

Hello everyone,

There is a new federal law being implemented in Maine regarding your identification. You may have heard of it – REAL ID – and you may be somewhat confused by it. I want to help clear up any confusion by telling you what REAL ID is and how you are impacted.

### What is it?

REAL ID is a new form of identification required by federal agencies. A REAL ID-compliant driver's license or State identification card is marked with a gold star symbol. Starting in October 2020, a regular driver's license won't be good enough if you want to enter secure federal facilities or hop on a flight. **Make sure you get a REAL ID license before October 2020!** Anyone who does not have a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or State ID by that time will have to use a passport or some other federal identity document to access secure federal facilities or board a plane.

You do NOT need BOTH a REAL ID and a passport to travel internationally. You will just need a passport. If you are travelling domestically and do NOT have a passport, you'll need a REAL ID. If you have a passport, you do NOT need a REAL ID for domestic travel.



Please note that REAL ID does not affect:

- Entering federal facilities that do not require a person to present identification (such as post offices)
- Applying for, or receiving, federal benefits
- Being licensed by a State to drive
- Accessing health or life-preserving services (including hospitals and health clinics), law enforcement, or constitutionally protected activities (including a defendant's access to court proceedings)
- Participating in law enforcement proceedings or investigations.

### How do I get a REAL ID license or State ID?

You cannot get a REAL ID-compliant credential online. **You must go to the [BMV](#).** At the BMV, you will have your photograph taken and you must provide documentation that proves the following:

- One document that proves your identity, date of birth, and proof of U.S. citizenship, lawful permanent residence, or temporary lawful status in the U.S.

- One document that proves your Social Security Number or evidence of Social Security Number ineligibility.
- Two documents that establish proof of residence in Maine.

If you have other questions about REAL ID, check out the Real ID page on the [BMV website](#).

Sincerely,

*Kirsten LC Figueroa*

Commissioner

Department of Administrative and Financial Services