



Texas Residency Requirements

All applicants for an original Texas driver license (DL), commercial driver license (CDL) or identification card (ID) must prove they are residents of Texas. This requirement will reduce the number of DLs and IDs issued to persons trying to obtain documents for fraudulent reasons, or who are not Texas residents.

Establish Residency

A “residence” is the place where you normally live, live most of the time, or return to after temporary absences. A “domicile” is your true, fixed, and permanent home. If either your residence or domicile is in Texas, you meet this requirement for a DL or ID. **For example, a college student may reside in another state while at school, but still have a Texas domicile if his or her parents live here.**

To establish residency in Texas for an original non-commercial DL or ID, an applicant must:

- Present two acceptable documents that contain the applicant’s name and residential address
 - One of the documents must prove the applicant has lived in Texas for at least 30 days, **unless** surrendering a valid, unexpired DL from another state, then this requirement is waived
- Complete a Texas Residency Affidavit—**only** if the applicant cannot provide two acceptable residency documents

To establish domicile in Texas for an original CDL, an applicant must:

- Apply for a Texas CDL within 30 days of being domiciled in Texas
- Present two acceptable documents establishing proof of domicile. CDL holders do not have to demonstrate they have lived in Texas for at least 30 days prior to the application.
- Complete a Texas Residency Affidavit—**only** if the applicant cannot provide two acceptable domicile documents

Acceptable Proof of Residency Documents

- Current deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement, mortgage payment booklet, or a residential rental/lease agreement
- Valid, unexpired:
 - Texas voter registration card
 - Texas motor vehicle registration or title
 - Texas boat registration or title
 - Texas concealed handgun license
 - Medical/health card
 - Selective Service card
 - Homeowners or renters insurance policy or statement
 - Automobile insurance policy or statement
- Documents dated within 90 days of date of application:
 - Utility statement including electric, water, natural gas, satellite or cable TV, and non-cellular telephone bills
 - Mail from financial institutions including checking, savings, or investment account statements; credit card statement; or current automobile payment booklet
 - Mail from federal, state, county or city government agency
 - Pre-printed paycheck or payment stub
- Texas high school, college or university report card or transcript for the current school year
- W-2 or 1099 tax form for the current tax year
- Current documents issued by the US military indicating Texas residence address
- Document from TX Dept. of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) indicating applicant’s recent release or parole
- Current form DS-2019, I-20 or document issued by US Citizenship and Immigration Service (only non-CDL and ID)

Note: The two documents presented must be from different agencies or companies. **For example, you may use both a water bill and electricity bill if they are from different companies.**

Texas Residency Affidavit

Applicants who cannot prove Texas residency must submit a completed Texas Residency Affidavit and acceptable documents. If the applicant is a minor living with parents, is living with a relative or roommate, is living in a group setting, is homeless, or is otherwise unable to show two acceptable residency documents, the following applies:

- Applicants living with an individual who is related must provide copies of two acceptable residency documents, document(s) demonstrating family relationship, and the signed affidavit. Acceptable documents demonstrating family relationship may include, but are not limited to:
 - Marriage license
 - Military dependent identification card
 - Birth certificate
 - Adoption records
- Applicants living with an individual who is not related, such as a roommate, must provide copies of two acceptable residency documents and the signed affidavit. The unrelated individual must accompany the applicant to the driver license office and present a valid Texas DL or ID.
- A representative of a governmental entity, nonprofit organization, assisted care facility, adult assisted living facility, homeless shelter, transitional service provider, group home or half-way house must provide a notarized letter certifying to the address where the applicant resides or receives services and verifying they receive mail for the applicant. This replaces the requirement to show two acceptable residency documents. This representative is not required to accompany the applicant to the driver license office.

Address Confidentiality

The residency requirement is waived for applicants who are authorized to use an alternative address under the following circumstances:

- Subject to the address confidentiality program administered by the Office of the Attorney General.
- Currently incarcerated in a TDCJ facility
- Are a judge or spouse of a judge

A peace officer using an alternative address must still prove Texas residency. The mailing address provided must meet Texas residency requirements.

**Your driver license or ID address must be a valid Texas residence.
A business address is acceptable only when allowed by state law.**

Statutory Authority

[37 Texas Administrative Code §15.49](#)

[Texas Transportation Code, Section 521.1426](#)

[37 Texas Administrative Code § 16.15](#)

[Texas Transportation Code, Section 522.0225](#)

Visit the DPS website at www.dps.texas.gov for additional information.