



REAL ID Act Reminder

The final deadline for implementation of the REAL ID Act is October 1, 2020. Although passed in 2005 to set stricter standards for identification, it has taken years for states to prepare for REAL ID Act compliancy and implementation.

What Is a REAL ID Required For?

Starting October 1, 2020, every air traveler will need a REAL ID-compliant license, or another acceptable form of identification, for domestic air travel. Additionally, a REAL ID, or other acceptable identification, will be needed to enter federal buildings, military installations, and more.

Which States Are Compliant?

Nearly all states and territories are compliant or under review. Until October 1, 2020, residents from these states and territories may continue using their driver's licenses or identification cards, regardless of whether the license/ID is REAL ID compliant or not, for accessing federal facilities (including military bases), entering nuclear power plants, and boarding commercial aircraft.

Starting October 1, 2020, every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID-compliant license/ID, or another acceptable form of identification, for accessing federal facilities, entering nuclear power plants, and boarding commercial aircraft.

For a map outlining which states are compliant and which have extensions, please visit <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>.

What If My State Isn't Compliant Yet?

If you have identification from a non-compliant state, please monitor your state's compliance status so that you may apply for a new ID when available, or be prepared to have another form of acceptable identification. Additional paperwork and other resources will be required by DMVs to issue compliant identification. Many states have experienced a backlog and delay in issuing new identification, so please anticipate a longer amount of time than usual to receive a new ID.

What If My State Is Compliant, but I Don't Have a REAL ID?

If you live in a state that is already REAL ID compliant but you do not yet have a REAL ID, please be advised that many states have experienced a backlog and delay in issuing new identification. Please anticipate a longer amount of time than usual to receive a new ID, and begin the process as soon as your state and/or schedule will allow if you plan to use your state-issued driver's license or ID for needs such as air travel and entering federal facilities.

How Do I Know If I Have a REAL ID?

Most state IDs will show a gold or black star on the front. Some states have compliant identification without the star, including Hawaii, Ohio, Tennessee, and Utah. If you believe your state is compliant, but you do not see a star on your ID, please check with your state department of motor vehicles.

Are There Acceptable Alternative Forms of ID?

Yes, some other forms of ID will remain acceptable for domestic air travel even after the October 2020 deadline. However, if you do not have any of these forms of ID and you plan to travel domestically by air with your state ID or driver's license, it must be REAL ID compliant. The below forms of identification will remain acceptable for domestic air travel even after the October 2020 deadline:

- U.S. passport
- U.S. passport card
- DHS trusted traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)
- U.S. Department of Defense ID, including IDs issued to dependents
- Permanent resident card
- Border crossing card
- DHS-designated enhanced driver's license
- Federally recognized, tribal-issued photo ID
- HSPD-12 PIV card
- Foreign government-issued passport
- Canadian provincial driver's license or Indian and Northern Affairs Canada card
- Transportation worker identification credential
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment Authorization Card (I-766)
- U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential

For more information and answers to FAQs, please visit:

<https://www.dhs.gov/real-id-public-faqs>

<https://www.dhs.gov/state-compliance>