

Green Light NY: Driver's Licenses For All

Overview of the Driver's License Access and Privacy Act

On June 17, 2019 the Driver's License Access and Privacy Act (AKA Green Light NY) was passed by the New York State Legislature and rapidly signed into law by Governor Cuomo. The passage of this law is extraordinarily significant, especially for New York's undocumented population. New Yorkers will now be able to apply for driver's licenses, regardless of their immigration status.

Preparing documents for your application

Undocumented New Yorkers will not be able to apply for a driver's license until December. The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will put out more information about necessary documentation in the coming months. Here's what you can do right now to prepare for your application.

Ensure that you have one of the following documents:

- valid, unexpired foreign passport
- valid, unexpired consular identification document
- valid foreign driver's license with photo, unexpired or expired within the last 2 years



Though this may not be the final list of accepted documents for your driver's license application, the DMV is required to accept these sorts of documents for license applications.

If you do NOT have access to any of the above documents, you should apply to get one or more of them now.

Process for receiving your driver's license

Undocumented people applying for driver's licenses will be applying for the "standard" license. The application process for the standard license is the same for all applicants. Visit www.DMV.NY.GOV for more information.

Overview of the process:

- You must present adequate identification information;
- You must take a driver's education course and pass a road test;
- You must pay the appropriate fees

FAQs

When will I be able to get my driver's license under this new law?

Implementation of the law is supposed to go into effect 180 days after the law is signed. This means that you will be able to apply for a driver's license on or around December 14, 2019.

Where can I apply to get my driver's license?

You can apply for a driver's license at any DMV location across the state, regardless of your home or work address.



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