

## HOW TO GET A LOUISIANA DRIVER'S LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION CARD

### Division of Motor Vehicles

Website: <http://expresslane.org> or Office of Motor Vehicles: <http://omv.dps.state.la.us>

Office Hours are: 8am - 4:00pm Monday-Friday

- 2150 West Bank Expressway  
Harvey, La 70058  
(504) 361-6222
  - 421 Williams Blvd.  
Kenner, La 70062  
(504) 463-5783
  - 100 Veterans Blvd.  
New Orleans, La 70124  
(504) 483-1870
- State motor vehicle offices have recently started implementing new guidelines for international students and scholars to receive either a driver's license or an identification card. Please go to <https://www.dmv.org/la-louisiana/apply-license.php> for the latest requirements.
  - A new license costs approximately \$38.25. You will be required to submit a certificate of completion of driver's education course, a written test, an eye test and an on-the-road driving test. To study for the test, you may download the entire driver's guide at the Office of Motor Vehicles website: <https://www.dmv.org/la-louisiana/driver-handbook.php>
  - The vehicle that you take the road test in must have valid license plates, a brake tag (inspection sticker), and proof of insurance. It may be a car that you have borrowed from a friend, but you will be required to prove that it has insurance. **YOU MAY NOT TAKE THE DRIVING TEST IN A RENTAL CAR.** These tests are given at the Office of Motor Vehicles at the addresses above.
  - Non-immigrants applying for or renewing a driver's license must have at least 30 days left on their I-20, DS-2019, I-94 or other immigration documents.
  - Non-immigrants who are not eligible to obtain a Social Security Card (F-2s and H-4s) may also get a driver's license. You must first get a letter from the Social Security Administration office, which says that you are ineligible for the Social Security Number.
  - If you do not intend to drive while in Louisiana, you may wish to obtain a Louisiana ID for identification purposes. You will need to present the same documents as you would for a driver's license. A Louisiana ID costs \$21.00.

**ALWAYS carry your driver's license, car registration card and insurance card.**

## Driving Schools

- As of April 2015, if you have an international or out of country driver's license, you will still be required to take a 14-hour driver's education course (6 hours classroom and 8 hours behind the wheel). This is called the *14-hour Pre-Licensing Course*. Students who have a driver's license from another US state or territory, or a German or Swiss driver's license are not required to take the course. The OMV has reciprocal agreements with these countries only. If you have any of these, you may go directly to the OMV or an auto title company and apply for a Louisiana driver's license. If not, you must take a driver's education course.
- A list of approved driving schools can be found here:  
[http://dpsweb.dps.louisiana.gov/OMVDrivingSchools.nsf/\\$deccityhtml?OpenView](http://dpsweb.dps.louisiana.gov/OMVDrivingSchools.nsf/$deccityhtml?OpenView)