Limited Purpose License

Starting May 1, 2014, DC DMV began issuing Limited Purpose driver licenses and identification cards, which are available to residents who have lived in the District of Columbia for at least six months and have never been issued a Social Security number, were previously issued one and are no longer eligible, or are not eligible to obtain one.

DC Residents who would like to obtain a Limited Purpose credential are required to make an appointment and show Proof of Identity, Proof of DC Residency, Proof of Six-Month DC Residency, and a completed Social Security Declaration Form. The list of acceptable documents is available on DC DMV's website at dmv.dc.gov. For those who want to obtain a driver license, they must take and pass the DC DMV knowledge and road skills tests. A Limited Purpose driver license or identification card is valid for up to eight years.

The Limited Purpose credential is issued by appointment only, and it may not be used for official federal purposes.

Service Center Locations

GEORGETOWN SERVICE CENTER
3222 M Street, NW
Canal Level
Washington, DC 20007

BENNING RIDGE SERVICE CENTER
4525 Benning Road, SE
Washington, DC 20019

RHODE ISLAND SERVICE CENTER
(Located in Rhode Island Row)
2350 Washington Place, NE
Suite 112N
Washington, DC 20018

SOUTHWEST SERVICE CENTER
95 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

DC Department of Motor Vehicles
District of Columbia Government
PO Box 90120
Washington, DC 20090
311 or (202)737-4404, The Citywide Call Center
dmv.dc.gov • dmv@dc.gov

@dcdmv dcdmv

R06092014

Get Behind the Wheel!

GET YOUR LIMITED PURPOSE LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION CARD

dmv.dc.gov

FAQ's

1. How is a Limited Purpose credential different from DC DMV's current credential?

A Limited Purpose credential, which will be issued to those DC residents who have never been issued a social security number, have been previously issued a social security number, but are now ineligible to receive one, or are not eligible to be issued a social security number, will be marked "not for official federal purposes." Other than these requirements, it will look like our current DC DMV credential.

2. What does the "not for official federal purposes" marking mean?

This means you will not be able to use the Limited Purpose credential to enter federal facilities, enter a nuclear plant or board an airplane. Additionally, other entities may or may not accept the credential for identification purposes.

3. So does the "not for official federal purposes" marking mean I'm an undocumented resident?

The Limited Purpose credential is issued to both documented and undocumented residents.

4. Why is DC DMV making this change?

We are complying with the requirements of the Driver's Safety Amendment Act of 2013.

5. If I am an undocumented resident, what impact will my obtaining a Limited Purpose credential have on my life?

The Driver's Safety Amendment Act prohibits the use of Limited Purpose credentials for consideration of an individual's citizenship or immigration status or as a basis for a criminal investigation, arrest or detention.

6. Once I obtain a Limited Purpose credential, will I be able to renew or replace it or change my address using DC DMV's online or by mail services?

Yes.

7. Are other states issuing credentials similar to DC's Limited Purpose credentials?

Yes, there are approximately nine jurisdictions who issue some type of credential similar to DC's Limited Purpose credential.

8. How much more does the Limited Purpose credential cost?

The fees for Limited Purpose credentials are the same as our current credentials.

Visit the web site
dmv.dc.gov
for more information or
to make an appointment.

Convert to a REAL ID

If, in the future, you are able to obtain a Social Security number and show lawful presence in the US, then you may be able to convert to a REAL ID credential. An in-person visit will be required to revalidate your Proof of Identity, Proof of DC Residency, and Proof of Social Security number. Detailed information is available on the website at dmv.dc.gov.

Update Your Address

When you move, you are required to notify DC DMV of your current address within five days. Use DC DMV's online services to update your address at http://dmv.dc.gov/node/152582. You also have the option to update your address through the mail.

DC DMV
Attn: Change of Address
PO Box 90120
Washington, DC 20090

Name Change

If your name has changed, and your credential needs updating, you must first change or correct your name with the Social Security Administration (SSA). Once complete, bring the required documents, which are listed on DC DMV's website at http://dmv.dc.gov/service/name-changes-and-corrections, to a DC DMV Service Center.

Organ Donor

If you have chosen to be an organ donor, your credential will have a double heart symbol on the lower right-hand side.