Star Card – Idaho’s REAL ID

The Star Card is an Idaho driver’s license or ID that has a Star to show it is in compliance with REAL ID security standards. Passed by Congress in 2005, the REAL ID Act requires uniform standards for credentials, such as driver’s licenses. The standards focus on proof of identity and the documents you must provide to verify you are who you say you are.

Beginning May 3, 2023, you will need to have a Star Card or another accepted form of ID, such as a passport, to fly commercially or access a federal facility.

Remember

As of May 3, 2023
You will need a Star Card or another accepted form of identification to fly commercially or access a federal facility.

Helpful Links

ID Requirements
www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification

Documents needed to obtain a Star Card
http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard or scan the QR code.

She’s cleared for takeoff because she has a Star Card – Idaho’s REAL ID.
1. Do I have to get a Star Card?
Star Card is not mandatory. A license or ID without the Star can still be used for most functions, just not for airport security to fly commercially or access federal buildings, including military bases after May 3, 2023.

2. What is the difference between a Star Card and an Idaho driver’s license or ID card without the Star?
The only difference is the ability to fly commercially or enter a federal facility. Both allow you to legally drive and prove your identity for tasks like buying alcohol or registering to vote.

3. Should I get a Star Card?
Yes or No - Do you fly on commercial aircraft?
Yes or No - Do you need to access a federal facility (federal courthouse, national laboratory, or military base)?
If yes, you should consider adding the Star.

4. What if my name has changed and doesn’t match my birth certificate or other documents?
If your current name has changed through marriage, divorce, adoption, court order or other mechanisms, you will be required to provide evidence of the name change with the appropriate court or government documents. Multiple documents may be needed if your name has changed more than once.

5. What documents do I need to get a Star Card?
You will need to provide documents such as a birth certificate, social security card and two proofs of Idaho residency such as a mortgage statement or current utility bill to verify:
- Your identity
- Your Social Security number
- Your Idaho residency
If your name is different from what is on your birth certificate, you will need to bring a certified name-change document, such as your marriage license, divorce decree or court order. Multiple documents may be needed if your name has changed more than once.

Go to http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard for a full list of the documents you can use to add the Star. The website includes an “Add the Star” tool. Simply answer a few questions and the system will create a customized list of documents you need to bring with you to the DMV to get a Star Card.

6. When should I add the Star?
Check your current driver’s license or ID card:
- If it expires before May 3, 2023, you can get a Star Card when it's time to renew
- If it expires after May 3, 2023, you should consider renewing early to get a Star Card

You are eligible for renewal up to 25 months prior to the date your license expires. You will just have to provide the additional documentation required to get a Star Card.

7. What is the cost of a Star Card?
The cost will be the same as getting a license or ID without the Star. If you are within the 25-month renewal period, you have the option of renewing your license or ID card for the customary fee.

8. Where can I get a Star Card?
Star Card will be available at the same locations where you get a driver’s license or ID card.

9. What are the alternatives to getting a Star Card?
You can use a passport or other approved documents to fly or enter a federal building or military base.

For a full list of acceptable documents go to http://itd.idaho.gov/StarCard.