

How do I know what type of driver license or non-driver ID I have?

Standard documents issued after October 30, 2017 have “Not for Federal Purposes” printed in the upper right-hand corner. Any document issued prior to this date is a Standard document.



REAL ID documents have a black circle with a cut-out star in the upper right-hand corner.



Enhanced documents have a gold banner that states “Enhanced” and an American flag in the lower right-hand corner.



How do I get a REAL ID or Enhanced ID?

Please visit one of the Saratoga County DMV offices with the following:

- Proof of identity & legal status
- Proof of citizenship (Enhanced only)
- Proof of social security number (or proof of ineligibility; REAL ID only)
- Two proofs of New York State residency
- Proof of all legal name changes, if applicable

Please see the “**REAL ID or Enhanced Document: What do I need?**” flyer for more information. Please see DMV form **ID-44** for a full list of acceptable proofs of identity and residency.

Where can I get REAL ID?

Saratoga County DMV processes REAL ID and Enhanced IDs from 9AM - 4PM Monday through Friday at the following locations:

- 40 McMaster St., Ballston Spa, NY
- 22 Clifton Country Road, Clifton Park Center Mall, Clifton Park, NY
- 3065 Route 50, Wilton Mall, Saratoga Springs, NY

Regular office hours for all locations are:
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 8AM - 4:45PM
Wed: 8AM - 6PM

Do I need a REAL ID or Enhanced document?

Getting a REAL ID or Enhanced document is your choice. Depending on your travel needs, one may be right for you.



What is REAL ID?

The federal REAL ID Act established minimum security standards for state-issued driver licenses and identification cards and prohibits federal agencies from accepting for official purposes state-issued licenses and identification cards that do not meet these standards.

Beginning May 7, 2025, you will need either a REAL ID compliant card or another form of federally-acceptable identification to board domestic commercial flights, enter a military base, enter a secure federal facility or enter a nuclear facility.

What is Enhanced?

An Enhanced ID serves as a REAL ID compliant card and also is an accepted form of ID for crossing U.S. borders by land or sea.

Do I have to get a REAL ID?

No. Getting a REAL ID is your choice. REAL ID is for domestic flights and entry into federal buildings and military bases.

How do I determine if REAL ID is right for me?

Choosing REAL ID depends on what you want to use your New York State-issued driver license or non-driver identification card for and whether you have another form of federally-accepted credentials. The following information may help you decide which document is right for you.

New York State-Issued Driver Licenses & Non-Driver ID Cards:

What do you want to do?	Standard	REAL ID	Enhanced
Drive (license only)	✓	✓	✓
Provide Proof of Identification	✓	✓	✓
Board a Domestic Flight after May 3, 2023	X	✓	✓
Enter a Secure Federal Facility, Military Base or Nuclear Plant after May 3, 2023	X	✓	✓
Cross border by land or sea from Canada, Mexico and some Caribbean Islands.	X	X	✓

Do you have any of these federally accepted credentials?

- U.S. passport
- U.S. passport card
- DHS trusted traveler card (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)
- U.S. Department of Defense ID, including IDs issued to dependents
- Permanent resident card
- Border crossing card
- DHS-designated enhanced driver's license
- Federally recognized, tribal-issued photo ID
- HSPD-12 PIV card
- Foreign government-issued passport
- Canadian provincial driver's license or Indian and Northern Affairs Canada card
- Transportation worker identification credential (TWIC®)
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Employment Authorization Card (I-766)
- U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential

If you answered, **YES**, you may use that credential to board a commercial aircraft or enter a secure federal facility.

If you answered, **NO**, you will need a REAL ID or Enhanced document to do so.