OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

May 2016

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE JESSE WHITE REGARDING NEW DRIVER'S LICENSE AND ID CARD

I am writing to update you on a significant change that will soon take place at the Secretary of State's office. The change will improve upon the design and issuing process of Illinois' driver's licenses/ID cards.

Applicants visiting Driver Services facilities will no longer be issued a new permanent DL/ID card at the end of the application process. Instead, they will leave the facility with a temporary secure paper document, which is valid for 45 days and will serve as their DL/ID for driving purposes and proof of identification. For air travel, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) states that it will accept the temporary document in conjunction with the old DL/ID to board an aircraft until the permanent card arrives in the mail. Therefore, the facility employee will return the old DL/ID card back to the applicant after punching a hole in it.

Meanwhile, the applicant's information will be sent to a centralized, secure facility in Illinois. After fraud checks have been conducted to ensure the applicant's identity, a higher quality, more secure DL/ID will be printed and sent via U.S. mail within 15 business days to the applicant's address.

This new process, central issuance, meets REAL ID requirements mandated by DHS. As a result, these changes are necessary for Illinois to move closer to achieving full REAL ID compliance. Illinois is not the first state to transition to central issuance. In fact, 39 other states have already done so.

Also, central issuance allows better identity theft prevention by allowing the office to investigate possible fraud before applicants receive their DL/ID. In addition, the design of the DL/ID card has been upgraded with important features that over-the-counter technology simply cannot produce.

The transition to central issuance will take place in phases. Beginning May 17, 2016, Safe Driver Renewal applicants will receive by mail their new driver's license with the upgraded security features. Beginning in late June 2016, through a gradual rollout, Driver Services facilities throughout the state will implement central issuance with the new card design. By the end of July 2016, all Driver Services facilities will have transitioned to central issuance.

I am including a brochure designed to further outline the central issuance process as well as the physical changes to the DL/ID.

My goal is and will continue to be to provide the best service possible to the people of Illinois. With changes to the issuing process and design of the DL/ID, we are further accomplishing that goal.

Sincerely,

Jesse White

Jesse White
Illinois Secretary of State

100 W. Randolph, Ste. 5-400,
Chicago, IL 60601

NO NEED TO REPLACE IMMEDIATELY

Residents with a valid driver's license/ID card are not required to obtain the redesigned card immediately. Existing cards will remain valid until their date of expiration. For at least four years, there will be more than one valid driver's license/ID card until the old design format is phased out.

There are no changes to driver's license/ID card fees. In addition, there are no procedural changes to the Safe Driver Renewal program.

IMPORTANT: YOUR ADDRESS MATTERS

The Secretary of State's office receives returned mail every day containing important notifications or documents. **With the new process of central issuance of a driver's license/ID card, it is critical that customers keep an updated address with the Secretary of State.** State law requires that residents notify the Secretary of State of an address change within 10 days. Customers can make address changes online at www.cyberdriveillinois.com. If you change your address online, you must bring two pieces of identification to verify your new address at your next facility visit. Prior to visiting a facility, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com for a list of acceptable and required documents.

If you have not received your permanent card after 15 business days, check the status at:

WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM

THE NEW PROCESS:

STEP 1

When it is time to renew your driver's license or if you are a new driver in Illinois, visit a Secretary of State Driver Services facility.

STEP 2

Take the vision, written and road tests (if necessary).

STEP 3

Take your photo at the facility.

STEP 4

Receive your temporary, secure paper driver's license at the facility and your old driver's license/ID card will be returned to you.

STEP 5

After fraud checks have been conducted, your new permanent driver's license/ID card will be mailed to you within 15 business days.

For more information visit:

WWW.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM

Or call:

217-782-7044

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SECURE ILLINOIS

A new process and a new driver's license means *more security for you.*

CENTRAL ISSUANCE

DRIVER'S LICENSES/ID CARDS

JESSE WHITE

SECRETARY OF STATE

NEW LICENSE, NEW PROCESS

Beginning Spring 2016, the Secretary of State's office will implement a new process for issuing Illinois driver's licenses/ID cards. Under the new process, called Central Issuance, **customers at Secretary of State Driver Services facilities will no longer immediately be issued a new permanent driver's license/ ID card at the end of the application process.** After fraud checks have been conducted to ensure your identity, a high quality, secure driver's license/ID card will be printed at a central facility and sent via U.S. mail within 15 business days to your address.

At the facilities, customers will receive a temporary, secure paper driver's license or ID card, which is valid for 45 days. In addition, the facility employee will return your old driver's license/ID card back to you.

TEMPORARY, SECURE PAPER DRIVER'S LICENSE ISSUED AT THE FACILITY

AIR TRAVEL WITH YOUR TEMPORARY DRIVER'S LICENSE/ID CARD.

According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, present your temporary, secure paper driver's license/ID card in conjunction with your old driver's license/ID card to board an airplane.

NEW FEATURES ON THE ILLINOIS DRIVER'S LICENSE

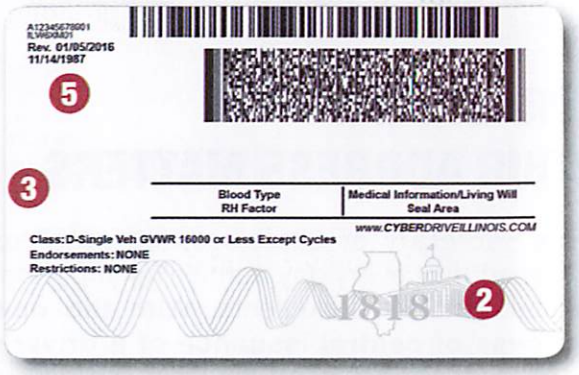
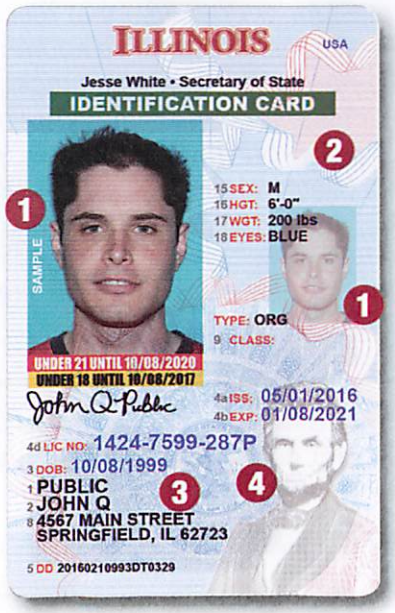
As part of the new central issuance process, the Secretary of State is introducing a redesigned driver's license/ID card. The redesigned card contains enhanced security features to safeguard your personal information. This new process and redesign will help prevent counterfeit production and better protect you from identity theft. **In addition, with implementation of these changes, Illinois is closer to becoming REAL ID compliant, which is a federal mandate by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.**

IMPORTANT FEATURES:

1. Larger photo with a smaller ghost photo to ensure that the person's appearance is clear.
2. Security design comprised of many different patterns, lines and images.
3. Laser perforation in the shape of Illinois, which when held up to the light is used to authenticate the driver's license/ID card quickly.
4. Portrait of Lincoln and the Great Seal of the State of Illinois on the front of the driver's license/ID card.
5. Ultraviolet feature on the back of the card duplicates the person's photo and birth date.

FRONT

BACK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