REAL ID Information for Non-U.S. citizens
Updated June 23, 2020

Beginning October 1, 2021, everyone will need a “REAL ID” or an acceptable alternative document (such as a passport) to fly within the United States and enter some federal buildings. Standard driver’s licenses and state IDs will not be accepted by Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers at airports. A REAL ID has a white star in a gold circle in the upper right corner:

Who is eligible for a REAL ID? 1

- Citizen or national of the United States.
- Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR).
- Conditional Permanent Resident (CPR).
- Asylee
- Refugee
- A person with a valid, unexpired nonimmigrant visa status other than a B1/B2 visa.
- A person with a pending application for asylum in the United States.
- A pending or approved application for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in the United States.
- Approved deferred action status including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

• A pending application for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States or conditional permanent resident status in the United States.

What are the acceptable alternative documents that I can use to fly or go to federal buildings if I don’t have a REAL ID?²

• **Passport.** An unexpired U.S. passport or a passport from another country. A passport from does not have to be “stamped” or contain proof of current immigration status. *Most noncitizens who do not have an eligible immigration status will need to use their passports as their REAL ID alternative document.*
• **U.S. passport card**
• **Employment Authorization Document (EAD).** An unexpired EAD or “work permit” issued by the Department of Homeland Security.
• Michigan’s Enhanced Driver’s Licenses (EDLs) and EDLs from other states are considered to be REAL IDs and are acceptable even if they don’t have a star in the upper right corner.
• **DHS trusted traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST)**
• **U.S. Department of Defense ID, including IDs issued to dependents**
• **Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) card**
• **Border crossing card issued by Department of Homeland Security**
• **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**
• **U.S. Merchant Mariner Credential**

What will I be able to use a standard “non REAL ID” card for after October 1, 2021?³

• **Driving (in the case of driver’s licenses)**
• **Identification in all settings other than airports/TSA and federal buildings**
  o Check cashing
  o Car rental

Please visit [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos) for more information about REAL ID. *If you believe you are eligible for a REAL ID card and can’t access one, you can contact the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center at (734) 239-6863.*⁴

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² [https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification](https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification) Consider printing the linked document from the TSA website and bringing it with you to the airport if you are using an alternative document.
³ [https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1627_81569---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1627_81569---,00.html)
⁴ MIRC website: [https://michiganimmigrant.org/](https://michiganimmigrant.org/); Address: 15 S. Washington Street, Suite 201, Ypsilanti, MI 48197