

What is REAL ID?

For State Employees

REAL ID Is Here: Are You Ready?

REAL ID is federal legislation created in the wake of the September 11th terrorist attacks to establish security standards for all state driver's licenses and identification cards nationwide. After May 7, 2025, you will be required to have a REAL ID compliant driver's license or ID card to board commercial aircraft for domestic flights or to gain access to federal facilities. To be considered REAL ID compliant, you must have the required documents on file with the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA). Customers are encouraged to make an appointment on the MDOT MVA website, and after collecting documentation visit a local branch to become REAL ID compliant.



HOW do I know if I need to submit REAL ID documents?

You can determine your REAL ID status in two ways: Check your status by visiting our website and entering your driver's license/ID card number: <https://realid.mva.maryland.gov>. Or, you can wait to receive a notice from the MDOT MVA via email and/or the U.S. Postal Service instructing you on next steps for REAL ID.

WHAT type of documentation is needed for REAL ID?

The REAL ID Modernization Act has changed some proof of social security documentation requirements for customers. If you need to provide REAL ID documents, please visit our REAL ID Lookup Tool to determine what documents you will need to bring to your next appointment.

Customers will need to present the following documents in person at an MDOT MVA branch. Here are some suggestions for state employees:

1 proof of age and identity

Original Birth Certificate
or Passport

1 proof of social security

You can use your W-2 -
all state employees have one!

2 proofs of Maryland residency

You can bring your state benefits
statement and a medical bill -
if it has your name and address,
you're all set.

A full list of acceptable documents and exceptions can be viewed in the MDOT MVA's Online Document Guide: www.mva.maryland.gov/odg

Skip the line! Make an appointment for REAL ID

To make an appointment for REAL ID you must visit and complete the Online Document Guide: www.mva.maryland.gov/odg. Once you've completed the guide, you will be prompted to make an appointment for your REAL ID visit. If you make an appointment, you will be guaranteed to be seen in 15 minutes or less.

LEARN MORE: www.mva.maryland.gov/realid