

Driver's License and Identification Card Redesign

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Issue Date: September 30, 2025

New Information

Beginning September 30, 2025, California driver's license and identification (DL/ID) cards will be issued with a new design and security features.

The new cards will include enhanced anti-counterfeit design elements. The new card will no longer include a magnetic strip on the back but will contain a barcode. DLs for individuals under 21 years old will have the new look and security features and will remain vertical. Cards displaying "Federal Limits Apply" on the front will have additional information on the back of the card to indicate that the card does **not** establish eligibility for firearms purchases.

NOTE: Salesperson cards will maintain the current design.

Procedures

Continue to accept valid, unexpired DL/ID cards.

Background

DL/ID cards are updated periodically to improve security measures. The last time they were updated with a new design and security features was in 2010. The look of the cards was changed again in 2018, with the implementation of REAL ID.

REAL ID



Federally Noncompliant



The magnetic strip has been removed from the back of the card. Information on firearms purchases has been added to the back of the FNC card.



This card is not acceptable for official federal purposes. This license is issued only as a license to drive a motor vehicle. It does not establish eligibility for employment, firearms purchases, voter registration, or public benefits.