

Comparison of Application Requirements for U.S. Passport and REAL ID Driver’s License¹

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REQUIREMENT	REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. PASSPORT	REQUIREMENTS UNDER REAL ID
<p>Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Immigration Status</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must present proof of U.S. citizenship as demonstrated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Previous U.S. passport; ➢ Certified birth certificate filed within 1 year of birth;² ➢ Consular report of birth abroad;³ ➢ Certificate of Naturalization; or ➢ Certificate of Citizenship. ▪ If an applicant does not have a passport or certified birth certificate, s/he can present a “letter of no record” plus as many of the following documents as possible:⁴ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Baptismal record ➢ Hospital birth certificate ➢ Census record ➢ Early school record ➢ Family Bible record ➢ Doctor’s record of post-natal care ➢ Notarized affidavit of birth (Form DS-10) from an older blood relative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must present proof that the applicant is in one of the following categories:⁵ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ U.S. citizen or national; ➢ Lawful permanent resident or lawful temporary resident; ➢ Conditional permanent resident; ➢ Asylee; ➢ Refugee; ➢ Nonimmigrant with a valid, unexpired visa or nonimmigrant visa status; ➢ Person with pending application for asylum, lawful permanent residence, or conditional permanent residence; ➢ Person with approved deferred action status; or ➢ Person with pending or approved application for temporary protected status (TPS).
<p>Documents Not Accepted as Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Immigration Status</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Voter registration cards ▪ Army discharge papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No foreign documents except passport accepted.

¹ This chart was adapted from a chart created by the National Employment Law Project that compared Washington State’s driver’s license requirements to driver’s license application requirements under the REAL ID Act and requirements for applying for a U.S. passport.

² A delayed birth certificate filed more than one year after birth is acceptable if it lists the documents used in creating it and is signed by the birth attendant, lists an affidavit signed by parents, or shows early public records.

³ A person born abroad who does not have a consular record or certificate of birth can use a foreign birth certificate and certain documentation of his or her parent’s citizenship.

⁴ Documents must be early public records, created no more than five years after birth, showing the date and place of birth.

⁵ The statute does not specify documentation accepted as proof of citizenship or immigration status.

REQUIREMENT	REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. PASSPORT	REQUIREMENTS UNDER REAL ID
Proof of Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Documents accepted to prove identity include:⁶ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Previous U.S. passport; ➢ Certificate of Naturalization; ➢ Certificate of Citizenship; ➢ Current, valid driver's license; ➢ Current, valid city, state or federal government ID; or ➢ Current, valid military ID or military dependent ID. ▪ If documents above are not available, applicant must present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Signature documents (a combination of documents such as a Social Security card, credit card, bank card, etc); and ➢ An identifying witness who: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has known the applicant for at least 2 years; 2. Is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; 3. Has a valid ID; and 4. Completes an "Affidavit of Identifying Witness Form" (DS-71) in the presence of a passport agent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Photo identity document required. The law does not specify which documents are acceptable to prove identity. Nonphoto identity document is acceptable if it includes both the person's full legal name and his/her date of birth. ▪ No foreign documents except passport accepted.
Social Security Number (SSN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Required for those who have one.⁷ Applicants who have not been issued an SSN may enter zeros on the application form. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Required. The law does not specify which documents are acceptable to prove SSN. Applicants not eligible for an SSN must present verification that they are not eligible.
Documentation of Date of Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Date of birth required on passport application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Required. The law does not specify which documents are acceptable to prove date of birth. ▪ No foreign documents except passport accepted.
Proof of Name and Address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name and address required on passport application. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Required. The law does not specify which documents are acceptable to prove name and address. ▪ No foreign documents except passport accepted.

⁶ Documents must include signature and physical description of the applicant or photograph.

⁷ SSN is reported to the Treasury, used in connection with debt collection, and checked against lists of persons ineligible or potentially ineligible to receive a U.S. passport.

REQUIREMENT	REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. PASSPORT	REQUIREMENTS UNDER REAL ID
Verification of Source Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The U.S. Dept. of State (DOS) and the Social Security Administration (SSA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in April 2004 giving the DOS access to the SSA's main database to verify passport applicants' identity. However, the MOU was not implemented as of March 2005.⁸ ▪ Passport-issuing officials also have informal contact with state departments of motor vehicles to confirm driver's license information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All documents must be verified with the issuing agency. State required to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security to use the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program to verify immigration status.
Photo ID Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Documents used to prove identification must contain physical description or photograph of person to whom they were issued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Photo identity document required. Nonphoto identity document is acceptable if it includes both the person's full legal name and his/her date of birth.
Mandatory Facial Image Capture⁹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applicant must supply 2 photos. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Required on face of driver's license.
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$97 ▪ \$67 for renewal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will depend on the state.¹⁰
Expiration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximum of 8 years. ▪ Temporary driver's licenses valid for 1 year or length of holder's authorized stay in U.S.¹¹

⁸ According to a Government Accountability Office report, *Improvements Needed to Strengthen U.S. Passport Fraud Detection Efforts* (May 2005), the DOS currently uses limited information from SSA's 2002 records.

⁹ There is no statutory or regulatory definition of "facial image capture." It is unclear how the Dept. of Homeland Security will define the term.

¹⁰ Virginia estimates an additional cost of almost \$45 per licensed driver; Washington estimates that the REAL ID license will cost \$58, compared to the current cost for a license of \$25.

¹¹ The following non-U.S. citizens may receive only a temporary license: nonimmigrants with valid visa, noncitizens with a pending application for asylum, noncitizens with a pending or approved application for temporary protected status, noncitizens with approved deferred action status, and noncitizens with a pending application for permanent residence or conditional permanent residence. The Dept. of Homeland Security may further limit the validity of the temporary driver's license in order to provide for periodic confirmation of principal residence address and lawful presence in the U.S.