

Dear Seasonal Workers and Drivers,

Welcome to Alaska! Changes to state laws governing the issuance of driver's licenses, including commercial driver's licenses (CDL) took effect January 1, 2019. These changes will impact the actions you must take to prepare to apply for an Alaska driver's license. Before traveling to Alaska, even if you've worked here or been licensed here previously, *please carefully review this document*.



What's changed?

Non-commercial (Class D) license holders now have the option to obtain either a standard or "federally compliant" a.k.a. REAL ID compliant card. If you choose a standard license, the application process is unchanged. If you choose a REAL ID card, you must meet the new application requirements.

Alaska Statute 28.15.111 requires <u>all</u> commercial driver's licenses (CDL) to be REAL ID compliant. If you are new to Alaska or previously held an Alaska Class D or CDL but

currently hold a valid CDL in another state and want an Alaska CDL, you will be required to obtain a REAL ID compliant CDL. *There is no "grandfathering" or standard CDL option*.

In addition to serving as a general form of identification and proof of commercial driving privileges, a REAL ID compliant Class D or CDL contains a specific marking which allows it to be accepted to enter federal facilities such as military bases, airport security checkpoints, and nuclear power plants after TSA enforcement of REAL ID starts on **October 1, 2020**.

What hasn't changed?

Most seasonal workers and drivers will be required to obtain an Alaska license or CDL.

- Alaska Statute 28.15.021 requires the holder of an out of state driver's license to obtain an Alaska license by the end of a 90-day period after entry into the state.
- Alaska Statute 28.33.100 prohibits a person who has been a state resident for 30 days or longer from operating with a CDL issued by another state.



What documents are required for a REAL ID?

The full list of source documents that Alaska currently accepts for REAL ID cards can be found **on our website.** In short, all applicants for a federally compliant license, including a CDL must provide:

- Proof of Identity
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship, Permanent Residency, or other Lawful Status
- Proof of Social Security Number
- Proof of Name Change (if applicable)
- Two Documents Verifying Alaska Residency

Helpful hints - Please read <u>before</u> traveling to Alaska:

- Photo copies of identity documents <u>cannot</u> be accepted. Make sure the documents are original
 or certified copies obtained from the original issuer of the document.
- Expired U.S. Citizenship and lawful status documents <u>cannot</u> be accepted. Check that your U.S. Passport or Permanent Resident Card is/will still be valid at the time of application.
- The Social Security Administration prohibits lamination of Social Security Cards, therefore DMV <u>cannot</u> accept a laminated Social Security Card. Metal cards are not accepted.
- DMV <u>cannot</u> issue a REAL ID if change of legal name is not clearly supported by the documentation presented. If changes to legal name due to marriage, divorce, etc. apply, please ensure all changes can be clearly identified from the legal name change documents presented.
- To obtain an Alaska CDL, you <u>must</u> be domiciled in the State of Alaska and provide two documents verifying <u>Alaska</u> residency.
 - One of the items must be dated within the last 90 days and contain your full legal name.
 - Two list items seasonal workers and drivers are typically able to obtain from company representatives include:
 - An employment verification letter (HR contact)
 - A housing verification letter from a landlord or company housing contact
 - Please see the attached templates on page 3.



How much does a REAL ID Class D or CDL cost?

• A REAL ID Class D is \$40 valid for 8 years. A REAL ID CDL is \$120 valid for 8 years.

What about a Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP) for OTJ training?

Is a CLP required to be REAL ID compliant?

No, in Alaska a CLP cannot be REAL ID compliant. This is to allow REAL ID compliant Class D and CDL holders to simultaneously hold a CLP as required for road testing purposes to upgrade privileges or to remove restrictions to current privileges without conflicting with federal and state laws prohibiting a person from holding more than one REAL ID compliant card and/or more than one driver's license.

• A CLP is \$15 valid for 180 days from the date of issuance and only valid with an underlying Alaska Class D or CDL.





New to Alaska and living in Employee Housing? These types of letters can be used to help verify your Alaskan Address:

Employment Verification Letter Template

Housing Verification Letter Template

| Company Letterhead | Company Letterhead |
|--|--|
| Date | Date |
| To Whom It May Concern, | To Whom It May Concern, |
| , is employed by X Company and started employment on (DATE). | housing. |
| His/Her residence address is: | His/Her residence address is: |
| Address (No PO Box) City State Zip | Address (NO PO BOX) City, State Zip |
| Sincerely, | Sincerely, |
| HR Name Phone Email address | GM/Owner of Facility Phone Email address |
| | |