



REAL ID

COVID-19
UPDATES

Deadline Extended

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has extended the deadline for enforcement of REAL ID by 12 months – until October 1, 2021.

In an [announcement](#) on March 26, 2020, the DHS acknowledged that the closure of or restricted access to Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offices precluded millions of people from applying for or receiving their REAL IDs.

The REAL ID is required by the REAL ID Act of 2005. The Act emerged from the 9/11 Commission's recommendation that the federal government set a standard for official sources of identification, such as driver's licenses and ID cards.

Once enforcement of the REAL ID begins, federal agencies will accept only identification meeting the REAL ID security standards for admittance to federal facilities, including TSA security checkpoints.

The District of Columbia and the states of Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Vermont and Washington are issuing Enhanced Driver's Licenses (EDL), which meet the REAL ID standard.

For more information:

- See the Department of Homeland Security's [FAQs](#)
- Contact your local **DMV** office