Acceptable Documents for a Wisconsin Driver License or Identification Card Application

BDS316 9/2020

When applying for an original (first) Wisconsin instruction permit, driver license or identification card (ID), you must provide acceptable documents showing:

- Proof of U.S. citizenship, legal permanent resident status, legal conditional resident status or legal presence in the U.S.
- Proof of your name and date of birth.
- Proof of identity.
- Proof of Wisconsin residency if you are 18 years of age or older *(two proofs required for REAL ID compliant card)*.
- Proof of Social Security number.

This publication lists the acceptable documents in the five categories above.

Information for all documents

- Documents presented as proof must be original. Photocopies are not acceptable.
- Documents with a photograph of a person will be accepted only when the person is readily recognizable from the photograph.
- The Department will decline to accept any document presented if it has reason to suspect the authenticity of the document.
- Questionable documents may require additional review.
- A valid document is one that is not expired.

Minimum stay requirements for temporary visitors (non-immigrants)

Legal presence documents must show a minimum stay of:

- More than 12 months total OR more than 6 months remaining at the time of application for a driver license.
- More than 6 months total OR more than 3 months remaining at the time of application for a ID card.

If you legally change your name, first update your name with the Social Security Administration and wait 48 hours before going to the DMV.

When you visit the DMV to change your name on your driver license or ID card, you must present proof of your name change. Acceptable documents are:

- Certified marriage certificate
- Certified record of divorce
- Certified court order
- Valid unexpired U.S. passport issued in your current name

REAL ID driver license and ID card applicants

- If you present a valid, unexpired U.S. passport in your current name, you do not need to present documents to prove past name changes.
- If you do not present a valid, unexpired U.S. passport in your current name, you must present documents to prove each name change from birth to present.

Free ID and Identification Card Petition Process (IDPP)

Getting a free ID for voting is easy even if you do not have the documentation to get a regular Wisconsin ID!

- Go to the DMV to apply
- Bring the following, if available:
  - » **Proof of Name and Date of Birth** (such as birth certificate)
  - » **Proof of Identity** (Social Security card, Medicaid/ Medicare card, etc.)
  - » **Wisconsin Residency** (Utility bill, government mail, lease, etc.)
  - » **Proof of U.S. Citizenship** (U.S. birth certificate or citizenship paperwork)
  - » **Social Security Number**
- If you don't have all or any of these, you can still get an ID for voting. Just bring what you have to the DMV, fill out 2 forms and you will get a photo ID document in the mail that you can use in time for voting.
- Once enrolled in IDPP, DMV will work with you to identify any remaining documents needed to continue with the verification of your application.
- Once your application materials are fully completed and DMV has verified your information, you will be issued a Wisconsin Identification card.

Acceptable Documents for a Wisconsin Driver License or ID Card application

Acceptable Documents for Proof of Legal Presence

FOR REAL ID COMPLIANT CARDS

1. Valid U.S. passport or passport card
2. U.S. State or local government issued certificate of birth (certified copy only; birth registration and hospital certificates are not acceptable). In accordance with Puerto Rican law, as of October 30, 2010 Wisconsin will not accept any Puerto Rican birth certificate certified before July 1, 2010. More information at ***www.pr.gov***.
3. If you obtained U.S. citizenship through the adoption process (Child Citizenship Act of 2000), and you do not possess a valid U.S. passport, you may provide evidence of U.S. citizenship with the following documents (please note that a Certification of Birth Facts is not an acceptable document):
   - » Proof of finalized adoption and,
   - » Foreign passport from your country of birth (valid or expired), which may include the temporary I-551 stamp or,
   - » I-551 Permanent Resident card from the time that you entered the U.S.
4. Consular Report of Birth Abroad
5. Valid I-551, Permanent Resident card issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/U.S. Citizenship and immigration Services (USCIS). ***Note:*** Non-expiring I-551 documents issued from 1977 to 1989 are acceptable.
6. U.S. Certificate of Naturalization (federal form N-550)
7. U.S. Certificate of Citizenship (federal form N-560)
8. Unexpired foreign passport with a valid unexpired U.S. visa affixed accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting your most recent admittance into the U.S.
9. Unexpired employment authorization document (federal form I-688B or I-766) which is successfully verified through the DHS/USCIS Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE)

FOR NON-COMPLIANT CARDS

Everything from the REAL ID compliant list above, or:

10. Valid foreign passport with appropriate immigration documents, which shall include or be accompanied by federal form I-94, arrival and departure record. ***Note:*** The appropriate immigration documents determine legal presence, not the passport itself.
11. Valid Tempory Resident I.D. card (federal form I-688)
12. Valid refugee travel document (federal form I-571)
13. Notice of Action (federal form I-797) ***Note:*** Document must provide conclusive proof of legal presence and be accompanied by other supporting documentation.
14. Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC card) issued by DHS/Transportation Security Administration
15. U.S. Department of State reception and placement program assurance form (refugee version) which shall include or be accompanied by federal form I-94, arrival and departure record
16. Documentary proof specified in s.343.14(2)(es), Stats, that is approved by the federal authority
    - a. Valid foreign passport containing a valid non-immigrant visa and I-94, arrival and departure record
    - b. Valid foreign passport containing an expired non-immigrant visa and I-94, arrival and departure record
    - c. Pending or approved application for asylum in the United States
    - d. Valid re-entry into the United States in refugee status I-327 or I-571
    - e. Pending or approved application for temporary protected status in the United States
    - f. Approved deferred action status (including the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's ***Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program***) or a pending application for adjustment of status to legal permanent resident status or conditional resident status.

If you are not a U.S. citizen, you must present proof of legal presence every time you apply for a new card.

Acceptable Documents for a Wisconsin Driver License or ID Card application

Acceptable Documents for Proof of Name and Date of Birth

FOR REAL ID COMPLIANT CARDS

1. Valid U.S. passport or passport card
2. Certified birth certificate or equivalent document from the state, territory, or certificate of birth abroad issued by U.S. Dept. of State (federal forms FS-545 or DS-1350).
   In accordance with Puerto Rican law, as of October 30, 2010 Wisconsin will not accept any Puerto Rican birth certificate certified before July 1, 2010. More information at ***www.pr.gov***
   Canadian birth certificates are not acceptable.
3. Consular Report of Birth Abroad
4. Valid I-551, Permanent Resident card issued by DHS/USCIS.
   Note: Non-expiring I-551 documents issued from 1977 to 1989 are acceptable.
5. U.S. Certificate of Naturalization (federal form N-550)
6. Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (federal form N-560)
7. Unexpired Employment Authorization document (I-688B or I-766)
8. Unexpired foreign passport with a valid unexpired U.S., visa affixed, accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting your most recent admittance into the U.S.

FOR NON-COMPLIANT CARDS

Everything from the REAL ID Compliant list above, or:

9. A foreign passport with federal I-551 resident alien registration receipt card or federal I-94 arrival and departure record that identifies your first and last names, and your day, month and year of birth
10. A Wisconsin driver license bearing your photograph
11. A Wisconsin identification card issued under §.343.50, bearing your photograph
12. Federal I-94 Arrival/Departure Record (Parole or Refugee version) and MV3002
13. A federal temporary resident card or employment authorization card (federal form I-688, I-688A)
14. Native American Identification card issued in Wisconsin
15. Court order with your full name, date of birth and court seal. (This does not include an abstract of criminal or civil convictions).
16. Armed forces of the U.S. ID card issued to military personnel; Common Access card or DD Form 2.

Acceptable Documents for Proof of Identity — FOR REAL ID COMPLIANT and NON-COMPLIANT CARDS

The following is a non-exhaustive list of documents acceptable as proof of identity. Per Trans 102.15 (4)(a), any original and authentic document identifying the person by name and bearing the person's signature, a reproduction of the person's signature, or a photograph of the person is acceptable.

1. A valid (or expired eight years or less) photo driver license or photo ID card issued by Wisconsin or another jurisdiction, except a province of the Dominion of Canada
2. U.S. passport or passport card valid or expired 5 years or less and issued at age 16 or older
3. Military discharge papers including certified copy of federal form DD-214
4. U.S. government and military dependent identification card
5. Marriage Certificate or certified copy of Judgment of Divorce
6. Documents permitted under proof of name and date of birth, if it bears your photograph
7. A parent or guardian having legal custody identifies person under the age of 18 and the parent or guardian shows a valid Wisconsin driver license or ID card
8. Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC card), issued by DHS/ Transportation Security Administration
9. A valid photo ID card from any U.S. university, college, technical college or high school. The card must contain your name and photograph.
10. Unexpired temporary driver license or ID card receipt, including receipts from other jurisdictions
11. Social Security card issued by the Social Security Administration
12. W-2 form including your name, address and Social Security number
13. Social Security Administration SSA 1099 form
14. Non SSA 1099 form
15. Paystub with your name and entire Social Security number listed
16. Or provide BOTH of the following documents::
    a. An unexpired foreign passport with a valid unexpired U.S. visa affixed, accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting your most recent admittance into the United States
    b. A document to demonstrate a non-work authorized status
17. A government-issued product from a federal, state, county or city agency with the applicant's name and signature.

Acceptable Documents for a Wisconsin Driver License or ID Card application

Acceptable Documents for Proof of Wisconsin Residency

FOR REAL ID COMPLIANT and NON-COMPLIANT CARDS

All documents for proof of Wisconsin residency must contain your name and current Wisconsin address.

REAL ID compliant cards require two (2) proofs of residency.

Printed electronic copies are acceptable for the following documents.

1. Paycheck, stub or earning statement with your employer's name and address
2. Utility bill for water, gas, electricity or land-line telephone service. Includes cable and internet services
3. Mobile phone bill
4. Financial statements: bank statement for a checking, savings, money market or brokerage account; credit card statement or loan statement for auto, home or personal
5. Valid Wisconsin hunting or fishing license
6. Medical billing statement from doctor or hospital
7. Service welcome letters: includes bank, credit card, utility and others
8. Insurance documents for auto, health and life: Documents may include welcome letters, billing statements or explanation of benefits

The following documents must be originals. Printed electronic copies are not acceptable.

9. Deed/title, mortgage, rental/lease agreement for Wisconsin property (lease must include your landlord's name and phone number)
10. Government-issued correspondence or product issued from a federal, state, county or city agency (original or certified copy)
    a. Benefit statements and enrollment confirmation letters regarding programs such as Quest or Forward are acceptable for beneficiaries and their dependents, but the cards are not.
    b. Change of address confirmation letters from USPS
    c. Unexpired concealed carry license
11. Department of Corrections documentation: Letters from probation/parole agents on letterhead
12. Report card, school transcript or certified school record
13. College enrollment documentation or Form 2019, Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status, with a current Wisconsin address. Includes college acceptance letters, financial aid documentation or tuition statement
14. A photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university, college or technical college that contains the photo and address of student
15. Employee photo ID card issued by current employer
16. Tribal identification card
17. ***Homeless Shelter Documentation.*** Documentation from a homeless shelter or social service organization providing services to homeless individuals. The letter should identify the individual, describe the location, include the address for the person to accept mail and be on letterhead signed by a social services representative.
18. Wisconsin driver license or ID card (can be expired) with your current Wisconsin address on the card
19. Parent or guardian may present their Wisconsin driver license or ID card. Address on record must match with the child's current address on record for people under age 26.

Acceptable Documents for Proof of Social Security Number

FOR REAL ID COMPLIANT CARDS

All documents for proof of Social Security number for a REAL ID compliant card must contain your name and full social security number

1. Social Security card issued by the Social Security Administration
2. W-2 form including your name, address and Social Security number
3. Social Security Administration SSA 1099 form
4. Non SSA-1099 form
5. Pay stub
6. Or provide BOTH of the following documents:
    a. An unexpired foreign passport with a valid unexpired U.S. visa affixed, accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting your most recent admittance into the United States
    b. A document to demonstrate a non-work authorized status

FOR NON-COMPLIANT CARDS

7. Provide your Social Security number
8. If you are not eligible for a Social Security number, you must sign form MV3741, Social Security Number Non-Eligibility Certification Statement.