



Illinois Drives Licenses & State IDs

In Illinois, International students, scholars and other temporary visitors are not required to have an U.S. driver's license or state identification card in order to legally drive; you may drive with a valid driver's license from your home country. However, this is not the case in every state. Some states require a U.S driver's license.

Obtaining a Driver's License

With an SSN

If you already have a SSN (Social Security Number) or are eligible for a SSN, you can apply for a "regular" driver's license and/or state ID. If you have an SSN, please visit the Illinois Cyber Drive webpage for the [documentation required to apply for a license](#).

Important: If you qualify for a "regular" driver's license or state ID, at the time of application you will be asked if you wish to register to vote. You must decline and sign a document to that effect. Mistakenly stating that you are a U.S. citizen and eligible to vote on any governmental document can lead to your deportation from the U.S. Read all forms carefully before completing or signing them.

Without an SSN

If you do not already have an SSN or and/are you are not eligible to apply for one, you can obtain a [Temporary Visitor's Driver's License \(TVDL\)](#). Note: part of the required documentation for the TVDL is a letter from Social Security indicating you are not eligible for an SSN. This letter can be obtained from any Social Security Office.

Information on Driving in the U.S.

Review the Rules of the Road to ensure you are aware of Illinois driving regulations. If you will not obtain an Illinois driver's license or TVDL, it is recommended that you keep a copy of this book in your car, in case you encounter an officer that is unfamiliar with policies about foreign drivers. Bookmark the "Exemptions" section on Page 3 which specifies students attending Illinois universities with a valid license from their home country are not required to obtain an Illinois driver's license.

Special Note for those with driver's license from France, Germany or Italy

International students and scholars who hold a valid driver's license from France, Germany or Italy are eligible for an Illinois driver's license based on reciprocal agreements between the State of Illinois and these three countries. Present your French, German or Italian driver's license and a letter from the appropriate Embassy in

the US that explains your driving privileges in your home country and that you are temporarily in the US for study. Present this letter along with proof of residency in Illinois, your immigration documents, and your SSN at the DMV.

Driving Schools:

Lockport driving schools (Romeoville)

(815)-5312651

www.lockportdrivingschool.com

Orland Driving School (Orland Park)

(708) 460-6622

<http://www.orlanddriving.com/>

Top Driver (Joliet)

(800) 374-8373

www.topdriver.com

Excel Driving (North Naperville – South Naperville – Plainfield – Western Springs – Orland Park – St. Charles – Wheaton – Yorkville)

(630) 983-9235

www.exceldrivingschool.com



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
DRIVER SERVICES DEPARTMENT

2701 S. DIRKSEN PARKWAY
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62723
www.cyberdriveillinois.com

TVDL APPOINTMENT DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

Applicant Name: _____ Appt. Date: _____ Appt. Time: _____
 Appt. Location: _____
 Confirmation #: _____ Agency Completing Form: _____
 Form Completed By: _____

Applicant has the following CORRECT documents:

- Name and Date of Birth
- Written Signature
- 12 Month Residency
- Current Address — 1
- Current Address — 2

*All documents MUST be in the applicant's name

Name and Date of Birth (One):

- Unexpired Passport — Expiration Date: _____
- Consular Card — Expiration Date: _____
(Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia)

Written Signature (One):

- Unexpired Passport — Expiration Date: _____
- Consular Card — Expiration Date: _____

12 Month Residency (1 document that must be dated over a year ago):

- Consular Card — Expiration Date: _____
(must have been issued over a year ago and cannot also be used for 90 day)
- Bank Statement (cannot be a summary) — Date: _____
- Utility Bill — Date: _____
- Certified School Transcripts — Dates: _____
- Deed/Title, Rental, Lease, Mortgage — Dates: _____
- Medical Claim or Statement of benefits (no bills from doctor's offices) — Date: _____
- Official Mail from State, County, City, Village, or Federal agency — Date: _____
(Subject to SOS approval. For example, we do not accept DHS or IRS documents)
- Pension or Retirement Statement — Date: _____
- Report Card — Date: _____
- Tuition Invoice from a College or University — Date: _____
- Home Owner's or Renter's Insurance Policy — Date: _____
- Selective Service Card — Date: _____

Current Residency (Two documents dated in the last 90 days):

- Consular Card — Expiration Date: _____
(must have current address listed and cannot also be used for 12 month residency)
- Credit report from Experian, Equifax, or TransUnion — Date: _____
- Bank Statement (1) — Date: _____ Bank Statement (2) (Must be from 2nd bank) — Date: _____
- Utility Bill (1) — Date: _____ Utility Bill (2) — Date: _____
(Must be from different company than first utility bill)
- Certified School Transcripts — Date: _____
- Deed/Title, Mortgage, Rental/Lease — Date: _____
- Medical Claim or Statement of Benefits — Date: _____
(No bills from doctor's offices)
- Official Mail from State, County, City, Village, or Federal Agency — Date: _____
(These documents are subject to SOS approval. For example, we do not accept DHS or IRS documents)

(Continued on reverse side.)

Current Residency Documents Checklist continued.

- Pension or Retirement Statement — Date: _____
- Report Card — Date: _____
- Tuition Invoice from a College or University — Date: _____
- Home Owner's or Renter's Insurance Policy — Date: _____
- Selective Service Card — Date: _____

Notes:

Has applicant visited a SOS Facility to check the status of his/her Driving Record?

- Yes No

Also Bring: Verification of Residency Form, Proof of Car Insurance and \$30 fee (Applicant should also be prepared to pay any outstanding reinstatement fees)