

What's New?

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) board published new identification (ID) requirements for initial registration. The new ID requirements for **initial registration** take effect on **March 5, 2026**

Transaction Type	Accepted Identification Options
<p>Initial registration transaction types include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Dealer Sales (Title & Registration) • Out-of-State Dealer Sales (Title & Registration) • Private Party Sales/Transfers of Ownership (Title & Registration) • Registration Purposes Only • Registration of Vehicles Currently Titled in Texas as Title Only 	<p>Option 1: Valid, unexpired REAL ID-compliant driver's license or state ID from any state or territory of the United States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A "REAL ID" is the minimum document requirements and issuance standards for federal recognition under the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109-13. <p>Option 2: Valid, unexpired driver's license or state ID that is issued by: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming</p> <p>Option 3: Valid, unexpired driver's license or state ID that does not meet REAL ID requirements issued by any state or territory of the United States, PLUS an original or certified copy of one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. birth certificate, • Certificate of Naturalization, or • Certificate of Citizenship <p>Option 4: Valid, unexpired U.S. passport</p> <p>Option 5: Valid, unexpired foreign passport PLUS one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form I-94 (Not in Parole status), • Current permanent resident card, or • Unexpired immigrant visa from the United States Department of Homeland Security <p>Option 6: Valid, unexpired Real ID-compliant Texas License to Carry a Handgun issued by TxDPS</p>

What is not changing?

Transaction Type	Accepted Identification Options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title Only (no registration) • Off-Highway Vehicles (titled without registration) • Exempt Vehicles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Standard Exempt ○ Regular Exempt ○ Government-Owned vehicles ○ Disaster Relief ○ Vehicles used by Non-Profit Food Banks • Special Registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ International Registration Plan (Apportioned) ○ Non-Resident Agricultural Permit ○ Annual Permits ○ 72 & 144 Hour Permits ○ Temporary Registration License Plates (One Trip, 30-day) • Alternate Registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fertilizer ○ Seasonal Agricultural ○ Soil Conservation ○ Farm Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Farm Truck Tractor ▪ Farm Truck ▪ Farm Trailer • Rental Trailers • Commercial Registration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City Bus ○ Motor Bus ○ Combination ○ Token Trailer ○ Cotton ○ Tow Truck ○ Forestry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver's license or ID issued by a U.S. state or territory • Texas License to Carry a Handgun issued by TxDPS • U.S. passport • Foreign passport • U.S. military ID • North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ID • ID issued under a Status of Forces Agreement • U.S. Department of Homeland Security ID • U.S. Department of State ID • U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ID <p>Note: These acceptable forms of ID can be expired up to 12 months.</p> <p>Additional Considerations for Businesses, Leases, Trusts, & Government Entities</p> <p>The new enhanced ID requirements DO NOT apply to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses • Trusts • Leasing companies • Government entities • Organizations <p>If an agent submits an application that includes registration on behalf of a business, trust, or leasing company:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agent must present their own photo ID. • The agent's ID must meet the ID requirements shown above <p>Employees authorized to title a vehicle for leasing companies, government entities, organizations, and private businesses must provide the following, in addition to one of the acceptable forms of identification listed above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter of authorization on the employer's official letterhead, or • An official business card with the employer's and employee's name