Removal of SSNs from DoD ID Cards

As of June 2011, the SSN is no longer printed on any DoD ID card.

These changes are being made by the Department of Defense to protect the personal identity information of cardholders.

A “DoD ID Number” will be printed on all ID cards and will be used as the Geneva Conventions serial number.

Eligible beneficiaries will also have a “DoD Benefits Number” printed on their ID card. Medical providers will use the DoD Benefits Number on new ID cards to validate eligibility and to process claims.

Cards with the SSN remain valid until replaced.

SSN Removal — A Phased Approach

Phase One: Remove Dependent SSNs  
Began in December 2008

Phase Two: Remove printed SSNs from all cards  
As of June 2011

Phase Three: Remove SSNs embedded in barcodes  
Beginning by the end of 2012

Note: Changes to cards will be made upon ID card renewal.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who does this affect?  
All DoD ID cardholders.

Should I get a new card now?  
No! Current cards are valid until the card expires. If your ID card has an INDEF expiration date, and you would like the SSN removed, contact your nearest RAPIDS ID Card facility for an appointment to have a new card issued.

Will my ID be rejected without a visible SSN?  
Your ID should not be rejected without a visible SSN; however, you may be asked to verbally state your own or your sponsor’s SSN.

Won’t my medical provider need the new DoD Benefits Number to process my claim?  
Providers may use either the sponsor’s SSN or the DoD Benefits Number until all cards have been replaced.

Where should I go?  
Visit the RAPIDS Site Locator  
www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home  
to find a location near you. ID cards are available at over 1,500 RAPIDS ID card centers worldwide.

What should I bring?  
Two forms of ID from the OMB I-9 document list. One must be a valid (unexpired) federal or state issued photo ID. Visit  
for more information.

For more information regarding the SSN Removal, visit  
www.dmdc.osd.mil/smartcard
DoD ID Card Identification Chart

PHASE I
Remove Dependent SSN
Started in December 2008

DEPENDENT ID CARD

DD Form 1173
Dependent SSN will be replaced with XXX-XX-XXXX

DD Form 1173-1
Sponsor SSN will remain visible

PHASE II
Remove All Printed SSNs
As of June 2011

COMMON ACCESS CARD (CAC)

DoD ID Number

DoD Benefits Number
(only on cards that convey DoD benefits)

ALL OTHER CARDS

Cardholder SSN replaced by a DoD ID Number

PHASE III
Remove SSNs Embedded in Barcodes
Beginning by end of 2012

COMMON ACCESS CARD (CAC)

DoD Benefits Number
(only on cards that convey DoD benefits)

ALL OTHER CARDS

SSN will be removed from barcodes

For more information regarding the SSN Reduction Plan, please visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/smartcard