID card.

DL 937 Reduced Fee Form- is utilized to assist the youth with obtaining an ID card, regardless of placement.

DL 933 and DL 937 forms are obtained from the Independent Living Skills (ILS) Unit. Contact the ILS PSS or pick up outside the ILS PSS's cubicle at the 8965 Balboa Ave Office.

NOTE: Per DL 932 Order Request Reduced Fee/No Fee Identification Card verification form, eligibility for a no fee ID, as defined in California Vehicle Code (CVC) 14902(f), is a homeless person or homeless child or youth as defined by the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (14 U.S.C. 11301 et seq). Eligibility for a reduced fee ID is income based or is receiving public benefits i.e. CalFresh, CalWORKS, or California Food Assistance Program (CFAP).

Required Documents

This section shows the required documents needed for youth and their support person to obtain either a CA DL or ID.

Proof Of Identity (one form is needed):

- Valid U.S. passport or passport card
 - Original or Certified copy of U.S. birth certificate (issued by a city, county or state vital statistics office) "Abbreviated", Abstract, or "Stamped" certificates are **NOT** accepted
 - Valid Permanent Resident Card
 - Foreign passport with valid U.S. Visa and approved 1-94 form
 - Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of U.S. Citizenship
 - Certified copy of birth certificate from a U.S. Territory
 - Valid Employment Authorization Document (EAD) Card (I-766) or valid/expired EAD card with Notice of Action (NOA) (1-797 C)
 - Valid Permanent Resident Card with NOA (I-797 C) or Approval Notice (i-797)
 - U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad or Consular Report of Birth Abroad of U.S. Citizen
 - Valid foreign passport stamped "Processed for I-551"
 - Documents reflecting Temporary Protected Status (TPS) benefit eligibility
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Required Documents (cont.) Proof Of Residency (two types are needed):

- Home utility or cellular bill
- Records from any state or national bank, state or federal savings association, trust company, industrial loan company, state or federal credit union, or any institution or entity that has issued a credit card
- Insurance documents, including medical, dental, vision, life, home, rental or vehicle
- Medical documents
- A document issued by a U.S. government agency, meaning the entity, office or authority governing over a county, state, county, city, municipality, district, agency, department, or any other political subdivision of a county or state
- Mortgage bill
- Employment documents
- Tax return (either Internal Revenue Service (IES) or California Franchise Tax Board (CFTB) Faith-based document that includes the name and address of organization
- Rental or lease agreement with the signature of the owner/landlord and the tenant/resident
- School documents issued by a public or private primary, secondary or post-secondary institution, college, or university that includes the applicant's date of birth. If using a foreign school document, it must be sealed by the school and include a photograph of the applicant at the age the record was issued
- Change of Address Confirmation by the U.S. Postal Service
- Property tax bill or statement
- Letter attesting that the applicant resides in California from a homeless shelter, shelter for abused women, non-profit entity, faith-based organization, employer or government agency within the United States
- Deed or title to residential real property
- Voter registration confirmation letter or postcard issued by the California Secretary of State or a local California county elections officer
- Proof of payment of resident tuition at a public institution of higher education in California
- An original copy of an approved Claim for Homeowner's Property Tax Exemption (BOE-266) form filed with a local California County Assessor
- Court documents that list the applicant as a resident of California
- California Certificate of Vehicle or Vessel Titles or registration
- A DMV No Fee Identification Card Eligibility Verification (DL 933) form completed and signed
- If your name does not appear on any residency documents, you may present a birth certificate, marriage license, or domestic partner registration certificate or trace your relationship to the person whose name DOES appear on the residency documentation
- If the residency document reflects a name that differs from the tracing document due to a name change (for example, marriage, divorce, or court order), additional name change documentation will be required as evidence of the name change
- Child(ren) under the age of 18 (minor) may use a residency document in their parent's name by presenting a tracing document (such as a birth certificate) showing the relationship. Minors may use one of the follow forms to trace their relationship to the individual whose name is shown on the residency document: Agency-Group Home Agreement (SOC 154), Placement Agency Foster Family Agency Agreement (SOC 154A), or Agency-Foster Parents Agreement (SOC 156).

California Vehicle Code (CVC)

Any youth applying for a driver's license must have the DMV application signed and verified by their father *and* mother, if both father and mother are living and have custody, or:

- if only one parent is living or has custody, the application shall be signed and verified by that parent.
- if neither parent is living or has custody, the application shall be signed and verified by the guardian.
- if there is no guardian, the application should be signed by a person having custody of the minor.

If a youth is a dependent or ward of the court, California law also allows the minor's application for a DL to be signed and verified by the person with whom the youth resides if that person is a grandparent, sibling over the age of 18, aunt, uncle, resource parent, or foster parent. Any of these persons who signs a youth's application for a driver's license can be held liable for any damage or injury arising from the youth's operation of a vehicle ([VC 17707](#))

Applying for a DL or ID for Youth Placed Out of State

Youth, who are placed outside of California, will need to refer to the State's DMV website where they are living to find out what the State requirements are to obtain either a DL or ID. Each State's DMV website gives information about how to apply for either the DL or ID including the required documents and steps to complete the application.

Alignment with SET

This policy supports [SET Value 3](#) by helping youth fulfill their full potential and develop lifelong relationships.
