

How to Get a Non-Driver License ID

A government-issued ID is helpful for establishing your identity and accessing important services, like health care and housing. If you do not have a Driver's License, you have two options: a New York State ID (**NYS ID**) or a New York City ID (**IDNYC**).

- **NYS ID:** official photo ID with basically the same benefits as a Driver License except you cannot drive. You must have lawful immigration status to apply.
- **IDNYC:** while not as widely accepted as valid photo ID, it is accepted for some important purpose (e.g., by NYPD, to apply for SNAP, etc.) Any NYC resident can apply regardless of immigration status.

✱ (Below is a more detailed comparison.)

Having an NYS ID is preferable if you're able to get it. There are three types:

- **Standard:** valid state ID but cannot be used for federal purposes (e.g., entering a federal building or flying)
- **Enhanced ID:** valid ID for state and federal purposes plus traveling from Mexico, Canada, and some Caribbean countries by land/sea (not air) to the U.S. Must be a U.S. Citizen to obtain.
- **Real ID:** valid ID for state and federal purposes. This is the ID most people will want to get, if possible.

You can get **both** an NYS ID and an IDNYC. IDNYC offers free and discounted benefits at lots of cultural institutions and sporting events within NYC that NYS ID does *not* offer.

✱ NYS ID v. IDNYC

	NYS ID	IDNYC
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NY State Resident • Any age • Lawful immigration status (for Enhanced ID, must be a U.S. Citizen) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYC Resident • 10 years or older • Immigration status does <u>not</u> matter
Cost	<p>Standard and REAL IDs: Fee ranges from \$6.00 - 14.00 depending on type of ID and age.</p> <p>Enhanced ID: Fee ranges from \$36.00 - 44.00 depending on age.</p> <p>You can get any NYS ID for FREE if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Age 62+ and get SSI → Any age and receive Public Assistance, SNAP, or Medical Assistance 	FREE



	NYS ID	IDNYC
Benefits	<p>Standard: Official ID for state purposes including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anywhere IDNYC is accepted as a valid ID Applying for state health programs like Medicaid Buying alcohol and tobacco <p>REAL ID: Official ID for state and federal purposes including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the above Flying within the U.S. Entering a federal building <p>Enhanced ID: Official ID for state and federal purposes including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All of the above Traveling from Mexico, Canada, and some Caribbean countries by land/sea (not air) to the U.S. 	<p>Accepted as valid ID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By NYC agencies when applying for SNAP, Cash Assistance, and Section 8 To apply for health care in NYS Health Insurance Marketplace To register at many NYC Health + Hospital facilities By NYPD For entry into public/City buildings (e.g., schools) For taking GED exam in NYC By employers when submitted with proof of work authorization To open a bank account at certain banks <p>Can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As library card at BK, NY, and QNS libraries To get discounts off some prescriptions To get 1-year free admission to many NYC cultural institutions and sporting events To get discounts at many entertainment, health and fitness, and sporting events To access official immunization records from the Citywide Immunization Registry To get additional benefits for Veterans with Veterans Designation <p>It does NOT allow you to: Drive; Travel by plane; Buy alcohol or tobacco</p>
Required Documents	<p>You will need a combination of documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your name Date of birth Lawful status in the U.S. New York State Residency Social Security (only for a REAL ID and Enhanced ID) <p>Use the online worksheet or screening tool. Some common documents are: NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Released Offender ID card, Social Security Card, Passport, Birth Certificate. If you do not have those, you still may be able to apply with other documents.</p>	<p>You will need a combination of documents to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identity NYC Residency <p>Refer to the IDNYC application page for acceptable documents. Some common documents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Released Offender ID card Birth Certificate Social Security Card Lease Agreement Cable, Phone, or Utility bill NYC OMH facility inpatient photo ID card NYS EBT Card NYS DMV Driver License or Non-Driver ID Card with current NYC address



How to Apply: **NYS ID**

<https://dmv.ny.gov/non-driver-id/get-a-non-driver-id>



Step 1: Gather Required Documents

- **Within 120 days (about 4 months) from your prison release date**, you can apply for a NYS ID with your NYS DOCCS Released Offender Identification Card. In addition, you will need:
 - U.S. Birth Certificate
 - Social Security Card
 - Parole Release Papers (if you do not have Parole Papers, obtain a letter from the Superintendent at your Facility upon release), and
 - If you changed your name due to marriage, Marriage Certificate
- If you are outside of the 120 days from release, you will need to provide a combination of documents. Best to use the online worksheet or screening tool to confirm you have all the necessary documents: <https://dmv.ny.gov/non-driver-id/get-a-non-driver-id>
- All documents must be either **original** or certified by the issuing agency.
- If you are a U.S. Veteran, you can add a Veteran designation added to your NYS ID with proof of veteran status: <http://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/veteran-status-designation-on-a-photo-document>

Step 2: Complete the Application (Form MV-44)

<https://dmv.ny.gov/forms/mv44.pdf>

- If you cannot fill out the form ahead of time, you can get a copy at the DMV office.

Step 3: Make a Reservation at the DMV Office

<https://dmv.ny.gov/contact-us/office-locations>

- Reservations are not required, but they are strongly encouraged.

Step 4: Go to DMV Appointment

- **Be sure to bring:**
 - All required documents
 - The completed application (if you were able to fill it out ahead of time)
 - The application fee:
 - » <https://dmv.ny.gov/non-driver-id/non-driver-id-fees-and-refunds>
 - » You can pay via: Cash; Credit Card; Debit Card that doesn't require a PIN; Mobile payment methods (e.g., Apple Pay); or Personal Check or Money Order payable to "Commissioner of Motor Vehicle." (You can also split payments between cash and check.)
 - » If you are seeking a free or reduced fee ID, also bring proof of SSI, Public Assistance, SNAP, or Medical Assistance.
- Your documents will be checked, and you will have your photo taken.
- You will receive a temporary document that will be valid for 60 days.

Step 5: Receive Your NYS ID

- You will receive your ID **by mail in about 3 weeks**. They will mail it to the address on the ID.
- You can check the mailing status online: <https://dmv.ny.gov/driver-license/check-license-permit-or-non-driver-id-mailing-status>



How to Apply: IDNYC

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/card/start-your-application.page>



Step 1: Gather Required Documents

- You will need to provide a combination of documents. Best to use the online worksheet or screening tool to confirm you have all the necessary documents: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/card/application-materials.page#idnycdocguide>
- NYC uses a points system where different types of documents are worth a different amount of points. A few notes to help understand the system:
 - All of your documents together must total 4 points.
 - At least 3 points must prove Identity and at least 1 point must prove Residency.
 - At least 1 document must have a photo (unless applicant is 10-21 or disabled and accompanied by a caretaker).
 - At least 1 document must include a date of birth (DOB)
- If you are living in a shelter, you can prove Residency with one of the following:
 - Letter from Shelter
 - Letter from organization providing services with permission to use care of address
 - Letter from organization providing services (card will not have an address on it)

****Be sure to use form from the ID NYC Application website****
- If you are a U.S. Veteran, you can add a Veteran designation added to your IDNYC with proof of veteran status
- All documents must be either **originals** or certified by the issuing agency
- No expired documents unless explicitly mentioned.
- Names on the documents must be consistent with each other.

Step 2: Complete the Application Form:

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/card/application-materials.page#idnycapp16>

- You must print out the form and sign by hand.
- If you cannot fill out the form ahead of time, you can get a copy at the IDNYC Enrollment Center.

Step 3: Schedule an Appointment: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/card/start-your-application.page>

- Appointments are usually required and typically last about 20 minutes.
 - It's easiest to book **online**. Appointment times are released on Friday for the following week. If you can, print out the confirmation page once you make the appointment.
 - If you cannot book online, you can call 311 to schedule the appointment.
- A few locations take walk-ins without an appointment, including the Brooklyn Public Library (on Tuesdays) and Queens Public Library (on Fridays).
- If you cannot travel to an Enrollment Center due to a disability, you can request a reasonable accommodation by calling 311 or submit an online inquiry: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/contact/feedback.page>

Step 4: Go to the IDNYC Appointment

- Be Sure to Bring:** all required documents and the completed application (if you were able to fill it out ahead of time)
- At the Appointment:** an IDNYC staff member will
 - Review your documents
 - Ask basic info (name, address, date of birth)
 - Take your photo

Step 5: Receive your IDNYC

- You will receive your IDNYC **by mail within 10-14 business days**.
- If you do not have a stable address or you are a domestic violence survivor who does not want your address on the card, you can pick up your IDNYC at the Enrollment Center.