

Why did South Carolina's licenses and IDs change?

South Carolina redesigns its licenses every so often to stay ahead of people wanting to illegally create fraudulent cards. The last time the state redesigned its cards was in 2010!

These new cards are the most secure to date. The cards with the gold star are compliant with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005.



What's REAL ID?

REAL ID is a federal law. **On and after October 1, 2021**, your South Carolina driver's license or identification card must look like the one with the gold star above to use it as your identification to do **any** of the following:

- Board a domestic, commercial flight
- Enter a secure federal building
- Visit a military installation

You do not need a REAL ID to

Apply for or receive federal benefits

VOTE

DRIVE

Access Hospitals

Visit the Post Office

Access Federal Courts

If you do **not** plan on entering a military base, flying, or visiting a federal building that requires ID, you will not need a REAL ID.

Do I have to change my card to a REAL ID?

No. You **do not** have to change your license or ID to a REAL ID. But, if you do not change your license or ID, you must have another federally approved identification, such as a valid US Passport or military ID, to board a domestic, commercial flight, enter a secure federal building, or visit a military installation **on and after October 1, 2021**.

How do I change to a REAL ID?

In order to change your current South Carolina license or ID to a REAL ID, the SCDMV must have on file, or you must bring to a branch, **all** of the following:

- Proof of Identity (Government-issued birth certificate or valid US Passport)
- Proof of Social Security Number
- Two Proofs of Current, Physical SC Address
- Proof of All Legal Name Changes

A complete list of documents the SCDMV will accept is on the United States Citizens' Checklist (SCDMV Form MV-93). The requirements for international customers are different. For a complete list of documents for international customers, see the International Customers' Checklist (SCDMV Form MV-94). You can find these forms online at www.scdmvonline.com.

Are my required documents already on file?

Maybe. If you received your **first** South Carolina beginner's permit, driver's license, or identification card or changed your license after holding a license from another state during or after November 2010, the SCDMV may have your documents on file.

If you believe you fall into this category, you can check the status of your documents by completing the "REAL ID Document Check" at www.scdmvonline.com or calling 803-896-5000.

If your documents are already on file, you do not have to resubmit them to change your current card to a REAL ID.

What happens between now and October 1, 2021?

Between now and September 30, 2021, you should experience nothing differently when trying to board a domestic, commercial flight, enter a secure federal building, or visit a military installation. **All** South Carolina licenses and IDs that are not expired, regardless of which style of card you have, will continue to be accepted to do those federal activities.

On and after October 1, 2021, you must have a card with the gold star, or another federally approved identification, to board a domestic, commercial flight, enter a secure federal building, or visit a military installation.

Does my child need a REAL ID to board a plane?

The TSA **does not** require children to have a REAL ID when flying with an adult who has a REAL ID. If you choose to purchase a REAL ID identification card for your child between the age of 5 and 16 years old, it's \$15, and all of your child's required documents must be on file.

Purchase Your REAL ID Online

You may be able to purchase yours online. If all required documents are on file with the SCDMV, you may be able to purchase your REAL ID license online. If you're eligible for buying online, you will purchase your new REAL ID license for \$25 with a valid credit or debit card. Your new REAL ID license will have the same photograph currently on your South Carolina license, and it will be mailed to the address on file with the SCDMV. Once your new REAL ID license arrives, you must destroy your old license. It will immediately become invalid once you receive your new card.

Online Restrictions

*If the required REAL ID documents are **not** on file with the SCDMV and you want to change your current card to a REAL ID, you must visit an SCDMV branch with all required documents.*

If you're an international customer, you're eligible for a REAL ID, but there are certain SCDMV branches that complete international customer transactions. You will find those locations online.

Required Vision Screening

South Carolina Act #220 of 2018 takes effect in October 2020 which requires a vision screening to renew a driver's license. South Carolinians who want to take advantage of purchasing a REAL ID license online must have a vision screening, submitted via an electronic portal by their eye care professional, on file with the SCDMV.

Learn More

To learn more about REAL ID, visit www.dhs.gov/real-id-public-faqs

*It's important to note that individual federal facilities, including military installations, **may have different security measures** and accepted forms of identification may vary. You should contact the facility before visiting to learn what forms of ID will be accepted.*

***Beginning October 1, 2021**, you will need a REAL ID or another federally approved form of identification to board a domestic, commercial flight. You must still have a valid US Passport to travel internationally.*

For a complete list of identification accepted by the TSA, visit www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification.

Do I need a REAL ID?

What is REAL ID?

What do I need to get a REAL ID?

Can I keep my current license?
What's the difference?

**Learn more at
WWW.SCDMVONLINE.COM**

South Carolina
Department of Motor Vehicles
PO Box 1498
Blythewood, SC 29016
803-896-5000
www.scdmvonline.com



Licenses

& IDs

have

changed

Learn more about REAL

www.scdmvonline.com

v.6 April 2020

Stay updated on REAL ID!

Take a BRAKE and visit us online!

 **@SC_DMV**

 **@SCDMV**

WWW.SCDMVONLINE.COM