Congratulations on your 60 day membership to our Roadside Assistance.

When out on the road, you will know that you are covered and protected by an organization that cares about the safety of you and your family. Our customer service representatives respond quickly to provide you the best service and protection available anywhere.

**24-Hour Emergency Roadside Assistance Benefits**
Customers are covered for emergency road service throughout the U.S. and Canada.

**24-Hour Towing Service**
 Customers are entitled to emergency towing service at no out-of-pocket cost for any tow up to 75 dollars. One service per seven days, two services per contract. Extended distance will be an additional expense covered by the customer.

**24-Hour Mechanical First Aid**
 Customers are entitled to any service requiring minor adjustments (exclusive of parts) to enable a disabled vehicle to proceed under its own power, where available.

**24-Hour Tire Change Service**
 Customers may have their tire changed with their inflated and functional spare tire.
24-Hour Emergency Delivery
A service truck will deliver emergency supplies of gasoline, water, oil or other necessary supplies. Customers pay only for the cost of the supplies.

24-Hour Emergency Battery Service
Customers are covered for battery boosts and minor adjustments to alternators, starters, etc. while on the road.

24-Hour Lost Key Service
If keys are locked inside a customer’s vehicle, the customer will be assisted in gaining entry to the vehicle’s passenger compartment only. Locksmith services may be dispatched as needed at the customer’s expense for labor and key making.

Rental Car Discounts
Customers are entitled to take advantage of our rental car discount codes and pre-negotiated group rates, which are honored at thousands of locations throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Map Routing Service
We will, at no charge, provide customers with a four-color mapping and travel route information to destinations they specify.

Theft And Hit & Run Protection
A $500 reward is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone responsible for Hit & Run damages or stealing customers’ vehicles. Whenever you travel, you will like the secure and confident feeling of knowing that you are protected by NSD’s Roadside Assistance. Fast response and excellent service are just two reasons why millions of motorists rely on NSD’s Roadside Assistance for on-the-road protection.
Keeping You Safe Mile After Mile

Once your purchase is processed, you will receive an email with the information you need to start your 60-day Roadside Assistance membership.

Congratulations!
Redeem Your $25 Gas Card Online

Follow the link in your confirmation email to start redeeming your $25 Gas Coupon.

*PLEASE SAVE ALL THE INFORMATION FOR YOUR RECORDS. You will use your log in information throughout the course of your complimentary gas membership.
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Starting the Journey

Have you reached that age when you become eligible for a driver’s license or you have finally decided to gain your driving independence and you are wondering how to get a license in New Mexico?

This guide is prepared with the important goal of providing you with all the information and resources necessary to get a driver’s license without experiencing any serious issues. The first sections of this guide cover every phase in the process of getting a driver’s license in a variety of situations. For instance, you will learn how to go through the state Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) program as a teenage applicant and how to get a driver’s license as an adult driver.

After obtaining your driving license, you must also learn how to maintain its validity. Therefore, the second part of our comprehensive guide covers other important driver’s license-related procedures, such as renewing, replacing and reinstating your driver’s license. You will also learn how to update the information on your license if and when you make changes to your name and/or address. If you are ineligible for a driver’s license, or you choose not to drive, you can explore a special section on how to apply for an ID card, which is included near the end as well.

While the sections contained in this guide provide in-depth information, we still include resources on how to contact the state Motor Vehicle Department (MVD). Therefore, if you have any questions regarding any aspect of the process of getting and maintaining a driver’s license, you can study the guide’s last section, which contains information about the division’s offices, its phone numbers, online services and email address.
Getting Your 
First New Mexico License

To legally operate a motor vehicle within New Mexico, you will need a valid driver’s license issued by the state MVD. To obtain your privilege to drive, you will be required to follow strict rules and regulations in order to prove you are ready to bear the responsibility for the safety of the traffic participants around you. Since driving is a privilege, not a right, you will be required to abide by the state motor vehicle laws at all times. This section will inform you of the importance of preparing for your first driving license and the application steps in various situations.

The process to get your first driver’s license will vary depending on several factors, such as your age and whether or not you were previously issued a driving license by any U.S. state. For instance, if you are a teenage driver younger than 18 years of age, you will be required to complete the steps of the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) program, which ultimately lead to an unrestricted driving license. Adult applicants, on the other hand, are not bound by the rules of the GDL program, and they will be required to complete fewer steps in order to get a license. The following sub-sections will cover the driver licensing process under different circumstances.
Teen Drivers

Applying for your first driver’s license in New Mexico as a teenager is an important milestone in your life. By obtaining a license, you will also gain your driving independence, which will ease your life in various respects. However, in order to obtain the full unrestricted driver’s license, you will first have to complete each phase of the state GDL program. Our detailed guide provides you with an abundance of information regarding the intricacies of the GDL system, which will help you obtain a full license as soon as possible.

The goal of the GDL program is to carefully prepare novice drivers for the experience of driving with an unrestricted license. The program’s structure includes progressive steps and levels of supervision of young drivers. For instance, learner permit holders will be under direct observation of an experienced driver and will have the opportunity of learning and improving their safe driving practices on the road. Ultimately, the experience young drivers obtain from the state GDL program will help them stay safe on the road and contribute toward lowering the number of injuries and/or deaths of young motorists.

By the time you obtain your full unrestricted driver’s license, you will have complemented your theoretical knowledge of safe driving with the practical skills necessary to implement it when driving alone in various traffic circumstances. If you are a teenage applicant, it is imperative that you do not skip this section, since it provides valuable information regarding the GDL program and the responsibility of holding a license in New Mexico.

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Step 1: Learner’s Permit

Getting a New Mexico learner’s permit is the first phase of the state GDL program. You can initiate the application process for a driving permit when you reach 15 years of age. To get your learner’s license, you will be required to follow these steps:

1. Enroll in a state-approved driver education course.
   - The course must include a DWI prevention and education component.

2. Visit a nearby MVD field office.

3. Submit proof of enrollment in or completion of a state-approved driving course.

4. Furnish the full set of supporting documentation, including:
   - One proof of identity and date of birth, such as:
     - A U.S. Birth Certificate.
     - An Affidavit of Birth
     - A foreign passport with the corresponding noncitizen document.
     - A document issued by the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
   - One proof of a Social Security Number or exemption from having one, such as:
     - A Social Security card.
     - A W-2 or a 1099 tax form.
     - A pay stub containing your SSN.
     - A foreign passport with a valid visa.
Submit proof of financial responsibility.

Pass the MVD vision screening and the knowledge exam.

Have your photo taken.

Pay the learner’s permit fee in the amount of $10.

Have your parent or legal guarding sign the learner’s permit form, if younger than 18 years of age.

Step 2: Provisional License

The next step toward getting a full unrestricted driver’s license is obtaining a provisional license. Before applying for a provisional driver’s license, you must ensure you fulfill the following eligibility criteria:

- You have held your learner’s permit for a period of six months.
- You are at least 15 and a half old.
- You have completed the state-approved driving education program.
- You have accumulated 50 hours of supervised driving practice, including 10 hours of night driving.
  - Your parent or legal guarding is required to certify that you meet this requirement.
- You have not committed a traffic infraction in the three months before applying for a provisional license.
  - If you are arrested for drunk driving, you will be penalized with a six-month license revocation.

The documentation mentioned above is required for the issuance of a REAL ID-compliant card. However, drivers also have the option of obtaining a Driving Authorization Card (DAC) that does not abide by the regulations of the REAL ID Act. If you are applying for a DAC permit, you will not have to furnish proofs of a Social Security Number. You can find the full list of acceptable documents at these links: REAL ID documents and DAC documents.

Once the state MVD processes your request for a driving permit, it will issue you a restricted license with a four-year validity, unless you are turning 21 years of age in less than four years. After receiving your learner’s permit, you can start refining your driving skills and preparing for the next step in the GDL program.
If you qualify for a provisional license and you believe you are prepared to take this next step, you can visit a nearby MVD site and submit your request in person. The application process for a provisional driving license is comprised of these steps:

- Present your learner’s permit.
- Submit a certificate of completion of a state-approved driver education course.
- Furnish your GDL driving log signed by your parent or guardian showing that you have accumulated the necessary practice hours.
- Retake the vision screening and the knowledge exam, if required to do so.

Once your request for a provisional driving license is processed, you will be issued a license with lesser restrictions than those that apply to the learner’s permit. You will be required to utilize your provisional license and abide by these restrictions within the following 12 months.

**Step 3: Full Driver License**

Once you complete Stage 2 of the state GDL program, you can apply for your full unrestricted license. However, you will not be allowed to apply for a full driver’s license if you have been convicted of a traffic violation within the last 90 days or you have an unresolved offense at the time of application. The state also employs a zero-tolerance policy for DWI offenses committed as a teenage driver. Therefore, if you have been convicted of a DWI infraction during your provisional period, you will not be allowed to apply for a full driver’s license.

To successfully obtain your unrestricted driver’s license, you will be required to complete these steps:

- Visit your local MVD facility.
- Present your provisional license.
- Fill out the driver license application form and have it signed by your parent or legal guardian, if younger than 18 years of age.
- Provide the full set of supporting paperwork, if required to do so.
  - Since you have already submitted proofs of identity, date of birth, Social Security Number and state residency during the earlier phases of the GDL program, you may not have to resubmit them.
- Pay the licensing fee:
  - $18 for a four-year license
  - $34 for an eight-year license
Once the state MVD processes your request for a full unrestricted driver’s license, it will issue you a temporary license over the counter. Your new license will be mailed to your address on file within several weeks. Once you obtain your unrestricted license, you will be able to operate your vehicle at any time and place.

Restrictions of the GDL Licenses

While completing the state GDL program, you will be issued driving licenses with certain restrictions. The goal of the program is to ease you into more challenging traffic situations step by step. The learner’s permit, for instance, includes the strictest restrictions, since it is the first step in the GDL program. When operating your vehicle with a learning permit, you must be accompanied by a driving instructor or an adult driver 21 years of age or older with a three-year driving experience.

When using the provisional license, on the other hand, you can drive without the direct supervision of an experienced driver, unless you are operating your vehicle between midnight and 5 a.m. Note that the following list outlines several situations when this rule does not apply:

- You have a family emergency that you can prove with a statement signed by your parent or guardian.
- You have a medical emergency provable with a statement of your parent or guardian.
- You need to use the vehicle for work purposes, as evidenced by a statement signed by your employer.
- You must drive to and from school or religious institutions, as evidenced by a statement signed by the corresponding official or parent or guardian.

When operating a vehicle with a provisional license, you are also not allowed to carry more than one passenger younger than 21 years of age who is not your immediate family member, unless you are accompanied by an adult driver.

Tip

When applying for any type of driver’s license through the state MVD, you also have the option of scheduling your office visit through the division’s online services portal. The MyMVD site also offers a service to check the status of your ordered license.
Adult Drivers: Never Had a Driver License

If you are applying for your first New Mexico license as an applicant older than 17 years of age, you will not be required to go through the state GDL program. In such cases, you will obtain your unrestricted driver's license in a more straightforward manner than the one that applies to teenage applicants. The standard steps to get your first driver's license as an adult applicant are outlined below:

- Complete the None for the Road DWI awareness class, if older than 17, but younger than 25 years of age.
  - You will need proof of completion when applying for your license.

- Visit an MVD field facility.

- Fill out the driver license application form.

Submit the full set of supporting paperwork, which includes:

- One proof of identity and birth date, such as:
  - A U.S. birth certificate.
  - A U.S. passport or passport card.
  - A birth affidavit.
  - A foreign passport with the corresponding noncitizen document.
  - A document issued by the Department of Homeland Security or the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

- One proof of a Social Security Number (SSN) or exemption from having one, such as:
  - A W-2 or a 1099 tax form.
  - A Social Security card.
  - A pay stub containing your SSN.
  - A foreign passport with a valid visa.

- Two proofs of state residency, such as:
  - Tax statements.
  - Rental agreements.
  - Bank statements.
  - Utility bills.

Pass the eye test and the written knowledge exam.

Pass the road skills test, which must be taken by appointment.

- You have the option of scheduling your road exam online.
Pay an $18 fee for a four-year license or a $34 fee for an eight-year license.

Adult Drivers: New Resident

If you have recently moved to New Mexico with a driver’s license issued by another U.S. state, you have the option of transferring your out-of-state license and replacing it with an MVD license. In such cases, you will be required to follow slightly different application steps than those outlined above. To get a license as a new state resident, you will be required to complete these steps, in most cases:

- Make a visit to a nearby MVD licensing site
- Surrender your out-of-state driving license.
- Submit the necessary documents for a REAL ID-compliant license or a DAC license, as outlined above.
- Take the eye exam.
  - The written test and the road skills exam are waived if your out-of-state license is still valid.
- Have a new photo taken.
- Pay an $18 fee for a four-year license or a $34 fee for an eight-year license.
- Pay an additional $15 for an out-of-state DWI records check.

Once your request for a New Mexico driver’s license is processed, you will receive a temporary 45-day license that can be used in conjunction with your invalidated out-of-state license. You will receive your permanent license within several weeks at your New Mexico address.

Note

If you are applying for a Driving Authorization Card (DAC), which does not comply with the regulations of the federal REAL ID Act, you will be required to furnish a slightly different set of documents, which can be found here.
Required Licensing Tests

Before issuing a New Mexico driver’s license, the division must determine the applicant’s readiness to operate a vehicle on the state roads and highways. Toward that purpose, the state MVD administers several licensing exams. The MVD tests are designed to check whether or not the applicant driver is physically fit and has both the theoretical and practical knowledge necessary to safely drive his or her type of motor vehicle. Learn more about the New Mexico driving tests in the sub-sections below.

Vision Test

The first examination that you must pass as a driver’s license applicant is the eye test, which will determine whether or not you see well enough to safely operate a motor vehicle. The eye exam is administered for every type of license issued by the state MVD, including learner’s permits and provisional licenses. You will also have to pass the vision screening when renewing your license.

The minimum vision standards, as set forth by law, are 20/40 or better in at least one eye, regardless of whether or not you are wearing glasses or corrective lenses. If you fail the eye exam when applying for your driver’s license, you will receive a Vision Report (Form MVD-10125) to be filled out by your eye doctor. Depending on the findings of your ophthalmologist or optometrist, you will either be permitted or denied to apply for a license.

Written Knowledge Test

To prove that you have the theoretical knowledge of the state motor vehicle laws and practices of safe driving, you will be required to pass a written knowledge exam. The topics covered in the written test are explored in detail in the MVD driving manual, which will be your primary study material when applying for your license.

The state MVD offers its knowledge exam in a variety of languages, including: Spanish, Italian, Chinese, French and more. To pass the written examination, you must correctly answer at least 70 percent of the questions. Note that the written exam is administered to first-time applicants and to those whose licenses have been expired for longer than a year. If you are transferring a valid out-of-state license, you will not be required to pass the knowledge exam.
**Practical Driving Test**

The last exam administered before you receive your driving license is the road skills test. Note that you will qualify to take the driving exam only if you pass the above initial tests. The MVD road skills test is administered to first-time driver’s license applicants and to those who hold a license that has been expired for over five years. If you transfer within New Mexico with a valid out-of-state license, you are exempt from taking the driving exam.

The division does not provide a motor vehicle for the test, and you will be required to arrive at the testing location with a properly registered and insured vehicle of the corresponding class. When preparing for the road skills exam, you must complete several tasks and remember certain guidelines:

- Take your registration certificate and proof of insurance.
- Ensure that your vehicle is in a good working condition.
- If you have children or pets, do not bring them with you.
- Do not talk with the driving instructor about unrelated topics.
- Study the corresponding sections of the MVD driver’s manual, such as:
  - Safe Driving Tips
  - Communicating
  - Sharing the Road
  - Be in Shape to Drive

At the day of testing, you will be required to follow the routes proposed by the test examiner, who will monitor your ability to navigate in various traffic situations. You will be asked to perform different driving maneuvers, such as parking, starting the vehicle, changing lanes and more. If you successfully obey the examiner’s instructions and perform the required tasks, you will pass the test. At this point, you can finalize the driver’s license application process by presenting the test results to the state MVD.

**Note**

The division offers an option to schedule your driving test via its [online services portal](https://www.mvd.state.nm.us/online_services/).
Renewing Your Driver’s License

After obtaining your first driver’s license, you will be required to renew it on a regular basis. If you fail in renewing your driver’s license, you will be at risk of receiving a traffic ticket, provided you continue operating your vehicle with an expired license. To avoid violating the state motor vehicle laws and the subsequent fines and suspension penalties, remember to apply for your license renewal by the set expiration date.
The frequency with which you will be required to renew your license will depend on whether you were issued the standard eight-year license or a license with a shorter four-year validity. Note that the division allows you to initiate an early renewal up to three months before the scheduled date. If you miss your deadline, you can also renew your license within the following 30-day renewal grace period. If you fail to renew your license within the year following your expiration date, you will be asked to retake the written exam. If more than five years pass after your license has expired, on the other hand, you will also have to retake the road skills test.

The standard renewal method offered by the state MVD requires you to make a visit to an MVD field office and submit your request in person. This in-person method is also the only way to upgrade your license to a REAL ID license or a Driving Authorization Card (DAC), if you have not done so already. If you hold a newer New Mexico license that meets the standards of the federal REAL ID Act, you can also renew it through MyMVD, which is the division’s online services platform. If you are currently outside of the state on a valid reason, such as serving as a member of the military or studying in another state, you may be able to submit a mail-in renewal request as well.

**Pay the applicable renewal fee:**
- $18 for four-year licenses
- $34 for eight-year licenses
- Free of charge, if applying as a senior driver older than 78 years of age

**Submit your expired driver’s license.**

**Present an additional identification proof, if required to do so.**

**Take the eye exam.**

**Have a new photo taken, if required to do so.**

**Take the written exam and the skills test, if required to do so.**

As soon as the state MVD processes your documents and fee payment, it will mail you a renewed license. Before leaving the office, however, you will receive a 45-day temporary license, which can be used until you receive the permanent license by mail.

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**Note**

Drivers older than 78 years of age will be required to complete a yearly license renewal at no cost.
One proof of a SSN, such as:
• A Social Security card.
• A tax income form.
• A pay stub.
• A foreign passport, if ineligible for a SSN.

One proof of identity and date of birth, such as:
• A U.S. certificate of birth.
• A U.S. passport or passport card.
• An affidavit of birth or a certificate of birth abroad.
• An identification document for a non-U.S. citizen.

Two proofs of state residency, such as:
• Utility bills.
• Pay stubs.
• Mortgage statements.
• Rental or purchase agreements.

Note
If your driving privileges are suspended, revoked or denied by the state MVD, you will be required to complete the corresponding reinstatement procedure before you renew your license.

Upgrading Your Driver’s license to a REAL ID License
When renewing your driver’s license in New Mexico, you also have the option of upgrading your regular license to a REAL ID. If you are applying for a REAL ID or a Driving Authorization Card (DAC) during your renewal procedure, you will have to meet the same requirements as those who apply for a first license. Therefore, to renew your license in such cases, you will need the following paperwork:

Note
The above list of documents applies to drivers getting a REAL ID license. If you are getting a DAC license, on the other hand, you will not require proof of a SSN.
Renewing Online

The best way to pay your license renewal fees and obtain a renewed driver’s license is to submit your request via MyMVD, which is the division’s online services section. Before applying for a driver’s license renewal via the internet, however, ensure that you meet the following eligibility requirements:

- You were issued a non-commercial driver’s license.
- You hold a REAL ID-compliant license.
- You are a state resident older than 17 years of age, but younger than 76 years of age.
- You do not have any active sanctions on your record.
- Your license is still valid or has been expired for less than 12 months.
- You have a valid payment card.

If you qualify to renew your New Mexico driver’s license via the internet, you will first have to access the corresponding online service. Then, you will need to log onto the system with your birth date and your driver’s license number. Once the system retrieves your record, you will be prompted to provide additional information, such as your last name and last four digits of your SSN. The last steps in the online renewal process are paying the applicable $18 fee for four-year licenses or $34 for eight-year licenses and printing the confirmation page. The division will mail your renewed license to your address on record as soon as it is manufactured.

Tip

When paying your licensing fees through a DMV office, you can submit the fee payment in the form of check, cash or with a valid payment card. When utilizing the division’s online services, on the other hand, you can only pay with a valid debit or credit card.
Renewing by Mail

Renewing your license by mail is an option that you can utilize only if you are a New Mexico resident currently outside of the state on a valid reason. For instance, if you are studying or serving in the military in another state, you can submit a mail-in renewal request. To successfully renew your license while out of state, follow these steps:

1. Obtain a mail-in application package from the division.
2. Fill out the MVD License or Permit Data Record form.
3. Complete the corresponding out-of-state Affidavit for License Renewal/Replacement, which must bear your signature and the signature of your military commander or school supervisor.
4. Make a copy of your military ID or college ID paperwork.
5. Write a check in the amount of $18 to the state Motor Vehicle Division (when renewing by mail you are only eligible for a four-year renewal).
6. Have a new photograph taken on a white or blue background.
7. Mail the above items to the following address:
   - New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division
     Joseph Montoya Building
     P.O. Box 1028
     1100 South St. Francis Drive
     Santa Fe 87504-1028

Once the division receives and processes your mail-in renewal request, you will receive your license at your out-of-state address. Get more information on renewing a driver’s license by mail by contacting the division at: 888-683-4636.
Keeping an up-to-date driver’s license is mandatory, since it is your official form of identification. In addition to serving as proof that you have the privilege to operate a motor vehicle, your driver’s license is often used for other purposes as well, such as traveling, identifying yourself, purchasing certain types of products and more.

Therefore, in the event of certain major life changes, such as changing your name or moving to another home, you will be required to obtain a corrected license through the state MVD. Failure to update your license may lead to certain detrimental consequences, such as traffic tickets for driving with an outdated license.
Changing Your Name

When you legally change your name due to marriage, divorce or through the state courts, you will be required to update your official state-issued documents, including your driver’s license. However, before submitting a name change request with the state MVD, you will be required to update your Social Security card with the Social Security Administration (SSA).

To complete the name change procedure with the SSA, you will have to fill out the Application for a Social Security Card (Form SS-5) and submit it either through an SSA office or by mail. In addition to the SS-5 form, you will also be required to furnish proof of your lawful U.S. status. Note that the SSA does not charge a fee for the name change transaction. Once your request is processed, you will receive your corrected Social Security card by mail.

When you receive your new Social Security card, you can make a visit to a nearby MVD site to apply for a corrected driver’s license. To change the name on your license, you will be required to complete these steps, in most cases:

- Fill out the corresponding application form.
- Submit proof of your name change, such as your:
  - Court order approving a new name.
  - Divorce decree.
  - Marriage license.
- Provide the full set of supporting paperwork if you have not yet updated to a REAL ID card or a Driving Authorization Card (DAC), including:
  - Proof of a Social Security Number.
  - Proof of identity and date of birth.
  - Two proofs of New Mexico residency.
- Pay the fee for a replacement driver’s license:
  - $18 for a four-year license
  - $34 for an eight-year license
  - Free of charge for applicants older than 78 years of age

After your MVD agent processes your request for a corrected license in your new name, he or she will issue you a temporary driver’s license, which can be used until you receive your permanent license by mail.

Note
The You can review the full list of acceptable paperwork at these links: REAL ID acceptable documents or DAC acceptable documents.
Changing Your Address

You also need to update your license if you move. Note that you must submit your address change request within 10 days of changing homes, according to current law. However, after requesting a change of address on your driving record, the state MVD will not issue you a replacement license showing your new address, unless you request one. Therefore, if you would like to obtain a new driver’s license displaying your new address, you will have to apply for a duplicate license. The following two sub-sections will inform you how to change your address via the internet and with a conventional paper application.

Changing Your Address Online

You can submit an online address change request via MyMVD, which is the division’s online services platform. Note that you can update your address information via the internet only if you hold a valid non-commercial license. To successfully update the address on your driving record via the internet, you will be required to complete these steps:

- Access the corresponding address change service.
- Log onto the system with your driver’s license number and your birth date.
- Provide your new residential and/or mailing address.

Once the system processes your online address change request, it will update your driving record. Then, if you would like to get a corrected driver’s license, you will be required to apply for a replacement license either in person or online via MyMVD.

Note

The state MVD does not charge a fee for its address change request, since it only updates your driving record. You will be required to pay a fee only if you are replacing your current license.
Changing Your Address with a Paper Application

If you cannot update your address online, you can still provide your new address information with a conventional paper application form. The Change of Address Request (Form MVD-10284) is the division's generic address change form, which can be used to update both your driver's license and your motor vehicle records. You will be required to provide the following information with the MVD-10284:

- Your name, birth date, driver's license number and SSN
- Your new residential and/or mailing address
- A Change of Address for Voter Registration confirmation
- Your official signature and date of filling out the form

After completing the application form, deliver it in person to a local MVD office, fax it to: 505-827-0977 or mail it to the following address:

MVD Data Entry Unit
P.O. Box 630
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0630

After the division updates your driver's license record with your new address information, you can apply for a replacement license. To learn more about replacing your license, read the following section, which focuses on the replacement process.

Tip

In the event of a change of address, you must update your driver’s license as soon as possible in order to receive the division's important correspondences, such as renewal and suspension notices.
Replacing
Your License

Are you dealing with a lost, stolen or damaged driver’s license in New Mexico and wondering what to do next? Note that the state MVD offers a straightforward driver’s license replacement procedure, which can be completed either in person or online. However, while you are not required to meet any special requirements when replacing your license through an MVD office, you will have to meet certain eligibility criteria when submitting an online request. The division also offers a mail-in application option for students studying outside of the state and members of the military and their dependents stationed in another state or country. The following sub-sections explore these application methods in detail.

Replacing Your License Online

The fastest way of obtaining a replacement driver’s license in New Mexico is to submit your request via MyMVD, which is the division’s online services platform. However, before initiating the online replacement procedure, you must ensure you meet the following eligibility requirements:

- You are a state resident.
- You are older than 17 years of age, but younger than 76 years of age.
- You hold a non-commercial driver’s license.
- You are not changing your driver’s license number.
- Your license is compliant with the federal REAL ID Act.
- Your driver’s license is not expired.
- You have a valid payment card.

Note

If you have not yet obtained a REAL ID-compliant license or a Driving Authorization Card (DAC), you will be required to do so when replacing your driver’s license.

Note

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If you qualify to replace your New Mexico driver's license online, you will be required to complete several straightforward steps. First, you will be required to log onto the system with your birth date and your driver’s license number. Once the system retrieves your record, you will be required to provide additional information, such as your full name and the last four digits of your SSN. As soon as you provide the fee payment of $18 for a four-year license or $34 for an eight-year license, your request will be processed, and the system will generate a confirmation page. If you are a senior driver older than 78 years of age, you do not have to pay the replacement cost. You will receive your permanent license by mail as soon as it is manufactured.

Note
If you retrieve your lost license after obtaining a replacement license, you will be required to surrender it to the state MVD.
Replacing Your License in Person

If you are unable to replace your driver's license via the above online service, or you choose to apply in person, you can always submit your request through a nearby MVD location. The in-person replacement method is also your only option if you have not yet upgraded your license to a REAL ID license or a Driving Authorization Card (DAC), or you choose to change your driver's license number. For instance, to successfully replace an older license and upgrade it to a REAL ID-compliant card, follow these steps:

1. Make an office visit to an MVD field office.
2. Furnish one proof of a Social Security Number, such as:
   - A tax income form
   - A pay stub
   - A Social Security card
   - A foreign passport, if ineligible for a SSN
3. Submit one proof of identity and date of birth, such as:
   - A U.S. birth certificate
   - A U.S. passport
   - An affidavit of birth or a certificate of birth abroad
   - A document proving your identity as a non-U.S. citizen
4. Provide two proofs of New Mexico residency, such as:
   - Pay stubs.
   - Rental or purchase agreements.
   - Mortgage statements.
   - Utility bills.

Submit a copy of a police report for a lost or stolen license, if changing the number of your license.

Pay the replacement fee of $18 for a four-year license or $34 for an eight-year license.

- Applicants older than 78 years of age are eligible for a free license.

*Note*

The documentation requirements outlined in the above list apply only if you have not yet upgraded your driver’s license. You can find the full list of acceptable paperwork for a REAL ID license at [this link](#). If you are applying for a DAC, on the other hand, study [this list](#).

Before leaving the office, you will receive a temporary driver's license. Your permanent license will be mailed to your address on file within several weeks.
Replacing Your License by Mail

The option to replace a New Mexico driver’s license by mail can only be utilized by motorists who are temporarily out of state for a valid reason, such as active military members and students studying in another state. To replace your license while out of state, you will be required to complete these steps:

- Request a mail-in application packet from the state MVD, which will contain information about the items you must submit.
- Collect and fill out the documents necessary for the mail-in replacement procedure:
  - The MVD License or Permit Data Record (the standard application form)
  - The Affidavit for License Renewal/Replacement, signed by your commanding officer or school official
  - Copy of your military ID or college ID document
- Enclose a check in the amount of $18 made payable to the state Motor Vehicle Division (you cannot obtain an eight-year license by mail).
- Enclose a current photograph on a white or blue background.
- Send the complete package to the following address:
  - New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division
  - Joseph Montoya Building
  - P.O. Box 1028
  - 1100 South St. Francis Driver
  - Santa Fe 87504-1028

The state MVD will proceed with the driver’s license replacement procedure once it receives the above items. You will receive your new permanent license at your out-of-state address as soon as possible. For more information about replacing your driver’s license from outside of the state, contact the division by mail or call the following number: 888-683-4636.
When receiving a driver’s license from the Motor Vehicle Division (DMV), you consent to abide by the state motor vehicle laws. If you commit certain types of offenses, the state MVD and/or the state courts will take actions against your driving privileges. The severity of the penalty taken against you by the state will vary depending on the nature and severity of your offense. You may be penalized with anything from a minor fine and demerit points on your driving record to lifelong license revocations and jail sentences. In addition to license suspensions and revocations, the state MVD may also deny, cancel or disqualify your driver’s license.

If you are facing an adverse action on your driving record, you will be required to comply with the applicable reinstatement requirements, which will vary depending on the nature of your offense and the subsequent penalty. If you have multiple adverse actions on your record, you will be required to fulfill the reinstatement conditions of each separate penalty. To learn more about the process of reinstating a suspended or revoked driver’s license in New Mexico, read the following sub-sections.
Reasons for a License Suspension or Revocation

A wide range of offenses can lead to the loss of your driving privileges. Several types of violations may not even be directly connected to the usage of your motor vehicle. Some of the most common infractions leading to the suspension or revocation of your license include:

- Refusing to submit to a blood alcohol content (BAC) test
- Furnishing false information when applying for a driving license
- Leaving the scene of an accident in which you participated
- Committing a felony while using your motor vehicle
- Accumulating an excessive amount of demerit points on your record
- Failing to fulfill your child support obligations
- Driving while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs
- Illegally changing the information on your license
- Disobeying the road signs and signals

To obtain a more complete list of offenses that lead to suspended and revoked driver's licenses, contact a nearby MVD office or study the corresponding section in the state driving manual. You can also learn more about the status of your driving record via MyMVD, the division’s online services provider. After accessing the corresponding service, you will need your driver’s license number and your date of birth to log onto the system. Once you obtain your public driver's record via the internet, you will be able to review the past and current actions taken against your driving privileges and the requirements to reinstate a suspended or revoked license.
Steps in the Driver’s license Reinstatement Process

To successfully reinstate a suspended, revoked, canceled, disqualified or denied driver’s license in New Mexico, you will be required to meet the reinstatement requirements that apply in your unique situation. If you have multiple actions on your record, you will be required to meet the requirements of all active penalties. The following list outlines specific restoration criteria for various types of offenses:

- Pass a state-approved DWI Prevention and Education Program for convictions of driving under the influence.
- Install an ignition interlock device, if suspended for various DWI offenses.
- Take the state Traffic Safety Bureau (TSB) course for suspensions resulting from an excess of demerit points.
- Submit proof of liability car insurance for insurance-related suspensions.
- Provide a release form from the Child Support Division if your license has been disqualified for failure to pay your child support rates.

In addition to the above unique reinstatement criteria, you will be required to meet several common requirements, regardless of the type of offense you have committed and the resulting penalty. For instance, you will have to wait out the period of suspension or revocation, which will vary depending on the severity of the committed violation. When reinstating your license, you will also be required to pay a certain reinstatement fee. The standard license restoration cost is currently set at $25. However, this fee is subject to change without notice. If your license has been revoked, you will also have to retake the full set of licensing exams and reapply for a new driver’s license after your revocation period.

Note

To learn more about reinstating a New Mexico driver’s license under your current circumstances, call the division at: 888-683-4636 or 888-MVD-INFO.

To avoid an administrative suspension or revocation of your license, you also have the option of requesting an administrative hearing from the state MVD. To successfully contest your pending penalty at a hearing, you will first be required to fill out a Request for Hearing (Form MVD-10792) and submit it in person or by mail to the following address:

Driver Services Bureau
1100 South St. Francis Drive, Room 2092
P.O. Box 1028
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1028

If you are requesting an administrative hearing after receiving a Notice of Revocation for failure to abide by the state Implied Consent Act, you will have to submit your hearing request within ten calendar days of the incident and pay a $25 administrative fee.

Tip

If you were issued a traffic ticket that must be paid to the state MVD instead of a state court, and you are not going to court to contest the citation, you can pay the penalty assessment via MyMVD, the division’s online services portal.
Driving While Intoxicated

Driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is one of the most serious types of vehicle-related offenses. You will be in violation of the state DWI laws if you drive with an excessive blood alcohol concentration (BAC) amount, which varies depending on your age. For instance, adult drivers older than 20 years of age are prohibited from driving with a BAC level of .08 percent or higher. Teenage drivers, on the other hand, must not drive if their BAC level is .02 percent or higher.

If you are stopped by a police officer and apprehended for driving with a high BAC level, or you refuse to submit to a BAC test, you will most likely lose your driving privileges for a long period of time. The severity of the penalties imposed for DWI offenses is the result of the detrimental effects of alcohol on safe driving, which is a factor in almost half of all collisions within the state. Several of the criminal penalties administered for alcohol and/or drug-related offenses include:

- Severe fines and court costs.
- Jail sentences of up to a year.
- Mandatory alcohol and/or drug treatment programs.
- Installing an ignition interlock device.
- Long driver’s license revocations.
- A DWI mark on your driving record for 55 years.

Note

The above penalties increase in severity with each subsequent DWI conviction.
The state penalizes DWI offenders under two separate laws, the administrative law imposed by the Motor Vehicle Division and the criminal law enforced by the state courts. Therefore, you may be sanctioned with two separate license revocations, by both the state MVD and the presiding court. The following list outlines the common DWI license revocation periods imposed by both the division and the state courts:

- Failing to pass a BAC test for the first time leads to a six-month administrative revocation if older than 20 years of age or a 12-month suspension if younger than 21 years of age.

- Refusing to undergo a BAC test the first time results in a one-year administrative revocation, regardless of your age.

- Failing or refusing a chemical test for the second or subsequent time leads to a one-year administrative revocation, regardless of your age.

- First DWI convictions result in a one-year criminal revocation enforced by the state courts.

- Second DWI convictions lead to two-year criminal revocations.

- Third convictions of drunk driving lead to driver’s license revocations of three years.

- Fourth and subsequent DWI convictions result in lifetime license revocations.

**Tip**

Avoid the severe penalties that result from driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs by ensuring that you never drive while your safe driving ability is impaired by these intoxicating substances. If you are taking prescription drugs, consult with your doctor about the detrimental effects of the drugs on your ability to safely drive.
**Restricted Driver’s license**

If a driver’s license suspension or revocation has affected your life by preventing you from driving to and from important locations, such as school, work or medical institutions, you have the option of applying for a restricted driver’s license. Before requesting an MVD limited driver’s license, however, ensure that you meet the following requirements:

- You will operate your motor vehicle only during days when you are required to attend school, work or court-ordered treatment programs.
- You will start your driving activities one hour before your scheduled obligation and end them one hour after its conclusion.
- You hold a class D, E or M driver’s license, and you are not a commercial driver.
- Your license suspension or revocation was not the result of one of the following offenses:
  - Driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs
  - Failure to pay your child support installments
  - Seriously injuring or killing other individuals with a motor vehicle
  - Failure to abide by the state Mandatory Financial Responsibility Act

To successfully obtain a limited driver’s license, you will be required to fill out the **Certification of Employment, Self-Employment or School Attendance (Form MVD-10459)** and submit it through an MVD office with the following items:

- An official proof of identification
- Proof of a car insurance policy, such as:
  - An insurance binder
  - A copy of the liability insurance coverage
  - An insurance certification on the insurer’s letterhead
  - An MVD surety bond certificate or a state treasurer’s deposit certificate
- A payment for the limited license fee in the amount of $63

As soon as the division processes your application for a limited driver’s license, it will manufacture and issue you a new MVD license printed with the corresponding restriction. You can utilize this license for the predetermined purposes until you reinstate your full driving privileges.

**Tip**

If your driver’s license was suspended or revoked as a result of a DWI offense, you also have the option of applying for an ignition interlock license. This license will allow you to drive anywhere and anytime as long as you have a working IID installed on your vehicle.
Getting a
New Mexico ID Card

Do you need proof of identification, but you do not qualify for a driver's license or you choose not to drive? In such cases, you can apply for a photo identification card that meets the same identification purposes as a driver’s license. Note that you can hold only one state-issued identification license at a time. Therefore, if you hold a license, you will be required to surrender it when obtaining your ID card.

The division offers both REAL ID-compliant identification cards, which meet the standards of the federal REAL ID Act and non-compliant ID cards, for applicants who cannot prove their lawful U.S. status. The following sub-sections provide you with information on how to obtain these types of New Mexico ID cards and how much they cost.
The ID Card Application Process

The application process for a New Mexico ID card can be completed in person through an MVD field office. The documentation requirements may vary to a certain degree depending on whether or not you are obtaining a REAL ID-compliant card. To obtain a New Mexico identification card that meets the regulations of the REAL ID Act, for instance, you will be required to follow these steps, in most cases:

Submit one proof of lawful identity and age, such as:

- A U.S. passport or passport card.
- A U.S. birth certificate or an affidavit of birth.
- A Certificate of Birth Abroad.
- A document issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), if applying as a non-U.S. citizen, such as:
  - A Certificate of Naturalization.
  - A Certificate of Citizenship.
  - A Permanent Resident Card.
  - An Employment Authorization form.

Furnish one proof of a Social Security Number, such as:

- A Social Security card.
- A W-2 form.
- A 1099 form.
- A pay stub.

Provide two proofs of state residency, such as:

- Rental agreements.
- Utility bills.
- Bank or credit card statements.

Have a new photo, thumbprint and signature taken.

Pay a fee of $10 for a four-year ID card or $18 for an eight-year ID card.

- Senior applicants older than 75 years of age can obtain a free-of-charge ID card.

Note

The depending on your county of residence, you may be required to pay an additional transaction fee. For example, the city of Rio Rancho MVD applies an extra $10 fee for its services.

Your paperwork must be in its original form or as certified copies, since the state MVD does not accept photocopies. The full list of acceptable REAL ID documents can be found at this link. If you are applying for a non-compliant ID card, on the other hand, you will be required to furnish one proof of identity and two proofs of state residency. You can find the acceptable paperwork for non-compliant cards at this link. Note that, if you are unable to furnish evidence of your lawful U.S. status or a state-issued license, you will also have to submit to a fingerprint scanning at select MVD offices. You can schedule your visit online.

The state MVD will process your request for a new ID card after electronically verifying your documentation and fee payment. Before leaving the office, you will receive a temporary 45-day ID card. Your permanent identification card will be mailed to your address on file as soon as it is manufactured.
If you have to renew or replace your New Mexico identification card, you can follow the same steps as those that apply for renewing and replacing a driver’s license, as outlined above.
Vehicle Safety Tips

The most important consideration to keep in mind before you begin driving any vehicle is that both you and the vehicle are well prepared for any trip you make. This means checking and making any changes to your vehicle or your behavior to make sure that you are able to drive safely at all times.

Emergency Kit
One of the essentials to safe driving is having a basic emergency kit available in your vehicle at all times. This kit should include basic items such as water, extra batteries, rope, a first aid kid, matches, a whistle, etc. During winter months it is also important to carry items such as blankets, non-perishable foods, extra gloves, socks and a shovel.
Winter Driving

One of the most dangerous times to drive is during the winter, especially if you live in an area where it snows. Therefore, it is best to consider these tips to drive safely during the winter.

**Avoid Rushing**

Roads are often covered in snow and ice after it snows, so instead of driving fast and risking an accident in a rush to get to your destination, try leaving a few minutes earlier than usual. This will allow you to drive slower and help you avoid rushing other drivers by not tailgating them if they are going slower.

**Do Not Panic If You Skid or Slip**

In the case that your vehicle skids or slips while driving, make sure you do not panic and slam down on your brakes. Instead, all you need to do is apply slow and even pressure on your brakes until you stop. This will prevent you from spinning further out of control.

**Check Your Vehicle**

Before you even leave your house, make sure your vehicle's controls, brakes, tank, tires, antifreeze, exhaust, etc. are all working properly. It is also important that you remove all ice and snow from your car before you begin driving. This prevents the snow from blocking your view while you drive.
Drinking and Driving

Every year, thousands are killed as a result of drinking and driving. These deaths can be very easily prevented. It only requires that you plan ahead of time by taking certain steps.

Even before you begin drinking, you should arrange for someone else to be the designated driver. In the case that your designated driver also becomes intoxicated, it is important that you arrange to take a taxi or another safe form of transportation. If you see someone who you suspect is drunk, and that person exhibits signs of intoxication while driving, such as making wide turns, weaving, swerving, braking erratically, turning abruptly, etc. call 911 and notify the proper authorities about the drunk driver. Also make sure to avoid drunk drivers on the road to ensure your own safety.

Using Your Cellphone

Driving while using your cellphone is one of the most dangerous actions you can take because during the few seconds your attention is diverted to your phone, a major accident could occur. Therefore, make sure you do not text, use the internet or make calls while you drive to prevent accidents.

What to Avoid

Driving is not always a relaxing experience. There are certain actions that can be both an annoyance and a danger to you while on the road driving. These issues are often avoidable if you make sure to take the necessary steps towards preventing them, as well as stopping them after you discover them.

Car Accidents

The best way to avoid car accidents is to ensure that your vehicle is safe to drive and will not cause you any problems. To do this, you only need to regularly check that your brakes are functioning properly, your tires are inflated and not worn out, and that the steering and suspensions are maintained regularly by a mechanic and will not fail while you drive, especially at high speeds.
Wasting Gas

Due to the price of gas, you may begin to start looking for ways to save on expensive trips to the pump. Fortunately, saving on gas is possible if you take a few steps toward ensuring that you waste less gas.

Some of the ways you can start saving gas are by not using air conditioning, not leaving your engine running and avoiding driving above 60 mph. These actions are preventable and not necessary for you to drive. Therefore, you can quickly reduce the amount of gas you waste.

Another way to save on gas is to make sure that your vehicle is functioning properly. You can do this by checking that your tires are properly inflated and that you keep to car’s maintenance schedule.

Aggressive Driving

Aggressive driving and drivers should both be avoided to prevent any on-road aggression or accidents. Aggressive driving is categorized as exhibiting behaviors such as tailgating, verbal or physical harassment of another driver, preventing another driver from merging or passing, etc.

If you are an aggressive driver, you are putting others at risk every time you do any of the above behaviors. If you encounter a frustrating situation on the road, instead of becoming aggressive, take a moment to breathe and relax before moving on.
MVD

Hours and Locations

Do you have to visit a nearby MVD location to finalize a certain driver’s license transaction with the division and was wondering where to go? You can easily find your closest driver licensing office by consulting the division’s Maps and Locations section, found at this link. You can search for MVD office by entering your city or your ZIP code. You can also refine your search by selecting the type of MVD location you need, such as a standard field office or a driver’s ed school. Once you click on your preferred driver’s license site, you will obtain extra details, such as its address, contact information and working hours.

If you would like to visit the main MVD office, on the other hand, you will find it at the following address:

New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division
Joseph Montoya Building
P.O. Box 1028
1100 South St. Francis Driver
Santa Fe 87504-1028

If you believe that you can obtain the necessary information by telephone, you can also contact the division by phone at: 888-683-4636 or 888-MVD-INFO. This MVD webpage offers an online query form as well, which you can complete from the comfort of your home and receive your answer by email.

With the goal of streamlining certain licensing procedures and giving drivers the opportunity to avoid making an office visit, the division also offers a large variety of its services via MyMVD, its online service portal. The following list includes several driver’s license-related transactions that can be completed via the internet:

- Changing your address
- Scheduling an MVD appointment
- Taking an exam
- Paying an outstanding balance
- Ordering a temporary driver’s license or ID card
- Renewing and replacing your license or ID card
- Checking the manufacturing progress of your license
- Checking your driving status
- Paying a traffic ticket
- Various placard-related procedures
Note

If you would like to learn more about the division’s online services, call one of the above numbers.