

California Commercial Driver License – Documents List

(For applicants with satisfactory proof of legal presence.)

Proof of Identity Documents*

- Valid/unexpired U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card.
- Certified copy of a U.S. Birth Certificate (issued by a city, county, or state vital statistics office).
- Certified copy of a Birth Certificate issued from one of the following U.S. Territories:
 - American Samoa.
 - District of Columbia (Washington, D.C.).
 - Swain's Island.
 - Puerto Rico (issued on or after July 1, 2010).
 - U.S. Virgin Islands (issued on or after January 17, 1917).
 - Guam (issued on or after April 10, 1899).
 - Northern Mariana Islands (issued after November 4, 1986).
- U.S. Certificate of Birth Abroad or Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen.
- Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of U.S. Citizenship.
- Valid/unexpired Permanent Resident Card/Resident Alien Card.

Name Change

If the name on your proof of identity document is different from the name you provided on your application, you must submit a document that establishes your true full name (first, middle, and last), for example:

- Adoption documents that contain the legal names as a result of adoption.
- A name change document that contains the legal name both before and after the name change.
- Marriage certificate.
- A certificate, declaration, or registration document verifying the formation of a domestic partnership.
- Dissolution of marriage/domestic partnership document that contains the legal name as a result of the court action.

Social Security Requirements

Evidence of your social security number (SSN) is required only on applications for an original commercial driver license and any request to correct a SSN that is already on the driver record data base, regardless of the class. Your SSN document must show your full SSN to be acceptable.

The only documents acceptable for SSN verification are originals of the following:

- Social Security Card

Residency Requirements

CDL applicants must submit [acceptable proof of residency](#) in California.

* On September 26, 2025, federal guidelines imposed new restrictions on issuance of CDLs to individuals with limited-term legal presence (non-domiciled) in the United States.